



**MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING OF THE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION  
June 9, 2021 at 10:00AM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Hays called the meeting to order at 9:59 a.m. at 627 Edwin C. Moses Boulevard, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Medical Plaza, Dayton, Ohio 45417.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Administrative Officer Bryan Suddith took the roll call.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X	
Federico Rojas, Jr., Vice President	X	
William Fried, Secretary	X	
Jim Dare, Commissioner	X	

Staff members present: Kim Frisco, Executive Director, Dan Semsel, Deputy Director, Bryan Suddith, Administrative Officer and Steven Strain, Legal Counsel. Also in attendance Assistant County Prosecutor Nathaniel Peterson and Josh Shaw.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Hays led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a moment of silence.

**IV. APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES**

May 12 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Rojas moved and Commissioner Fried seconded a motion to approve the May 12 minutes as recorded and presented. All commissioners in attendance vote Aye.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
Federico Rojas, Jr., Vice President	X		
William Fried, Secretary	X		
Jim Dare, Commissioner	X		

President Hays declared the motion approved as presented.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**VI. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS**

Executive Director Kim Frisco and Commission President Jerry Hays presented certificates of appreciation to members of Elizabeth Place staff for their contributions in creation of the dedicated Purple Heart Parking space.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

Approval of Soldiers and Sailors Financial Assistance for the period of May 1 – May 31, 2021

Commissioner Rojas moved and Commissioner Fried seconded a motion to approve the May Financial report as recorded and presented. Deputy Director Semsel commented with details about his work to identify patterns in requests and awards by month. All commissioners vote Aye.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
Federico Rojas, Jr., Vice President	X		
William Fried, Secretary	X		
Jim Dare, Commissioner	X		

President Hays declared the motion approved as presented.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Pending Litigation

Commission President Jerry Hays moved the meeting to Executive Session at 10:05 a.m. to discuss the pending litigation with members of the County Prosecutors office.

Executive Session was adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

2. Commissioner Travel Approval/Reimbursement

Commissioner Rojas had inquired about Commissioner Travel Approval and Reimbursement and qualifying events. Bryan Suddith, Administration Officer discussed the mechanics of a Travel Request and Reimbursement within the County D365 approval system. Discussion on what travel is approved was tabled for discussion at a later date.

3. Director Frisco presented an opportunity to sponsor the Fisher Nightengale House annual event. Commissioner discussed an adequate dollar amount and agreed to \$2,000 level of support.

Commission Vice President Rojas moved and Commissioner Fried seconded a motion to approve the sponsorship for \$2,000.00 All commissioners vote Aye.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
Federico Rojas, Jr., Vice President	X		
William Fried, Secretary	X		
Jim Dare, Commissioner	X		

President Hays declared the motion approved as presented.

4. Deputy Director Dan Semsel presented to the Commission the updated Performance Appraisal document for their consideration. Mr. Semsel explained the change to a form more closely aligned with the County's document and the adjustment to a 5 point likert scale measuring employee performance. This document will be presented to the Bargaining Unit leadership for their approval in the coming weeks.

## **IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT**

- a) Director Frisco
  1. Staff has returned to seeing everyone face to face.
  2. We saw 29 veterans this month for legal assistance. We are very pleased with the progress of this program.
  3. 7 veterans used our transportation program and we continue to work to improve that process.
  4. The 6 VSOs and 1 Benefit Specialist are set for annual training in July.
  5. Deputy Director and Admin Officer are set for training in October.
  6. Steve Strain and Charles Strong are attending a conference and training in August.
- b) Deputy Director, Dan Semsel discussed the reviewed budget and stated he anticipates increased needs over summer as COVID assistance from State and Fed begins to wain.
- c) Legal Counsel Steve Strain reported 27 consultations and 3 new cases opened. YTD there have been 60 consultations and 9 active cases. Steve reported more than \$15,000 in legal expenses have been avoided by Veterans utilizing this service we offer.

## **X. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

### President Hays

- Reported a great success with the Hospice Memorial Day event. Thanks to Kim Frisco for helping arrange that event where Congressman Warren Davidson spoke. Very appreciative of the Wreaths we were able to deliver to the facility.

### Vice President Rojas

- Reported that Centerville High School is the location for a Veterans Monument not documented on our website.
- Reported that he was present on Memorial Day at Bill's Donuts where Veterans were honored with free donuts.

### Secretary Bill Fried

- VVA Memorial Day ceremony was made better thanks to the wreaths supplied by the VSC.
- Reported that he was in attendance for the Jewish War Veterans Memorial Day event at Davids Cemetery.
- Commissioner Fried also complimented, again, the monthly newsletter created by Ms. Frisco.

Commissioner Dare

- Commissioner Dare was in attendance for the Memorial Day ceremonies at Wellington of Dayton and also was thankful for the wreaths provided by the VSC. He reported the facility was very thankful for the wreaths and attendance by the Commissioner.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

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Jerry Hays, President

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James Dare, Commissioner

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Federico Rojas, Jr., Vice President

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John Theobald, Commissioner

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William Fried, Secretary