



MONTGOMERY COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
May 17, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Pledge of Allegiance Followed by a Moment of Silence
- IV. Introduction of Legal Intern
- V. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. April 19, 2023
- VI. Public Comments
- VII. Old Business
 - a. Consider Approval of Soldiers and Sailors Financial Assistance for the Period of April 1 – 30, 2023
 - b. HB 69 Letter Discussion
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Commissioner Travel
 - b. 2024 Budget Resolution
 - c. Request for Sanction (2)
- IX. Management Report
- X. Commissioners' Reports
- XI. Adjournment



**Meeting Minutes of the
Montgomery County Veterans Service Commission
May 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM**

I. Call to Order

President Jerry Hays called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. at 627 Edwin C. Moses Boulevard, 4th Floor, East Medical Plaza, Dayton, Ohio 45417.

II. Roll Call

Loren Scott took the roll.

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

Staff members present:

- Kim Frisco, Director
- Dan Semsel, Deputy Director
- Steven Strain, Veterans Legal Counsel
- Loren Scott, Transportation Coordinator
- Ty Hughes, Legal Services Intern

III. Pledge of Allegiance

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

IV. Official Introduction of Ty Hughes Legal Services Intern.

V. Approval of Minutes

President Hays moved to accept the minutes as presented with no changes, motion seconded by Commissioner Dare.

VI.

Public Comments

Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

<u>Commissioners</u>	
Jerry Hays, President	X
William Fried, Vice President	X
James Dare, Secretary	X
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X
John Theobald, Commissioner	-

Aye Nay Abstain

a) Janyl Thompson spoke pertaining to a financial assistance appeal. She was denied rent, AES ohio and Centerpoint Energy bill assistance for \$2,263 on 5/11/2023. She read a letter written by her daughter. Ms. Thompson gave permission for Steven Strain to contact her daughter to discuss her current financial and housing situation.

b) Kenneth Kline addressed the commission in response to the letter regarding unacceptable behavior of unwanted sexual advances on May 2, 2023. Mr. Kline refuted the claims of misconduct. He testified that he hugged the service officer after his appointment for filing for Agent Orange disability compensation to thank her. According to Mr. Kline the service office hugged him back.

c) Commissioner Fried moved to go in the executive session for reasons outlined in ORC 121.22 G (5). Seconded by Dare.

<u>Commissioners</u>	
Jerry Hays, President	X
William Fried, Vice President	X
James Dare, Secretary	X
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X
John Theobald, Commissioner	-

Aye Nay Abstain

Executive Session began at 10:31 a.m.

Executive Session ended 11:07am.

Commissioner Howley proposed a motion that we approve Ms. Thompson's request in full with a recommendation that she applies for PFP, attends the Budget class with making plans for future tuition for her child, and give her daughter Financial POA. Commissioner Fried seconded the motion. Steven Strain will follow up with Ms. Thompson.

<u>Commissioners</u>	
Jerry Hays, President	X
William Fried, Vice President	X
James Dare, Secretary	X
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X
John Theobald, Commissioner	-

Aye Nay Abstain

Assistance passed unanimously 4-0.

- d) Commissioner Fried moved that the Commission issue a lifetime ban to Mr. Kline from this office and its services in response to the incident on May 2, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dare.

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

President Hays declared the motion approved.

VII. Old Business

- a) Consideration of the Soldiers and Sailors Financial Assistance Report for the Period of April 1-30, 2023

Commissioner Hays moved to accept the report without changes and Commissioner Fried seconded the motion.

Commissioner Fried commented on the down trend of financial assistance this month.

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

President Hays declared the motion approved. 4-0

- b) HB 69 Letter Discussion

- President Hays spoke on House Bill 69 and his strong objection on the matter.
- Dan Semsel provided a drafted a letter on the negative impacts of House Bill 69 to the commission.
- Commissioner Fried made alterations to the original letter to include stronger language.
- President Hays spoke on the impact of the Bill on Ohio Revised Code 5901.
- Commissioner Howley proposed to strike the last sentence of the letter.
- All Commissioners signed the letter along with Director Frisco. The letter will be sent to Ohio House Representatives.

- c) Commissioner Howley asked the status of a response from RTA. Director Frisco informed there has not been a response received.

VIII. New Business

- a) Commissioner Travel

- a. The next conference for the commissioners will be 7/28/2023 – 7/30/2023. Reminded the

Commissioners to request the hotel block room rate at time of making reservation for the upcoming training.

b) Reibold Building Update

a. No new updates. Possible new time frame for office move is 2025.

c) 2024 Budget Resolution – Presented by Director Frisco and Dan Semsel

Commissioner Fried moved to approve a Budget Request in the amount of \$ 2.7 million to the Board of County Commissioners as required by 5901. Commissioner Dare seconded the motion. Resolution 23-051701.

