



BUTLER COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

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BUTLER COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING

1. Roll call conducted indicated the following members of the Butler County Veterans Service Commission Board of Commissioners were present for this regular meeting on May 17, 2023:

Commissioner Bruce Jones, AMVETS Representative
Commissioner Dave Reed, DAV Representative
Commissioner Tom Jeffers, American Legion Representative
Commissioner Chuck Weber, At-Large Representative
Commissioner Mark Applegate, VFW Representative

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

2. The meeting of the Butler County Veterans Service Commission-Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Jones, with all standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. A motion was made by Commissioner Applegate, and seconded by Commissioner Weber, and passing unanimously to approve the agenda, for this Butler County Veterans Service Commission Board of Commissioners May 17, 2023 regular meeting.
4. Reading Open Meeting and Right to Speak at Meeting guidelines were waived.
5. **Meeting minutes approval:**
 - a) **April 19, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.** A motion was made by Commissioner Jeffers, and seconded by Commissioner Reed, to approve the regular meeting minutes. Draft copies of these minutes were sent to Commissioners for review prior to this meeting.

VOTE: to approve				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

6. **Executive Director Report:** Executive Director Mike Farmer delivered the following updates to the Board:
 Latest outreaches events have been extremely successful. The Middleton Wellness fair, Food pantry and Cincinnati VAMC have all yielded immediate calls.

A little bit later we are going to talk about opposing legislation. The Board is well familiar with the topic from the both the OSAVSC and personal research.

We are in the very early stages of consulting services for our transportation database. I am going to post a statement seeking statements of qualifications for me to contact.

Director asked the Board to consider a more electronic means when it comes to the Board meeting. The packets are close to 3 reams of paper, 2 man hours of work plus ink. He asked if the Board wishes to pursue the topic he will work with BCIS to get information a quote and order what is needed.

The Board unanimously agreed to proceed with the technology.

7. **Bill Payment and Operational Expenses Approvals:**
 a) **Invoices paid April 1, 2023 – April 30, 2023.** A Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Weber, and seconded by Commissioner Reed.

VOTE: to approve				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

8. **Correspondence/Communications shared with Commissioners:**
 a) None.
9. **Statistical Reporting and Outreach**
 a) April 2023 Statistical Report was shared for discussion
 b) May/June Outreach Calendar was shared

10. **Old Business:**

- a) **Opposition to Ohio HB 69.** A motion to submit a letter of opposition to the Butler County Representatives was made by Commissioner Reed, and seconded by Commissioner Applegate.

VOTE: to approve letter				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

11. **New Business:**

- a) **2024 Tax Budget.** A Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Applegate to accept the 2023 Tax Budget as submitted by the Executive Director, second by Commissioner Weber.

VOTE: To approve				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

- b) **Food Assistance Amount.** A Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Jeffers to increase the food assistance amounts as submitted by the Executive Director, second by Commissioner Reed.

VOTE: To approve				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

- c) **Approval of Resource Fair Location.** A Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Reed to approve the the Butler County Fair Grounds for the resource fair location not to exceed \$2,500.00, second by Commissioner Applegate.

VOTE: To approve				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

- d) **2022 Annual Report.** A motion to approve the 2022 Annual Report as submitted by the Executive Director was made by Commissioner Weber, second by Commissioner Applegate.

VOTE: To approve				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

12. **Guest(s):** None

13. **Executive Session.** A motion was made by Commissioner Jones, and seconded by Commissioner Jeffers, to enter Closed Executive Session to discuss Financial Assistance Applications adjudicated in April 2023 and One (1) Appeal for Financial Assistance

VOTE: To go into closed session				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

Discussion on Financial Assistance Applications adjudicated during April 2023 and One (1) Financial Appeal

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

14. **Veteran Case Votes on Items from Executive Session**

- a) **Vote on Applications as Adjudicated in April 2023.** A motion was made by Commissioner Jeffers, and seconded by Commissioner Reed, to accept the Financial Assistance Applications from April 1-30, 2023 as adjudicated by the Executive Director. (Exhibit 1)

VOTE: To accept				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

- b) **Vote on Appeal Assistance c/o Veteran Ellis.** A motion was made by Commissioner Jeffers and seconded by Commissioner Weber to lift the suspension provided the applicant bring the require documentation no later than Friday May 19, 2023 at 12:00 PM.

VOTE: To lift suspension				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

15. **Office Operations:**

- a. **Hiring of Peer Mentor/Outreach Coordinator.** A motion to approve the hiring of Casey James at the rate of \$24.21 per hour not to exceed 28 hours per week was made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Reed.

