



**Meeting Minutes of the
Montgomery County Veterans Service Commission
April 17, 2024, at 10:00 AM**

I. Call to Order

President Jerry Hays called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. at 627 Edwin C. Moses Boulevard, 4th Floor, East Medical Plaza, Dayton, Ohio 45417.

II. Roll Call

Bryan Suddith called the roll.

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

Staff members present:

- Kim Frisco, Director
- Bryan Suddith, Deputy Director
- Steven Strain, Veterans Legal Counsel

III. Pledge of Allegiance

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

IV. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Fried moved to approve the March 20, 2024, minutes. Motion seconded by Commissioner Howley.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
John Theobald			x
William Fried, Secretary	X		

James Dare, Commissioner	X
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X

Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Commissioner Fried moved to approve the April 4, 2024, minutes. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dare.

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

Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

V. Public Comments

None in attendance

VI. Old Business

a.) Consideration of Soldiers and Sailors Financial Assistance for period March 1 - 31, 2024.

Commissioner Fried moved to approve, and Commissioner Dare seconded the motion.

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

President Hayes declared the motion approved. 5-0

b) Collective Bargaining Matters

Commissioner Theobald moved to accept a resolution dated April 17, 2024, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Dare.

Mr. Suddith reported a few of the larger negotiating points. 4% COLA increase in year one, 3% in year two and three. 1 additional floating holiday for Bargaining Unit employees, moving the annual performance award from one time payout to a pay rate increase according to the contract scale.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
John Theobald, Vice President	X		
William Fried, Secretary	X		

James Dare, Commissioner	X
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X

President Hayes declared the motion approved. 5-0

c) Pending Litigation

Director Frisco reported an update on the current decision from the Court of Common Pleas in the matter of Landers v MCVSC. It has been presented that in spite of the court's decision, MCVSC may be required to remit OPERs contributions and deductions. This is a change from what was previously understood by the commission and staff. Deputy Director Suddith reviewed the budgetary implications of the decision with the Commission advising them that there may be a future need for a resolution to request an additional appropriation from the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioners directed the Executive Director to follow up with legal counsel in this matter for further clarification of the judge's order titled Judgement Entry Denying Request to Correct Trial Decisions dated March 27, 2024.

VII. New Business

a) Commissioner Howley addressed the commission with a Veteran concern about pending GDRTA (Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority) cost increases and any affect they may have on Veteran transportation. Executive Director Frisco relayed information from the MCVSC Transportation Coordinator about the proposed rate increases that may come in 2026 for the Paratransit program. Current rates for the Uber/RTA Connect services will not see an increase in fees.

b) Personnel Matter

Commissioner Theobald moved to enter executive session for purposes outlined in ORC 121.22 G (1), to discuss Personnel Matters and specifically employee compensation. Commissioner Fried seconded the motion.

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

President Hayes declared the motion approved. 5-0

The commission entered executive session at 11:08 a.m.
The commission exited executive session at 11:22 a.m.

c) Commissioner Fried moved to grant a 4% Cost of Living Pay Raise for all employees not covered by the Bargaining Unit Contract, with an effective date of April 15, 2024. Commissioner Theobald seconded the motion.

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Jerry Hays, President	X		
John Theobald, Vice President	X		
William Fried, Secretary	X		

James Dare, Commissioner	X
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X

President Hayes declared the motion approved. 5-0

VIII. Management Report

Deputy Director Bryan Suddith presented a budget overview and discussed the various encumbrances that have been executed for the year.

Executive Director Kimberly Frisco presented the attached Transportation Report

Steven Strain presented the legal report:

- Presented his written report, see attached Legal Services Report.
- Mr. Strain updated the commission on the increased frequency of requests for discharge upgrade consultations. These are frequently appointments not kept by the Veteran requesting the meeting.

Executive Director Kimberly Frisco presented the following under her report:

- Thanks to Commissioners Fried and Hays for attending a ceremony at the Dayton VA recently where our VSO Bill Fitzgerald was honored for his service to Veterans in care at the Dayton VA.
- Both Glen Saxon and Cliff Montgomery completed state VSO training and passed their test to be an accredited VSO in Ohio.
- Honor Flight is this weekend, arrival time is 8:00 p.m. at Dayton International Airport.
- Spring School for VSOs and leadership will be held on May 1, 2 & 3 in Columbus. Staff will be in attendance.

IX. Commissioner's Reports

- Commissioner Hays (DAV) – Summer convention for County Veteran Service Commissioners will be held on July 26, 27 and 28. Elections for new officers will be held at that time. District meetings will be held as well during that time.
- Commissioner Theobald (AMVETS) – No report.
- Commissioner Fried (VVA) – Elections are tonight at 6:00 p.m. The post has received a large amount of scholarship applications and those will be reviewed.
- Commissioner Dare (American Legion) – No report.
- Commissioner Howley (VFW) – Reminded the commissioner that the annual online ODVS training is available on RELIAS.

X. Adjournment

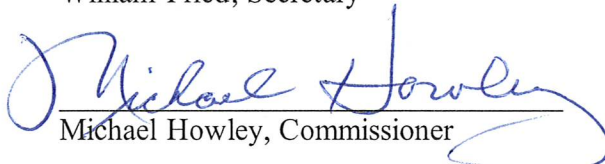
The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.



Jerry Hays, President




William Fried, Secretary



Michael Howley, Commissioner



John Theobald, Vice President



James Dare, Commissioner