



**Meeting Minutes of the  
Montgomery County Veterans Service Commission  
July 13, 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, 4<sup>th</sup> 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, Bryan Suddith, Administrative Officer and Steve 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 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Dare moved to accept the June 8 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**

Fred Rojas, Centerville VFW Post 9550, spoke to the Commission inviting them to attend a “drive-by” birthday celebration for WWII Veteran Kenny Snavelly, on his 105<sup>th</sup> birthday. The event is July 23 at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Rojas also introduced Kelly Castro to the Commission. Ms. Castro presented to the staff and commission about her 501c3 nonprofit: A Woman Helping Women Veterans. She is holding an event at the Beaver creek VFW on September 17.

Ms. Castro also shared about her experience with the MCVSC at the insistence of Mr. Rojas. Commissioner Fried thanked her for her service, her feedback and stated the Commission appreciated her feedback.

Mr. Rojas concluded by reminding the Commission of the August 14 Sheriff’s Ice Cream Social and Car Show in Washington Township.

**VI. Management Report**

Executive Director Frisco submitted the Soldiers and Sailors report to the commission as well as reports for Marketing/Outreach and Legal Services.

It was also reported that Montgomery County Veterans Services is hosting a Symposium for regional Veterans Treatment Court staff. That event is scheduled for October 7 and will be held at Sinclair Community College. Steve Strain and Charles Strong are the two staffers leading this project.

Our next Budget Class presented by Wright-Patt Credit Union is scheduled for July 21.

**VII. Old Business**

- a) Consideration of the Soldiers and Sailors Financial Assistance for the Period of June 1-30, 2022

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

A brief conversation occurred with clarification on the terminology of “overturned on appeal”.

<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) Denial Letter Language Update

Deputy Director Semsel presented standardized language for use by the VSOs when crafting Denial Letters. Commissioners agreed that the language was an improvement with few suggestions and considered the matter closed.

**VIII. New Business**

- a) Director Frisco Reported that the Transportation Coordinator Position has been filled with an internal candidate. The job was posted by the county and many applications were received. Very few had the required Veteran or Veteran connected status.
- b) The now vacant Receptionist position has been posted. Commission President Jerry Hays suggested that a member of the HR Committee should be present for final interviews for the position of Receptionist.
- c) Deputy Director Semsel presented to the Commission a question for clarification regarding the \$25,000 lifetime benefit cap. After a lengthy discussion this topic was tabled until the Assistant County Prosecutor could review the policy and make a recommendation.
- d) September Meeting Date
  - a. Staff and Commissioners agreed to move the September meeting date to September 7 at 10:00 a.m. to accommodate the ODVS Training Schedule that will keep most of the leadership team away from the office on the regular scheduled date.

**IX. Commissioners' Reports**

Commissioner Hays

- DAV Monthly Meeting tonight at Kettering Legion.

Commissioner Fried

- VVA Scholarship Committee has concluded its work for the year.
- Next meeting is 21 July at 6:00 p.m.
- The Miami Valley Veterans Museum is featuring an exhibit about Zeke the Dog in August.

Commissioner Dare

- American Legion 165 has a new Commander. John Heinrich. No July or August meetings.

Commissioner Theobald

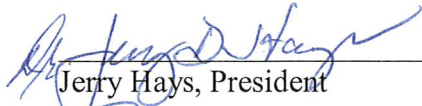
- AMVETS Post 24 has cancelled this month's meeting.

Commissioner Howley

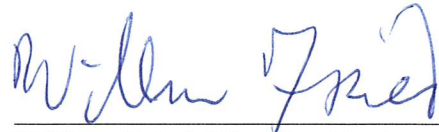
- Shared with the Commission his impression of the Veterans Treatment Court graduation. He encouraged each Commissioner to attend in the future. He was very impressed with the event and the graduating Veterans.
- Reported he is a newly minted Lifetime Member of the VFW.

**X. Adjournment**

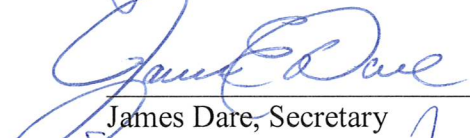
The meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_

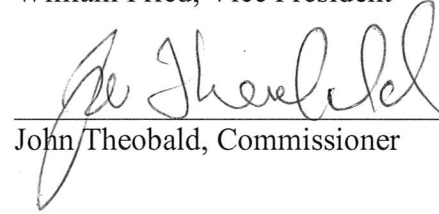
Jerry Hays, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_

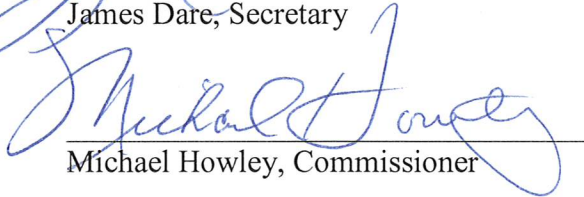
William Fried, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_

James Dare, Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_

John Theobald, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Michael Howley, Commissioner