Commissioner William E. McGee called the Clark County Veterans Service Commission (VSC) meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on 28 March 2024. Commissioners present: William E. McGee, Thomas O’Neal, James R. Ryan, and James L. Hudson Jr. Executive Director Crystal Baker and Assistant Director David Mitchell were also present. James G. “Grant” Wells was absent and excused.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Thomas O’Neal moved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of 21 March 2024 and approve them as written. The motion was seconded by James L. Hudson Jr. and carried with a vote of 3,0 with James R. Ryan abstaining due to last weeks absence.

**Executive Director Updates:** Ms. Baker reminded the board members of Day of Remembrance event that will be held at VFW Post 1031 on Saturday at 10:00a.m. She also reminded the board of the Soup Kitchen event where the office will supply the needy with Pizza. That outreach event will be Wednesday April 3rd at 4:30 p.m.

Ms. Baker advised the board she has been in contact with the owner of the old Outpatient VA Clinic located at 512 Burnett Road, Springfield, regarding the flagpole Earl Morse, the Co-Founder of Honor Flight, would like removed and be placed at his residence.

**Assistant Director Updates:** Mr. Mitchell and Ms. Baker met with Kermit Rowe from Habitat for Humanity and discussed a program where our office filters requests where veterans have a legitimate emergency or critical need. This program would require our office as well as other donors to cover costs up to $250.00 per individual for items from the Springfield ReStore Thomas O’Neal moved to collaborate with Habitat for Humanity for a total of $1,000.00 for the 2024 year. The motion was seconded by James R. Ryan and carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Mitchell spoke about the Dayton National Cemetery looking for transportation assistance for the upcoming Memorial Day Ceremony on May 27, 2024. They ask for a driver and a vehicle from 9a.m.-1p.m. The board all agreed for one of our drivers to take the wheelchair van with the lift to this event to assist.

Mr. Mitchell advised the board that Annisa, the office manager, would like to attend the Evolve Women’s Network meetings, which will be held on the second Tuesday of every month from 4:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. The board agreed to pay her for the half hour on work time however, 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. would be on her own time as this is a group she chooses to join.

James R. Ryan moved to authorize payment of the following invoices:

Memorial Day ~ DAV 13, AMLEG 176, and AMVETS 25 $500.00 each for Memorial Day.

Travel ~ D. Mitchell, C. Baker, R. Ward, and D. Hicks $61.64 each for mileage reimbursement for Winter Quarterly, D. Mitchell $269.70 reimbursement for place ticket to NACVSO, C. Baker $479.96 reimbursement for plane ticket to NACVSO, and R. Ward $338.62 reimbursement for plane ticket to NSCVSO.

The motion was seconded by James L. Hudson Jr. and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Public Comments:** None.

Thomas O’Neal moved to enter executive session for the purpose of reviewing and discussing financial assistance applications. James L. Hudson Jr. seconded the motion. James R. Ryan called the roll: William E. McGee, yes; James G. “Grant” Wells, absent; James R. Ryan, yes; Tom O’Neal, yes; James L. Hudson Jr., yes; motion carried. The board entered Executive Session at 8:47 a.m. The board reviewed financial assistance applications. The board returned to open session at 9:00 a.m.

Thomas O’Neal moved to approve financial assistance for the following applicant: James R. Ryan seconded the motion.

**Joseph Umphrey,** 107 N. Pike St., Apt. #24, New Carlisle, OH 45344, laborer, was approved for a $300.00 Kroger card for food and $1,250.00 to JMWREN LLC for housing. Vote: Yes, 4 No, 0.

There being no further business to come before the board, Thomas O’Neal moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by James R. Ryan and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

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

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