



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

I. Call to Order

President Jerry Hays called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. at 627 Edwin C. Moses Boulevard, 4th Floor, East Medical Plaza, Dayton, Ohio 45417.

II. Roll Call

Stacy Schulte 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
- Curtis Stratton, VSC Intern
- Stacy Schulte, Clerical Support Specialist

Guests:

- Mr. William Bowers – Master Sgt., USAF - retired

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

- a.) Commissioner Fried moved to approve the June 12, 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, Vice President	X		
William Fried, Secretary	X		
James Dare, Commissioner	X		
Michael Howley, Commissioner	X		

Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

V. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public or guests

VI. Old Business

- a.) Consideration of Soldiers and Sailors Financial Assistance for period June 1 - 30, 2024. Commissioner Dare moved to approve, and 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

VII. New Business

a.) Pay by Warrant Action

Deputy Director Bryan Suddith explained to the Commissioners that an outstanding debt originating in 2023 was recently discovered by Alpha Media LLC.

Commissioner Fried moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 24-071001 authorizing the Montgomery County Auditor to pay by warrant Invoices 680693-7, 700496C-3, 700496B-3, 700496D-3 and 700496A-3 to Alpha Media LLC in the amount of \$4,347.00, Commissioner Dare 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 Hays declared the motion approved. 5-0

b.) Request for Sanction

Executive Director Frisco presented a case involving Veteran Charles Sinkfield, who requested food assistance and subsequently sold a voucher for his profit. Mr. Sinkfield was provided with notice and asked to attend today's meeting to provide his side of the story to the Commission, but he did not attend.

Commissioner Dare suggested that Veterans receiving food assistance in the future should be required to sign a Food Assistance Agreement in addition to the letter currently provided to them detailing the rules/restrictions of the program with the vouchers.

Commissioner Theobald moved to impose a one-year sanction for any Financial Assistance against Mr. Charles Sinkfield for violations of our Kroger Food Voucher program, 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 Hays declared the motion approved.

c.) Personnel Compensation

Commissioner Theobald moved to enter executive session per 121.22 G (1) to discuss compensation of public employees, Commissioner Fried seconded the motion.

Executive Session began at 10:40a.m.
The Commission exited executive session at 11:11am.

Commissioner Howley moved to approve an increase of 10% of the recommended base pay effective September 1, 2024, in response to the negotiated bargaining agreement. 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 Hays declared the motion approved. 5-0

Commissioner Howley then motioned to approve an increase in pay to \$85,342.00 of the VSC Legal Counsel position, Mr. Steven Strain effective August 1. Commissioner Dare seconded this 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 Hays declared the motion approved. 5-0

d.) Review of Denial

Executive Director Kim Frisco presented to the Commission a petition on behalf Thomas Whittington, a veteran who is requesting Financial Assistance to pay for his past due lot payments. The amount requested is more than the \$3000 one-time limit.

Commissioner Fried motioned to approve \$3550 to Mr. Whittington with the recommendation that he seek employment, which was then amended to add 2 extra months of lot payments for a total up to \$ 4,800.00 to assist him until he has a steady income. Commissioner Dare 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 Hays declared the motion approved. 5-0

VIII. Management Report

Executive Director Kimberly Frisco presented the Staff reports as attached.

- The Veteran Service officers will be attending a 1-day OSACVSO quarterly on July 19

Deputy Director Bryan Suddith presented the Budget, Outreach, Productivity and Transportation reports.

- Please see the attached reports.
- Summary Budget shows a rent increase, budget will be updated accordingly
- Shared story from Transportation: In May, a woman living in Georgia, reached out to our office for assistance for her parents here in Dayton. Transportation Coordinator Loren Scott met with the wife at her home to complete the transportation and RTA Paratransit applications, and now coordinate his travel through the daughter in Atlanta.
- The county fair is this week, several VSO's and Loren will be attending to represent our office.
- Our office participated in the Americana Parade in Centerville on July 4.
- Upcoming events include Miami County hosting Lee Greenwood, Holiday at Home and Levitt Pavilion participation is scheduled for September.

