



**MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING OF THE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION
August 11, 2021 at 10:00AM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

President 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>
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, Bryan Suddith, Administrative Officer, Steven Strain, Legal Counsel and Nathaniel Peterson, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Hays led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a moment of silence.

IV. APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

July 14 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Fried moved for approval and Commissioner Dare seconded a motion to approve the July 14 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.

July 28 Special Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Theobald moved for approval and Commissioner Rojas seconded a motion to approve the July 28 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. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Appeal by Sonia Cade-Lenoir

Commissioner Fried moved to grant the appeal in the amount of \$1,036.00 and Commissioner Rojas seconded the motion. 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.

Appeal by Dara Taylor-Brown

Commissioner Rojas moved to recommend applicant re-apply next month with additional information, appeal denied, Commissioner Dare seconded the motion. 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.

Final Salute Society

Herb Davis and Elaine Herrick presented to the commission their work to care for and restore area Veterans monuments. The final salute society is a 501(c)3 and works with the Dayton Foundation to raise

money for the express purpose of restoration and care of public monuments that honor those who have fought and died in service to our country.

Mr. Davis and Ms. Herrick pledged submit a specific sponsorship ask in the future so that the Commission can partner with them in the care of these monuments.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

At 11:37 a.m. Commissioner Fried moved that the Commission enter executive session per ORC 121.22 (G) 1 to discuss a complaint made against a public official. 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.

The Commission ended executive session at 12:24 p.m.

Approval of Soldiers and Sailors Financial Assistance for the period of July 1– July 31, 2021. Executive Director Frisco presented the report to the commission.

Commissioner Theobald moved and Commissioner Dare seconded a motion to approve the July Financial report as recorded and presented. 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.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Sponsorship Request

Executive Director Kim Frisco communicated that she wished to expend \$400 on an ad for the Veterans Heritage Center event on 9/11 and 9/12. This would provide for an ad in the guide for the weekend's festivities on the grounds of the Dayton VA.

A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Fried and seconded by Commissioner Dare.

After discussion 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.

2. COVID-19 Protocol by the County

Executive Director Frisco reported that effective Aug 16, masks would be made mandatory for all staff and visitors to all Montgomery County offices, including MCVSC. The Director also reported the VIP incentive, awarding \$100 for each employee, and \$25 for each spouse who provides documentation of vaccination against COVID. She reported that Bryan Suddith will collect that data and report to the county for that incentive.

VIII. MANAGEMENT REPORT

Executive Director:

184 in-person/phone VSO Service appointments for the month of July.
47 in-person/phone VSO Financial appointments for the month of July.
58 Legal Consultations
Currently there are 8 active legal cases
YTD Legal Fees saved: \$41,900.00
Budget is at 47.63% expended.

The Executive Director asked each commissioner to forward any training documentation to the office.

Employee training and travel:

RISE Conference, Washington DC, Strain and Strong, Aug 14-19
Fall School, All 7 VSOs + Frisco, Columbus, OH, Sept 14-17
New Service Officer School, Suddith, Semsel and Strain, Columbus, Oct 18-22

Upcoming Outreach planned:

Fraze Military Night, Aug 5
AMVETS 1789 Poker Run, Aug 14
Wright State Veterans Golf Outing, Aug 28
AMVETS 2003 Poker Run, Aug 28
Holiday At Home Parade, Kettering, September 6

MCVSC Executive Director is hosting an area directors cross talk at the office on August 12.

IX. COMMISSIONERS REPORT

1. President Jerry Hays no report.
2. Vice President Fred Rojas stated that he will be attending a ceremony on 8/28 where rebuildingwarriors.com are passing the leash of a service dog to a local Veteran.
3. Secretary Bill Fried reported on some key take aways from the summer Commissioners

Conference.

- i. He mentioned the latest presumptives for burn pit exposure and the need to keep our eye on that situation.
 - ii. Under the PAWS (Puppies Assisting Wounded Servicemembers) Act, the VA will connect service dogs in training with Veterans diagnosed with PTSD.
 - iii. Perhaps we can add a web page to our site that lists current legislation that is moving through Congress that impacts veterans.
 - iv. Commissioner Fried asked that we look into the placement of an American Flag disposal box for our lobby.
4. Commissioner Jim Dare discussed the Patriot Angels organization and the help he and his mother have received from them.
 5. Commissioner John Theobald no report.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Jerry Hays, President

James Dare, Commissioner

Federico Rojas, Jr., Vice President

John Theobald, Commissioner

William Fried, Secretary