



**MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING OF THE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION
July 14, 2021 at 10:00AM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Hays called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at 627 Edwin C. Moses Boulevard, 4th 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	
John Theobald, Commissioner	X	

Staff members present: Kim Frisco, Executive Director, Dan Semsel, Deputy Director, Bryan Suddith, Administrative Officer and Steven Strain, Legal Counsel.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

IV. APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

June 9 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Rojas suggested an edit to the wording of the Fisher Nightengale House, adding an “s” to house. Commissioner Fried moved for approval and Commissioner Rojas seconded a motion to approve the June 9 minutes as recorded with above mentioned edits. 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		
John Theobald, Commissioner			X

President Hays declared the motion approved as presented.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

VI. INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSIONER

Executive Director Kim Frisco introduced John Theobald who has been appointed to fill the unexpired term represented by AMVETS. Commissioner Theobald was appointed by the Common Pleas court on 7 July 2021. Fellow commissioners and staff introduced themselves and welcomed Mr. Theobald to the Commission.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Soldiers and Sailors Financial Assistance for the period of June 1 – June 30, 2021. Executive Director Frisco presented the report to the commission.

Commissioner Rojas moved and Commissioner Fried seconded a motion to approve the June Financial report as recorded and presented. All commissioners voted 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		
John Theobald, Commissioner	X		

President Hays declared the motion approved as presented.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Position Description (PD) Receptionist Position

Executive Director Kim Frisco gave some background on this topic. The Bargaining Unit was concerned that the position had grown to include more than was explicitly described in the PD. Director Frisco stated the meeting with the Bargaining Unit was constructive and cordial. Background information included that the position currently pays more than the approved salary range. The request to the Commission includes adjusting the pay range and editing the PD to include more detailed language centered on the duties related to Transportation Coordination.

Discussion continued to include approved language edits for the position and a salary range in line with other like positions in the county. Discussion by commissioners agreed on a new salary cap of \$18/hour.

Further conversation included the need for a review of the receptionist performance at 6 months after

start of the transportation coordinator duties.

Approval of renaming and updating the PD for the Receptionist position to Receptionist/Transportation Coordinator was moved by Commissioner Fried and seconded by Commissioner Rojas.

After discussion all commissioners voted 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		
John Theobald, Commissioner	X		

President Hays declared the motion approved as presented.

2. Sponsorship Requests

Executive Director Frisco presented two sponsorship requests.

- i. Germantown Lions Club was not considered for a vote after discussion and a review of the application led by Deputy Director Dan Semsel.
- ii. Brookville AMVETS Post 1789 was discussed

The AMVETS request was considered in the amount of \$1,000 in support of a membership drive Poker Run event that includes 5 Posts on August 14. The event is also a fundraiser for a member family in need.

During discussion it was noted by staff that our policy doesn't allow for direct support, and that any funds dispersed would be limited in its use to food and entertainment for the membership drive and poker run.

The Aug 14 AMVETS event would include space for the MCVSC to have an information booth to speak to all in attendance.

Commissioner Rojas moved and Commissioner Fried seconded a motion to approve the \$1,000 sponsorship as requested with the limits of use to pay for food and entertainment. All commissioners voted 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		
John Theobald, Commissioner	X		

President Hays declared the motion approved as presented.

- iii. Final Salute Society has requested funding for maintenance of various monuments in and around Montgomery County. Commission and staff discussed who may or may not be

responsible for the maintenance of these non-cemetery monuments. Admin Officer Suddith will reach out to Phil Miller at Montgomery County for an opinion on the County's role in the care of the monuments. Director Frisco recommended we hear direct from the Final Salute Society. Director Frisco stated she would make that invite.

3. Director Frisco reported that Congressman Warren Davidson would be coming to the office to listen to VSOs on the topic of the backlog at the NPRC and its affect on client work. This meeting will occur here at the MCVSC office on 15 July.

IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT

Executive Director:

Legal Program has completed 95 intakes to date with an estimated savings to Veterans in excess of \$23,000. The mentor program has 6 active mentors and 3 are currently assigned to active cases. Next meeting is 23 July at 5:30.

Admin Officer

Outreach recently conducted include:

Americana Parade July 5

Air Show Parade July 9

Montgomery County Fair this week working alongside the Vet Center.

Website is seeing more than 2,200 visits per month. Veterans Benefits and About Us page are most visited. Both WDTN and MCOhio.org are our top two outside referrers for traffic.

The updated tri-fold brochure has been completed. A new brochure for Legal and Transportation are in process.

X. COMMISSIONERS REPORT

1. President Jerry Hays reminded the commission that DAV Meeting was that day, July 14.
2. Vice President Fred Rojas stated that he will be attending the State VFW Conference and thanked the staff for their work and attendance with the Ford Oval Of Honors event. Mr. Rojas also commended staff for their handling of his many referrals to the MCVSC.
3. Secretary Bill Fried stated he had a good response with the VVA June Picnic sharing about the MCVSC. The July VVA Meeting has been cancelled. Mr. Fried mentioned he may have a copy of the old version of the By-Laws which may be of interest to staff. Mr. Fried asked for a copy of the new brochure to have on hand at the summer VSCO conference.
4. Commissioner Jim Dare reminded folks he will be unavailable from August 4 – August 6
5. Commissioner John Theobald thanked fellow commissioners and staff for the warm welcome. He noted changes in leadership at his AMVETS with the announcement that District One's new Commander is Bill Jenks from Post 148.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Jerry Hays, President

James Dare, Commissioner

Federico Rojas, Jr., Vice President

John Theobald, Commissioner

William Fried, Secretary