Steven Strain presented the legal report.

- See attached report.
- This Friday he will be traveling to Greene County for a Will

Clinic.

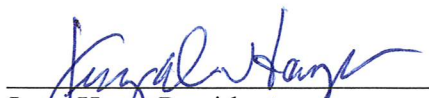
- Mr. Stratton will be concluding his internship next Friday, July 19.

IX. Commissioner's Reports

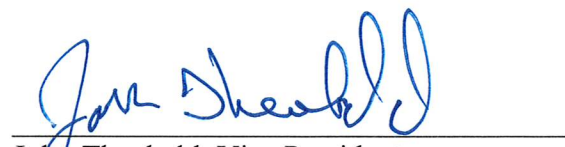
- a.) Commissioner Hays (DAV) – No report
- b.) Commissioner Theobald (AMVETS) – His post is having a challenging time with an investigation of one of its members. Kim Frisco reported that Amvets is volunteering at the Dayton VA and there will be a meeting on 8/13 at 1:00 pm
- c.) Commissioner Fried (VVA) – Gave special thanks to Donald North for helping an out of state veteran from Kansas City. Announced that VVA will be meeting on 7/18/2024 and invited Kim to come speak.
- d.) Commissioner Dare (American Legion) – The June meeting was canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for 7/15/2024. The American Legion will be hosting a recognition dinner for the Buckeye Boys State attendees and their families. There were 13 boys who attended the camp this year.
- e.) Commissioner Howley (Kettering VFW) – Invited Kim and Steven to speak to the vets at his post on August 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.



Jerry Hays, President



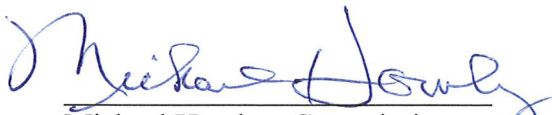
John Theobald, Vice President



William Fried, Secretary



James Dare, Commissioner



Michael Howley, Commissioner

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION**



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**Montgomery County Veterans Service Commission
Soldier and Sailors Report
July 2024**

1. Data Statistics

a. Financial Assistance:

i. June 2024

1. Approved: 27/\$27,714.20
2. Shelter: 14/\$17,479.47
3. Utilities: 18/\$3,440.73
4. Disapprovals: 9
 - a. Incomplete – 3
 - b. No emergency/Excessive Spending – 2
 - c. Partial Approval – 1
 - d. Excessive Gambling – 1
 - e. Assistance No Longer Needed – 1
 - f. Found Other Resources – 1

ii. May 2024

1. Approved: 29/\$32,166.13
2. Shelter: 12/\$15,310.80
3. Utilities: 26/\$9170.33
4. Disapprovals: 8
 - a. Incomplete – 1
 - b. No emergency – 4
 - c. Partial approval – 2
 - d. Assistance not an eligible expense – 1

iii. April 2024

1. Approved: 30/\$33,303.32
2. Shelter: 15/\$17,274.78
3. Utilities: 24/\$4,093.54
4. Disapprovals: 16
 - a. Incomplete – 5
 - b. Ineligible - 3
 - c. No emergency – 2
 - d. No attempt to improve conditions – 1
 - e. Helping others first – 1
 - f. Partial approval – 2
 - g. Bank would not accept partial payment – 1
 - h. No response to follow up -1

b. Shelter YTD: 69/\$81,906.23

c. Utilities YTD: 128/\$32,820.65

d. Dental: 2/\$870

i. 2024 YTD: 6/\$2,610

e. Emergency Repair (Assistance): 0/\$0

i. 2024 YTD: 8/\$6,725.71

f. COVID: 0/\$0

i. 2024 YTD: 0/\$0

g. Indigent Burial: 1/\$699

i. 2024: YTD: 10/\$9,699

h. Kroger Voucher Update: 104 Vouchers/\$5,200 (19 Veterans)

i. 2024 YTD: 638 Vouchers/\$31,900 (118 Veterans)

