



**MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING OF THE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION  
September 8, 2021 at 10:00AM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Hays called the meeting to order at 10:04 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	
John Theobald, Commissioner	X	

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

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Hays led the Pledge of Allegiance and the commission observed a moment of silence.

**IV. APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES**

Aug 11 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Fried moved for approval and Commissioner Rojas seconded a motion to approve the August 11 minutes as recorded. 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. APPEAL PROCEDURE REVIEW**

A brief discussion was held on the topic of the Appeal Process. The Commissioners and Staff agreed that all appeals should occur in Executive Session per ORC. It was also agreed that Clients with an appeal will be granted 15 minutes to present their appeal and supply any additional materials/evidence.

Commissioner Theobald moved and Commissioner Dare seconded a motion for the Commission to update their Bylaws to include the 15 minute rule and to review their procedure for appeals. 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.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Commissioner Rojas moved to enter into Executive Session to hear an applicant’s appeal. Commissioner Fried seconded the motion. All commissioners in attendance vote Aye and entered Executive Sessions at 10:19 a.m.

<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.

The Commissioners exited Executive Session at 11:05 a.m.

Commissioner Fried moved and Commissioner Dare seconded a motion to Deny the appeal due to insufficient information. The commissioners voted 4-1 to deny with Commissioner Theobald voting Nay.

<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.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

A) Consider Approval of Soldiers and Sailors Financial Assistance for the period August 1 to August 31, 2021

Commissioner Rojas moved for approval as reported and Commissioner Theobald seconded the motion. 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.

B) Final Salute Society Monument Sponsorship

Executive Director Kim Frisco presented the request by the Final Salute Society for the maintenance of county Soldier and War monuments. Director Frisco recommended an amount of \$25,000 made payable to the Dayton Foundation in support of the Final Salute Fund.

The Society requested two years of funding. During discussion the Commissioners agreed that a report in mid-2022 detailing their progress and including other fundraising efforts would be required before the Commission would consider an additional gift in 2022.

Commissioner Fried moved and Commissioner Theobald seconded a motion to approve the \$25,000 support with conditional review in 2022, 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**

A) Personnel Matter

A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Rojas and seconded by Commissioner Fried, to enter executive session per ORC 121.22 (G) 1 to discuss a complaint made against a public official. All commissioners voted Aye with Executive Session beginning at 11:52 a.m.

<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.

The Commission adjourned Executive Session at 12:41 p.m.

B) 2022 Budget Proposal

Deputy Director Dan Semsel presented the 2022 Annual Budget as to be submitted to Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget. Mr. Semsel detailed the timeline and included that the timing for submission and approval has been fluid. The Commission considered the best method to allocate capital improvement dollars for 2022 and the capitalize on any end of year dollars yet to be spent. Commissioner Theobald requested that we not alter our marketing dollars as budgeted and suggested we pursue a capital budget outlay without reducing in other areas.

Commssiner Theobald made a motion approving the budget with minor changes to be made and Commssioner Dare seconded the motion. All present 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.

C) The Commissioners considered a request to enter into Executive Session by Director Frisco in order to discuss a personnel matter.

A motion to enter in Executive Session was made by Commissioner Fried and Seconded by Commissioner Dare. All in attendance 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.

Executive Session began at 12:52 p.m.

The Commission exited Executive Session at 1:08 p.m.

- D) Commissioner Bill Fried moved and Commissioner Dare seconded a motion to acknowledge the superior performance of Veterans Legal Counsel Steve Strain's service by increasing his annual pay in the amount of \$5,000, with the raise retroactive to the end of his probationary period of September 1. All commissioners in attendance 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.

## **IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Executive Director Presented her report and staff reports from Legal Counsel and Admin officer.

Director Frisco advised the Commissioners on the upcoming cadence of training for most of the staff.

- Fall School for all 7 VSOs as well as the Director in September
- New School for Deputy Director, Admin Officer and Legal Counsel in October

Her complete report with the reports from Strain and Suddith have been added to these minutes.

## **X. COMMISSIONERS REPORT**

1. President Jerry Hays no reported that the DAV is meeting in person and Sept 8 is the next meeting at 7:30.
2. Vice President Fred Rojas expressed his thanks to Legal Counsel Strain for his assistance and service to a veteran referred by Mr. Rojas.
3. Secretary Bill Fried reported that the VVA is meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September and reminded the commission and staff of the observance of Yom Kippur that will be observed from the evening of the 15<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Fried explained the importance of this high holiday for the Jewish faith.
4. Commissioner Jim Dare requested a new supply of brochures and mentor program details.
5. Commissioner John Theobald asked for clarification on our winter coat giveaway and asked for additional details regarding our digital marketing and website reports.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

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Jerry Hays, President

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James Dare, Commissioner

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John Theobald, Commissioner

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William Fried, Secretary