



BUTLER COUNTY
VETERANS SERVICE
COMMISSION

315 High Street, 1st Floor
 Hamilton, OH 45011-6068

(513) 887-3600
 Fax (513) 887-3519

vsc@butlercountyohio.org
 BCVets.org

BOARD MEETING
December 6, 2023

1. The meeting of the Butler County Veterans Service Commission- Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Jones.
2. A roll call was conducted and recorded the following attendance for this regular meeting on December 6, 2023.

Name	Organization	Present	Absent
Commissioner Jones	AMVETS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Reed	DAV	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Applegate	VFW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Weber	At-Large	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Office Staff Present: Executive Director/CVSO, Mike Farmer
 Assistant Executive Director/CVSO, Matt Jones
 Executive Assistant, Lisa Meece

3. Board President Business

- a. All who were able stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. A motion was made by Commissioner Applegate, and seconded by Commissioner Reed to approve the agenda for December 6, 2023. No discussion.

Commissioner Weber	Commissioner Applegate	Commissioner Reed	Commissioner Jones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay
<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain

4. Board President Business

- a. A motion was made by Commissioner Applegate, and seconded by Commissioner Reed to approve the Board meeting minutes from November 15, 2023 as written. No discussion.

Commissioner Weber	Commissioner Applegate	Commissioner Reed	Commissioner Jones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay
<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain

- b. Suicide Prevention Report: Commissioner Applegate mentioned that the last Suicide Prevention Commission meeting was held November 30th. The meeting mostly discussed the upcoming year including the 2024 meeting dates as well as the planning of another Resource/Job Fair in the Spring.

- c. Executive Director Report:
Transportation software development is progressing very nicely. We are now having biweekly status reports and it appears the target date of being live in the first quarter should not be an issue.

The 2024 budget is due for vote on December 11, 2023 by the Board of County Commissioners. To refresh the mind, you approved a \$3.3M budget which should fully fund our projected needs so long as nothing unexpected comes from legislative changes.

Our dental program will remain unchanged going into 2024 as there are limited specialty providers for the other services needed. We have found a very good program to help offset the Veterans need, called “Leave No Vet Behind” through the Cincinnati Dental Society’s Oral Health Foundation. We will continue discussion of how to better serve the needs in the future as resources become available.

We have met with Butler County Mental Health Addiction and Recovery Services Executive Director and their firm to talk about how we can address Suicide rates amongst Veterans in our County. Communication is continuing as we look for solutions to reduce the suicide prevalence amongst veterans.

5. Bill Payment and Operational Expenses Approvals

A motion was made by Commissioner Applegate, and seconded by Commissioner Reed to approve the listed bills for November 1, 2023 – November 30, 2023. No discussion.

Commissioner Weber	Commissioner Applegate	Commissioner Reed	Commissioner Jones
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<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain

6. Correspondence/Communications

- a. Thank You c/o Veteran Aughinbaugh
- b. High Twelve Club Certificate- Matt Jones
- c. Thank you to Mayfield Elementary c/o Veteran Jones

7. Statistical Reporting and Outreach

- a. November 2023 Statistical Report was shared for discussion
- b. December/January Outreach Calendar was shared

8. New Business

- a. Approve the 2024 Pay Grades which includes the previous year Cost of Living Allowance.
- b. Approve the issuance of a Then and Now Certificate past 30 days for 2024 NACVSO Membership Dues in the amount of \$300.00.
- c. Approve the issuance of a Then and Now Certificate past 30 days for 2024 Hamilton Chamber Membership Renewal in the amount of \$355.00.
- d. Approve the 2024 advertising rates with Key-Ads for one digital billboard on SR 129 Eastbound and one rotary board, which will be rotated every 13 weeks on the northern side of the County in the amount of \$31,294.47.

- e. Approve the Executive Director to link personal credit card to Google for API mapping in support of transportation software with an estimated cost of less than \$50 per month in usage fees.
- f. Approve the Executive Director reimbursement of \$777.95 for automatable repairs made under the Financial Assistance program in reference to Veteran R. Baker, application number 864 which was adjudicated on September 19, 2023.
- g. Approve and authorize the Executive Director to enter a contract with Scripps Media d/b/a WCPO-TV in sponsorship of Homefront in an amount not to exceed \$45,000 for advertising services to be performed from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

A motion was made by Commissioner Applegate, and seconded by Commissioner Reed to approve the new business as presented while pulling item “e” (COX Media, Final Agenda item 8e) out for further discussion.

Commissioner Weber	Commissioner Applegate	Commissioner Reed	Commissioner Jones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay
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<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstain

9. Guest(s): None

10. Executive Session:

A motion was made by Commissioner Applegate, and seconded by Commissioner Reed to enter Executive Session to discuss Financial Applications adjudicated in November 2023, and Review Employee Evaluations.

Commissioner Weber	Commissioner Applegate	Commissioner Reed	Commissioner Jones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay
<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
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Discussion on Financial Assistance Applications adjudicated during November 2023, and Review Employee Evaluations.

At this time the BCVSC-BOC exited from Executive Session to vote on items discussed as needed.

11. Items from Executive Session for Vote

- a. A motion was made by Commissioner Applegate, and seconded by Commissioner Reed to accept the Financial Assistance Applications from November 1 – November 30, 2023 as adjudicated by the Executive Director. (Exhibit 1)

Commissioner Weber	Commissioner Applegate	Commissioner Reed	Commissioner Jones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay
<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
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- b. A motion was made by Commissioner Applegate, and seconded by Commissioner Reed to approve the 2023 Annual Employee Evaluations, raises and lump sums as submitted by the Executive Director to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Weber	Commissioner Applegate	Commissioner Reed	Commissioner Jones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain

12. Office Operations

- a. A motion Approve the 2024 Holiday Dates as outlined in the Holiday Observance policy.
- b. Approve the 2024 Commissioner Meeting Dates.
- c. Determine and declare, pursuant to ORC Section 307.12 (E) and (I), County property generally described as furniture and equipment, further described herein this resolution, to be unneeded, obsolete, or unfit County-owned personal property and approve it to be sold through GovDeals or discarded or salvaged.