2. VSO Service Appointments/Information (in-person/phone) – 241 **(2024 YTD: 1451)**

3. VSO Financial Appointments/Information (in-person/phone) – 48 **(2024 YTD: 336)**



Transportation Report | May – June 2024

Monthly Appointments

June 2024

*Client Appointments	254
2024 Monthly Average	242
2024 YTD Total	1453
2023 Total	2601
2023 Monthly Average	217

Monthly Cost

May 2024

Average Cost Per Round trip ride	\$27.37
RTA/UBER/Valley	\$7,060.43
2024 Monthly Average	\$6,288.35
2024 YTD Total	\$31,441.76
2023 Total	\$82,998.66
2023 Monthly Average	\$6,916.56

May Trip Totals**

• RTA/Uber/Lyft	122
• RTA/Paratransit	274
• Valley Transport	64
• Catholic Social Services	2
• RTA Bus Pass (Medical)	22
• RTA Bus Pass (Grocery/Other)	6

Veterans served in May	69
New transportation clients	8

*Appointments are generally round trip.

**One-way trips



Outreach Report | June July 2024

Current and Completed Outreach Events

- June 5, **Miami Valley Veterans Museum**
 - Kim
- June 12, **VA Woman's Clinic and Health Fair**
 - Anna and Bill
- June 12, **Renaming of the Dayton VA Women's Clinic**
 - Kim, Anna, and Bill
- June 13, **Ohio Family Tree – Presentation**
 - Kim
- June 14, **Flag Day at 10 Wilmington Place**
 - Bryan
- June 20, **Ford Oval of Honors**
 - Kim, Bryan, and Bill Fried
- June 21, **Air Show Parade**
 - Cliff, Glen, North, and Bill
- June 22 and 23 **Air Show Tent with Ford Oval of Honors**
 - Glenn, Christine, and Bill
- June 26, **Veterans Treatment Court Graduation**
 - Kim, Steven, and Cliff
- July 4, **Americana Parade Centerville**
 - Bryan, Stacy and Commissioner Theobald
- July 9 – 13, **Montgomery County Fair**
 - Donald, Glen, Bill, and others

Upcoming Events:

- August 24, **Miami County Veterans Symposium at Hobart**
- Aug 22, **Air Force Band of Flight at Frazee**
- September 2, **Holiday at Home Parade (Labor Day)**
- September 14, **Levitt Pavilion Concert**
 - <https://levittdayton.org/event/honoring-our-veterans-headliner-tbd-w-guitars4heroes-opening/>



Productivity Report | June 2024

Overall

- \$188,000 for rent, mortgage, utilities, transportation and food

Food Assistance

- 108 Kroger vouchers were issued

Financial Appointments

- 48 total appointments
- 43 clients processed

Service Appointments

- More than 241 Appointments in June including phone and in home appts.
- 209 Individual Clients.

Service Statistics

- Total recovered to date this year: \$5,688,180.56
- Approximately \$1.2M in the month of June.

\$6,100,000.00 was awarded in 2023 vs (\$5,159,091.82 in 2022)



Legal Services
June 2024

Individual Client Appointments.....63
YTD Monthly Average.....59.5
Clinic Attendees.....4 (1 Clinic)

Practice Areas

Housing Defense.....2
Civil/Family.....5
Estate Planning.....28
Miscellaneous Legal Advice.....26
Discharge/Character of Service Upgrades.....2

Service By County

Montgomery.....51
Greene.....3
Clark.....1
Miami.....6
Butler.....1
Preble.....1

2024 Total

Consultations.....357 (59.5/Month)
Cases.....7
Legal Fees Saved.....\$140,550
Outreach/Clinics.....10 (81 Attendees)

2023 Total

Consultations.....747 (62/Month)
Cases.....11
Legal Fees Saved.....\$355,050

2022 Total

Consultations.....705 (58/Month)
Cases.....4
Legal Fees Saved.....\$198,800

2021 Total

Consultations.....377 (41/Month)
Cases.....17
Legal Fees Saved.....\$99,300

Mentors

Program Participants.....	36
Absconder.....	11
Active Mentors.....	10
Mentor Leads.....	9
Mentor Meetings.....	1