VOTE: To approve				
MA	CW	TJ	DR	BJ
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MOTION CARRIES				

16. **Statements, Comments and/or Discussion by:**

- a) **Executive Director:** The Executive Director (Mike with an "I") spoke to the Annual Report and how this agency is impacting lives on a daily basis. Often times it is easy to lose focus while in the daily grind, but the Staff's performance speaks volumes. He thanked the Commissioners for their assistance with our recent outreach events and their continued support.
- b) **Commissioners:** Commissioner Reed offered comments that he believes our staff is the best in the State of Ohio. Commissioner Applegate concurred with the previous remarks and is pleased. Commissioner Weber offered that he has been involved for a long time, but he could never dream things would be this good. He is very appreciative of the assistance offered to him and others. Commissioner Jones offered that he is proud be a leader of this organization and is excited with the progress that has been achieved and the direction we are heading.

17. The date and time of the next meeting is posted as:

Date: **Wednesday, June 21, 2023 Regular Meeting**

Time: **9:30 A.M.**


Place: **VSC Hamilton Conference Room**

18. A motion was made by Commissioner Reed, and seconded by Commissioner Weber, and passing with unanimous votes to adjourn the meeting.

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



Bruce Jones, President



Tom Jeffers, Secretary

Butler County Veterans Service Commission



BUTLER COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

Monthly Meeting Minutes Application Period

04/01/2023 to 04/30/2023

Veteran Full Name	Dependant Applicant Name	Occupation or Relationship	City	Zip	Adjudication	Approved Aid	Meeting
BELLARD, AUBREY		DIE CUTTER HELPER	MIDDLETOWN	45044	Initial Application Approved	\$1,622.27	5 for - 0 against
BROOKS, WILLIAM		DISABLED / BUS DRIVER	MIDDLETOWN	45044	Initial Application Approved	\$1,176.45	5 for - 0 against
EVERSOLE, JAMES		DISABLED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$980.85	5 for - 0 against
FENDER, CAREY	FENDER, DEBORAH	WIDOW	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$1,311.30	5 for - 0 against
HANNAHS, WILLIAM		DISABLED	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$632.40	5 for - 0 against
HOLLEY, LYSETTE		WAITRESS	MIDDLETOWN	45044	Initial Application Incomplete	\$0.00	5 for - 0 against
JONES, NICOLE		CREW MEMBER	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$1,381.45	5 for - 0 against
KELL, SHAYNE		HOME MAKING AID	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$1,171.49	5 for - 0 against
KOHLER, TERRANCE		STOCKER	LIBERTY TOWNSHIP	45069	Initial Application Approved	\$1,852.00	5 for - 0 against
MARTIN, RICHARD		UNEMPLOYED	FAIRFIELD	45014	Initial Application Approved	\$2,110.00	5 for - 0 against
MAY JR, ANTHONY		UNEMPLOYED	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$1,589.76	5 for - 0 against
MCGRATH, THOMAS		RETIRED	HAMILTON	45015	Initial Application Approved	\$2,065.00	5 for - 0 against
ODONNELL, MICHELE		CUSTOMER SERVICE	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$716.32	5 for - 0 against
PROFITT, SHERYL		RETIRED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$386.00	5 for - 0 against
ROSE, TERRY		DISABLED	MIDDLETOWN	45044	Initial Application Approved	\$2,203.66	5 for - 0 against
RUGGLES, ROBERT		AMAZON FULFILLMENT	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$1,294.56	5 for - 0 against
RUMLEY JR., ESTEL		DISABLED	HAMILTON	45013	Initial Application Approved	\$596.83	5 for - 0 against
SANDY, JAMES		RADIO PRODUCER	MIDDLETOWN	45044	Initial Application Approved	\$1,575.00	5 for - 0 against
SIZEMORE, DOUGLAS		DISABLED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$1,667.96	5 for - 0 against
TERRY, CHRISTOPHER		RETIRED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$1,596.05	5 for - 0 against
TURNER, RANDY		UNEMPLOYED	HAMILTON	45011	Initial Application Approved	\$383.23	5 for - 0 against
WALLACE, JOSEPH		RETIRED	HAMILTON	45015	Initial Application Approved	\$405.00	5 for - 0 against
WASHINGTON, WILLIE		FORK LIFT OPERATOR	WEST CHESTER	45069	Initial Application Approved	\$2,149.00	5 for - 0 against
WRIGHT, THOMAS	WRIGHT, SANDRA	WIDOWER	HAMILTON	45015	Initial Application Approved	\$1,962.53	5 for - 0 against