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

President Hays declared the motion approved. 4-0

d) Requests for Sanctions

1. Director Frisco presented a request for Lifetime saction for Mr. and Mrs. Carl Tosi for misconduct and abusive behavior toward the Veterans Legal Counsel.

Commissioner Fried moved to impose the Lifetime ban on Mr. and Mrs. Tosi. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Dare.

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

President Hays declared the motion approved. 4-0

2. Director Frisco shared a letter sent to Commander Rojas outlining the most efficient way to assist Veterans in getting assistance from MCVSC. Steven Strain spoke on the necessity to remove barriers for legal assistance. Unauthorized parties such as Post Commanders calling for Veterans can delay assistance if not going through the established procedures. Commissioner Howley is the contact person in the the correspondence.

ii. Commissioner Howley is the contact person in the the correspondence.

e) Commissioners inquired about Active Shooter Training for the office.

Management Report

1. Dan Semsel provided a follow up to Bruce Lewis who was denied in April for assistance.
2. Director Frisco noted Mr. Babbitt was followed up with his request to dental assistance.

IX.

3. Director Frisco will be meeting with Miami Valley Community Action Partnership to assist Montgomery County Veterans in applying for utility assistance.
4. Transportation Report increase was discussed.
5. Steven Strain presented the legal service report.
 - i. Steven commented with no current services found for Descalation Training for the staff.
6. Director Frisco updated the commission on recent outreach events including the Annual Meeting as well as the inclusion of a letter from the MCVSC in the package every Honor Flight participant received upon their return.
7. Director Frisco was asked to serve as a board member on the Sinclair Military Families Board. She accepted the position.

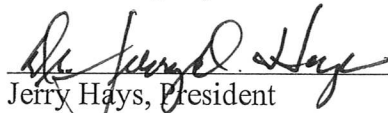
X. Commissioners' Reports

1. Commissioner Hays shared the next Commissioner's meeting will be 6/21/2023.
2. Commissioner Dare provided information on the American Legion sponsored Buckeye Boys State training in June. There will also be a Buckey Girls State Training in August. This is an 8-day event.
3. Commissioner Fried thanked the staff regarding the successful and well attended MCVSC Annual Meeting. He inquired about the Scam Alert information which Director Frisco said she will follow up the the Attorney General's office. He shared the upcoming local Memorial Day events. Confirmed the July Commission meeting will go back to the second Wednesday of the month.
4. Commissioner Theobald – Excused absence.
5. Commissioner Howley commented on the recent Honor Flight and requested more information to participate.

Next meeting is June 21, 2023 at 10:00am.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12: 47 p.m.



 Jerry Hays, President

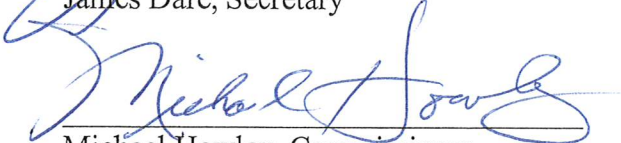


 William Fried, Vice President



 James Dare, Secretary

 John Theobald, Commissioner



 Michael Howley, Commissioner



Transportation Report | April - May 2023

Monthly Appointments

May 2023

*Client Appointments	201
2023 Monthly Average	175
2023 YTD Total	874
2022 Total	1,049
2022 Monthly Average	87

Monthly Cost

April 2023

RTA/UBER/Valley	\$7,468.62
2023 Monthly Average	\$6,335.04
2023 YTD Total	\$25,340.15
2022 Total	\$33,470.92
2022 Monthly Average	\$2,789.24

April Trip Totals**

• RTA/Uber/Lyft	63
• RTA/Paratransit	179
• Valley Transport	80
• RTA Bus Pass (Medical)	9
• RTA Bus Pass (Grocery)	2

*Appointments are generally round trip.

**One-way trips



Legal Services Report
May 2023

New Client Appointments.....54
YTD Monthly Average.....55

Practice Areas

Housing Defense.....7
Debt.....2
Civil/Family.....4
Estate Planning.....23
Miscellaneous Legal Advice.....18

Service By County

Montgomery.....36
Greene.....2
Clark.....4
Miami.....2
Preble.....2
Warren.....4
Butler.....1
Morgan.....1
Darke.....1

Total Counties Served.....33

2023 YTD Total

Consultations.....275

Cases.....6

Legal Fees Saved.....\$99,300*

*(Resolved litigation \$1,100)

2022 Total

Consultations.....705

Cases.....4

Legal Fees Saved.....\$198,800

2021 Total

Consultations.....377

Cases.....17

Legal Fees Saved.....\$99,300