Commissioner William E. McGee called the Clark County Veterans Service Commission (VSC) meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on 18 January 2024. Commissioners present: James R. Ryan, William E. McGee, Thomas O’Neal, James G. “Grant” Wells, and James L. Hudson Jr. Executive Director Crystal Baker and Assistant Director David Mitchell were also present.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: James R. Ryan moved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of 11 January 2024 and approve them as written. The motion was seconded by James G. “Grant” Wells and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Executive Director Updates:** James G. “Grant” Wells moved to authorize the payment of $1000.00 for the indigent burial of Edward Tilley to Robert C. Henry Funeral Home. The motion was seconded by James L. Hudson Jr. and carried by a unanimous vote.

Discussion about outreach was had. Ms. Baker advised she was asked by the CBOC Stakeholders if we would be willing to send a Service Officer to the Springfield VA clinic once a week to file claims. Ms. Baker suggested sending a service officer once a week for four hours, for a month and see how many claims get filed. James R. Ryan thought it would be a good idea.

**Assistance Director Updates:** Mr. Mitchell read aloud a letter of gratitude Roger Ward received from a widow.

Thomas O’Neal moved acknowledge payment of the following invoices.

**Advertising & Printing ~** Myron $949.43 for daily planners.

**Other Expenses ~** ERTH $65.00 for shredding services, Clark County Buildings & Grounds $469.44 for tires for a vehicle, Huntington Bank $1707.31 for the staff Christmas party and promotional items.

The motion was seconded by James R. Ryan and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Public Comments:** None.

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

Thomas O’Neal moved to approve financial assistance for the following applicants: James G. “Grant” Wells seconded the motion.

**Colby Silver,** 3828 St. Paris Pike, Springfield, OH 45504, welder, was approved for a $400.00 Kroger card for food, $2071.00 to Freedom Mortgage for a mortgage, $350.00 to Columbia Gas for heat, $221.23 to City of Springfield for water, $602.38 cash grant to the veteran for a car payment and car insurance. Vote: Yes, 5 No, 0.

The following applicant was a no show to the appeal, therefore the previous decision stands.

**Gary Gaines,** widow,908-1/2 Limestone St., Springfield, OH 45505, factory worker.

There being no further business to come before the board, James R. Ryan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Thomas O’Neal. and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

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

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