



**Meeting Minutes of the
Montgomery County Veterans Service Commission
August 10, 2022 at 10:00 AM**

I. Call to Order

President Jerry 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>	<u>Absent</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
William Fried, Vice President	X		
Jim Dare, Secretary	X		
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X		
John Theobald, Commissioner	X		

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

III. Pledge of Allegiance

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

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Dare moved to accept the July 13 meeting minutes without changes and Commissioner Fried seconded the motion.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
William Fried, Vice President	X		
Jim Dare, Secretary	X		
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X		
John Theobald, Commissioner	X		

President Hays declared the motion approved.

V. Public Comments

None

VI. Old Business

- a) Consideration of the Soldiers and Sailors Financial Assistance for the Period of July 1-31, 2022

Commissioner Dare moved to accept the report as is. Commissioner Fried seconded the motion.

A brief conversation occurred after a presentation by Bryan Suddith showing a “heat map” of approvals and denials ordered by zip code.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
William Fried, Vice President	X		
Jim Dare, Secretary	X		
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X		
John Theobald, Commissioner	X		

President Hays declared the motion approved as presented.

- b) Follow up to last month’s public comments. Director Frisco provided part records and notes in relation to concerns relayed to Commission.
- c) Deputy Director Semsel provided an update on the Financial Assistance lifetime max discussion from July’s meeting. Currently there are two (2) Veterans over the \$25,000 threshold and 18 more Veterans that are above \$20,000 and below the \$25,000 lifetime cap. Families where each spouse has requested assistance report as one family and one total amount towards the cap.
- d) COVID-19 Relief Update which had been tabled since April. There has been a few applications and most denied to not being directly connected to COVID. Commissioner Theobald suggested to maintain status quo and institute an internal policy limiting applications to events from less than 6 months prior to the date of application.

VII. New Business

- a) Commissioners noted that the September meeting has been moved to the first week of the month. The meeting will be held on September 7. Commissioner Theobald asked that the Commission consider moving the next 11 meetings to the third Wednesday of the month. Commissioner Theobald will be participating the Dayton Chamber of Commerce Leadership Dayton program starting in September.

Commissioner Fried moved to reschedule the October 2022 and subsequent 10 meetings, ending with the July 2023 meeting to the Third Wednesday of each month. Commissioner Howley seconded the motion.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
William Fried, Vice President	X		
Jim Dare, Secretary	X		
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X		
John Theobald, Commissioner	X		

President Hays declared the motion approved as presented.

b) Receptionist Update

The top candidate has been offered and has accepted employment. Her start date is August 22.

c) Deputy Director Dan Semsel gave a brief update on the status of the 2023 budget.

d) A discussion led by Director Frisco on the state of our transportation program. The question to the Commission is shall transportation costs be factored into the \$25,000 lifetime service cap. Discussion was made referring to the ORC mandate to transportation and the costs associated with medical travel.

Commissioner Fried moved that medical transportation costs shall not be included as part of a Veterans lifetime service cap of \$25,000. Commissioner Dare seconded the motion.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
William Fried, Vice President	X		
Jim Dare, Secretary	X		
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X		
John Theobald, Commissioner	X		

President Hays declared the motion approved as presented.

e) Director Frisco reported that Senator Sherrod Brown had contacted the office regarding an official visit to Dayton to report on the PACT act and conduct a press event. Director Frisco said she would welcome the Senator and communicate those plans with the Commission as they evolve. The visit is scheduled for 31 August.

VIII. Management Report

Director Frisco shared the Legal Report, Outreach Report and Deputy Director Semsel shared the budget report.

IX. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Hays

- DAV Monthly Meeting tonight at Kettering Legion.

Commissioner Fried

- VVA meeting is 18 Aug at 6:00 p.m.
- Reminded the Commissioners of the August 14 Ice Cream Social in Washington Township sponsored by the Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner Dare

- Mentioned the "Finally Home Farm" in Greene County. A facility that uses horses for therapy for Veterans. A great resource for anyone looking for a new way to help Veterans.
- Complimented the active shooter training at the OSACVSO conference this month.

Commissioner Theobald

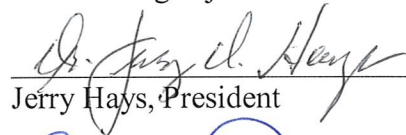
- AMVETS District 3 and the Women's Auxillary will be requesting an presentation from Steve Strain.

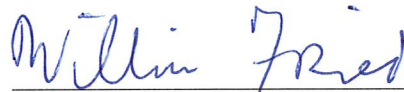
Commissioner Howley


- Shared with the Commission the experience of joining the Air Show Parade and was impressed by the reception the Service Commission received there.

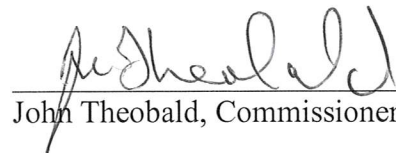
X. Adjournment

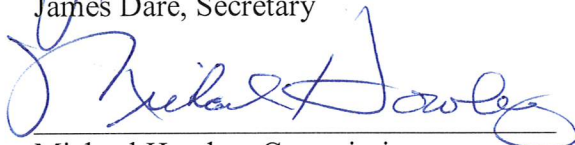
The meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.


Jerry Hays, President


William Fried, Vice President


James Dare, Secretary


John Theobald, Commissioner


Michael Howley, Commissioner