A motion was made by Commissioner Applegate and seconded by Commissioner Reed to approve the office operations business as presented.

Commissioner Weber	Commissioner Applegate	Commissioner Reed	Commissioner Jones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain

13. Items for Discussion

- a. Commissioners: Commissioner Reed stated that we have the best office in the state, if not the nation and that the bar is set so high. He then thanked the staff. Commissioner Applegate reiterated the certificate of appreciation from Miami County Veteran Services for assisting them in a time of need. He said that we set the standard for others to follow. Commissioner Jones mentioned that Commissioner Weber is not seeking reappointment with the board and that he will be greatly missed. He then presented an award to Commissioner Weber. Commissioner Weber said that it has been his privilege he got a chance to work with the organization and assisting veterans. He feels that he is leaving on the highest note with the place in good hands. He shared it feels bitter sweet and he hates to leave. Lastly, he thanked the staff for all they have done.
- b. Director: Executive Director Farmer said that the staff does a phenomenal job and also wanted to thank Butler County Mental Health Board for the ongoing discussion around Veterans suicide. He thanked staff as well as the board for their support, involvement and responsiveness. Mentioning that the staff appreciates them as well.
- c. Assistant Executive Director: Assistant Executive Director Jones stated that the staff does a good job and thanked the board for their support.

14. Next scheduled meeting:

Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 Regular Meeting

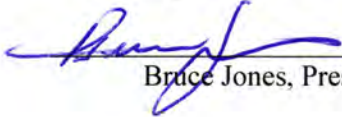
Time: 9:30 A.M.

Place: Veterans Service Commission, Conference Room


15. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Commissioner Applegate. No discussion.

The undersigned acknowledge the correctness of these minutes and submit them as the official record:



Bruce Jones, President



Mark Applegate, Secretary

Butler County Veterans Service Commission



BUTLER COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

Monthly Meeting Minutes Application Period

11/01/2023 to 11/30/2023

Veteran Full Name	Dependant Applicant Name	Occupation or Relationship	City	Zip	Adjudication	Approved Aid	Meeting
ADKINS, ROBERT	ADKINS, BRENDA	WIDOW	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$426.00	5 for - 0 against
ATHERTON, ROBERT	ATHERTON, LINDA	WIDOW	HAMILTON	45015	Initial Application Approved	\$685.66	5 for - 0 against
BERRY, BRIAN		DISABLED	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$2,399.61	5 for - 0 against
BOWLING, HARRY	BOWLING, PATRICIA	WIDOW	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$1,500.00	5 for - 0 against
CONLEY, DWAYNE		UNEMPLOYED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Incomplete	\$0.00	5 for - 0 against
COOK, WARREN		DISABLED	HAMILTON	45015	Initial Application Approved	\$1,687.17	5 for - 0 against
FREDERICKSON, BRIAN		UNEMPLOYED	WEST CHESTER	45069	Initial Application Incomplete	\$0.00	5 for - 0 against
GERARD, JOSHUA		UNEMPLOYED	MIDDLETOWN	45044	Initial Application Approved	\$2,226.00	5 for - 0 against
GREEN SR, HOWARD	GREEN, DONNA	WIDOW	MIDDLETOWN	45044	Initial Application Approved	\$1,181.00	5 for - 0 against
GRUBB, BRANDON		STUDENT	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$1,374.24	5 for - 0 against
HOOSIER, TIMOTHY	GONZALEZ, TAMMY	FORMER SPOUSE	MIDDLETOWN	45042	Initial Application Approved	\$1,837.61	5 for - 0 against
ISON, DONALD		POSTAL WORKER	FAIRFIELD	45014	Initial Application Incomplete	\$0.00	5 for - 0 against
KEIL JR, ROY		UNEMPLOYED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$1,455.00	5 for - 0 against
MCKINNON, SYLVESTER		UNEMPLOYED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$1,176.00	5 for - 0 against
MCNEIL, JAMES		TRUCK DRIVER - FMLA	MONROE	45050	Initial Application Denied	\$0.00	5 for - 0 against
MENSE, PETER		LOWES - PLUMBING REP	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$2,490.21	5 for - 0 against
MUNCIE, ROBERT		CAR SALES	MIDDLETOWN	45044	Initial Application Approved	\$2,011.00	5 for - 0 against
RHODES JR, ACIE		DISABLED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$2,073.91	5 for - 0 against
ROBINSON, OMER		WAREHOUSE PICKER	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$860.87	5 for - 0 against
SHIPLEY, TODD		TRUCK DRIVER	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$1,187.40	5 for - 0 against
SMITH, HAROLD		DISABLED/UNEMPLOYED	MIDDLETOWN	45044	Initial Application Approved	\$486.00	5 for - 0 against
SWEENEY, STANLEY	SWEENEY, TERRI	WIDOW	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$735.13	5 for - 0 against
TALBERT, RAHEEM		DISABLED	HAMILTON	45015	Initial Application Approved	\$486.00	5 for - 0 against
TURNER, RANDY		UNEMPLOYED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$597.47	5 for - 0 against
WARFORD, HARVEY		RETIRED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Incomplete	\$0.00	5 for - 0 against
WOLFE, BRIAN		UNEMPLOYED	MIDDLETOWN	45042	Initial Application Approved	\$636.00	5 for - 0 against