Commissioner William E. McGee called the Clark County Veterans Service Commission (VSC) meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on 4 January 2024. Commissioners present: James R. Ryan, William E. McGee, James G. “Grant” Wells, and James L. Hudson Jr. Assistant Director David Mitchell was also present. Thomas O’Neal was absent and excused.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: James R. Ryan moved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of 28 December 2023 and approve them as written. The motion was seconded by James G. “Grant” Wells and carried by a vote of 4-0.

**Assistant Director Updates:** Paying a mortgage for a veteran was discussed. Mr. Mitchell advised the board members that there has been no contact with Jason Rush since last Thursday. Ms. Baker advised the veteran and his wife through email that the board would pay their remaining balance of their mortgage. However, the veteran must first provide proof on Wells Fargo letterhead that he paid the $5,500.00 that was given to them by another organization towards the mortgage. Discussion ensued and James L. Hudson Jr., moved to reverse their prior decision due to lack of accountability from the veteran. The motion was seconded by James R. Ryan and carried by a unanimous vote. Ms. Baker will send the veteran another letter advising him of the board’s decision.

Mr. Mitchell advised the board that the mileage rate for 2024 increased from .65 cents a mile to .67 cents a mile.

All board members received a copy of What Every Veteran Should Know containing the 2024 disability rates.

James G. “Grant” Wells moved to authorize the expenditure of public funds for meals, coffee, refreshments, and other amenities. The motion was seconded by James L. Hudson Jr. and carried by a unanimous vote.

All members received and reviewed the end of month reports.

All members received, reviewed, and signed the Report to Posts.

**Public Comments:** None.

James G. “Grant” Wells moved to enter executive session for the purpose of reviewing and discussing financial assistance. James R. Ryan seconded the motion. James L. Hudson Jr. called the roll: William E. McGee, yes; James G. “Grant” Wells, yes; James R. Ryan, yes; Tom O’Neal, absent; James Hudson, yes; motion carried. The board entered Executive Session at 8:45 a.m. The board reviewed financial assistance applications. The board returned to open session at 8:55 a.m.

James G. “Grant” Wells moved to approve financial assistance for the following applicants: James R. Ryan seconded the motion.

**John Sibley Jr.,** 220 Montgomery Ave., Apt 018, Springfield, OH 45506, car wash attendant, was approved for a $400.00 Kroger card for food and $705.00 to Springfield Metropolitan Housing Authority for housing. Vote: Yes, 4 No, 0.

**LaRue Sparks,** 1707 E. High St., Apt 515, Springfield, OH 45505, construction, was approved for a $300.00 Kroger card for food. Vote: Yes, 4 No, 0.

There being no further business to come before the board, James R. Ryan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by James L. Hudson Jr. and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:59 a.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ William E. McGee, President

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