Commissioner James G. “Grant” Wells called the Clark County Veterans Service Commission (VSC) meeting to order at 8:30a.m. on 15 December 2022. Commissioners present: James R. Ryan, Thomas O’Neal, James G. “Grant” Wells, Bill McGee, and Ronald Coss. Executive Director Cathy Wood and Assistant Director Crystal Baker were also present.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Jim Ryan moved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of 8 December 2022 and approve them as written. The motion was seconded by Ron Coss and carried by a vote of 4-0 with Mr. McGee abstaining due to prior absence.

**Assistant Director Updates:** Ms. Baker read aloud a letter she received from Mercy Health thanking the office for the gift of $6,550.00 in support of Mercy Health’s new Veteran’s program.

To O’Neal moved to approved the indigent burial of John M. Johnson and authorize payment of $1,000.00 to Advantage Funeral & Cremation Services. The motion was seconded by Bill McGee and carried by a unanimous vote.

Ron Coss moved to approve an annual cost of living raise for the office staff and drivers with a rate of 8.7%. The raise will take effect December 26, 2022. The motion was seconded by Tom O’Neal and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Executive Director Updates:** Ms. Wood discussed changes at the Auditor’s Office. They will no longer pay a landlord without a W9 on file. The office will attempt to obtain a W9 however if unsuccessful a cash grant will be issued to the applicant. Applicants will be required to provide a receipt as proof of payment. In addition, they will no longer pay over and above what is on an invoice without a copy of the signed commission sheet.

Ms. Wood and Ms. Baker will make household purchases for Charles DeHart and Roderick Wells. The two veterans have just obtained housing through SMHA and have no way to furnish their apartments. Basic needs will be purchased and provided.

Tom O’Neal moved to acknowledge payment of the following invoices:

**Advertising & Printing ~** Cox First Media $3240.00 for ads., Springfield News-Sun $170.97 for daily newspapers.

**Assistance ~** Cashstar $1960.00 for Kroger food and gasoline cards.

**Contract Services ~ Spectrum** $137.97 for internet.

**Employee Travel** ~ Annisa Younts $18.75 for mileage.

**Other Expenses** ~ Huntington $1173.79 for credit card bill.

**Outreach ~** LIT Promotional $859.12 for canopy.

The motion was seconded by Ron Coss and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Public Comments:** None.

Bill McGee moved to enter executive session for the purpose of reviewing financial assistance. Jim Ryan seconded the motion. Bill McGee called the roll: Bill McGee, yes; Grant Wells, yes; Jim Ryan, yes; Tom O’Neal, yes; Ron Coss, yes; motion carried. The board entered Executive Session at 8:45 a.m. The board reviewed financial assistance. The board returned to open session at 9:00 a.m.

Bill McGee moved to approve financial assistance for the following applicants: Jim Ryan seconded the motion.

**Robert Coonrod**, 925 Avondale Ave., Springfield, OH 45503, painter, was approved for a $400.00 Kroger card for food. Vote: Yes 5, No 0.

**Charles DeHart**, PO Box 955, Springfield, OH 45501, laborer, was approved for a $300.00 Kroger card for food, $2,111.00 to Sue’s Furniture for furniture, and $560.66 to Chrysler Capital for a car payment. Vote: Yes 5, No 0.

**Levi Grapes**, 2125 S. Tecumseh Rd., Lot 172, Springfield, OH 45502, laborer, was approved for $849.00 to Pleasant Valley MHP for housing. Vote: Yes 5, No 0.

**LaRue Sparks**, 271 S. Plum St., #4, Springfield, OH 45506, construction, was approved for a $300.00 Kroger card for food and $224.13 to Columbia Gas for heat. Vote: Yes 5, No 0.

There being no further business to come before the board, Tom O’Neal moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ron Coss and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ James G. “Grant” Wells, President

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