Commissioner James G. “Grant” Wells called the Clark County Veterans Service Commission (VSC) meeting to order at 8:30a.m. on 22 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 15 December 2022 and approve them as written. The motion was seconded by Ron Coss and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Assistant Director Updates:** Ms. Baker distributed the 2023 Training and Credit Schedule to all board members. Bill McGee asked when the online classes would be available. Jim Ryan responded with March 1st.

A proposed property tax was discussed. Jerry Ferrell, a veteran of the U.S. Army, has proposed a property tax bill that is currently with the senate however, with it being so close to the end of the year they will not look at it until 2023. The bill proposes that Veterans, Police, and Firefighters who receive a compensation rating get that same percentage reduction on their property. Therefore, if a veteran is forty percent service connected they will receive a forty percent reduction on their property tax.

Tom O’Neal moved to approve indigent burial of William L. Anderson and authorize payment of $1,000.00 to Kinley Funeral Home. The motion was seconded by Bill McGee and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Executive Director Updates:** Lodging kits were discussed.  Ms. Wood prepared an inventory list for the kits. She and Ms. Baker made purchases last week for two veterans at a cost of approximately $220.00 each. Board members approved adding a small coffee pot, alarm clock and a piece of wall décor.  Ms. Wood will contact Home Depot regarding the possible donation of basic tool kits.

Ms. Wood will be the featured speaker at the Rotary Meeting on February 13, 2023.  She will speak for approximately 25 minutes.  Ms. Baker will accompany her.

Ron Coss moved to acknowledge payment of the following invoices:

**Assistance ~** Springfield City Area Transit $1000.00 for bus passes.

**Contract Services ~** Travel Specialties $1000.00 for Rides to CBOC.

**Indigent Burial ~** Advantage Funeral & Cremation Services $1000.00 for cremation of John M. Johnson.

**Other Expenses** ~ MacRay $425.00 for dry erase vinyl.

**Outreach ~** Lit Promotional $689.90 for outreach items. Cathy Wood $207.39 reimbursement for household items for veteran.

The motion was seconded by Bill McGee and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Public Comments:** None.

Jim Ryan moved to enter executive session for the purpose of reviewing financial assistance. Ron Coss 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 8:50 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.

**Teresa Smith**, widow, 1780 E. Possum Rd., Springfield, OH 45502, laborer, was approved for $1330.07 to PHH Mortgage for housing, $198.97 to Columbia Gas for heat, and $29.10 to Ohio Edison for electric. Vote: Yes 5, No 0.

**Anthony Taylor**, 1339 Vester Ave., Apt. 313, Springfield, OH 45503, mailroom associate, was approved for $800.00 to Springfield Portfolio Realty for housing. 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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