

Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting

REGULAR MEETING OF December 8th, 2025

| Commissioners | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Christine Santiago Foos | President | Present |
| Dave Hyatt | Vice President | Present |
| Ric Ray | Secretary | Present |
| Jeff Hill | Member | Present |
| John McAllister | Member | Present |
| Veteran Services | | |
| Brian Galligher | Director | Excused |
| Wm. Piwtorak | Deputy Director | Present |
| Foxx Schneider | Social Services | Present |
| Speaking Guest(s) | | |
| John Crouse | Guest | Present |
| | | |
| | | |

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: President Christine Santiago Foos in 1730.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Approval of minutes concluding at 1733 hrs.

Motion – 25-1208-01 to approve the minutes from 11-24-2025 as corrected

1st Hyatt 2nd Hill 5-0 Vote PASS

Guests: John Crouse

Wreaths Across America ceremonies are taking place at multiple cemeteries in Delaware County, on Saturday, December 13, 2025. The public is invited to attend the ceremonies and volunteer to lay wreaths to honor fallen veterans.

Motion-25-1208-02 to move into executive session at 1734 hrs.

1st Ray 2nd McAllister 5-0 Vote PASS

Motion- 25-1208-03 to return to public session at 1824 hrs.

1st Hill 2nd McAllister 5-0 Vote PASS

The board was given an update on Veteran REDACTED situation regarding his home and a quote in which was provided to him by another veteran. The conclusion of the discussion was to continue our best effort to assist veteran REDACTED by reaching out to organizations like habitat for humanity about home repair, and or receiving another inspection in which details the expenses and severity of the situation.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mash Pantry:

The director and deputy director of the office have been in communication with the MASH pantry. A motion was previously passed by the commission to assist MASH in covering the cost of Ensure drinks for seriously ill, elderly veterans who utilize their services. When the office attempted to pay for the drinks, however, there was some initial pushback from the county, which caused a delay. A timely solution to the problem was found by reaching out to DAV #79, which will provide a gift donation to MASH specifically for the purchase of the Ensure drinks for the veterans. Further discussion to follow to ensure payment was received.

Ramp request:

The board again discussed the request submitted by Suzanne Barr for the installation of a ramp at her home. The proposed ramp would facilitate access for veterans and first responders seeking warmth or the use of restroom facilities. At this time, the request has been tabled until the next meeting, pending the submission of further details.

VVA Trailer:

To assist the VVA in their funeral honors and other events they are requesting a trailer in which they would have the ability to transport different items associated with the events and ceremonies they do. The board continued the discussion of purchasing the trailer for the VVA.

Motion 25-1208-04 to allow the VVA to purchase the trailer to assist them with their events

1st Hyatt

2nd Hill

4-1: Abstain 1

Financial Assistance Policy:

With the pending software upgrade, it is recommended to change the financial policy to drop "Gross" income to "Net" income. This change will allow apples to apples to be compared and allow the programmers to design a simple calculation. With continuing to keep poverty guidelines at the 300% level to allow more veterans to seek and request assistance.

Motion 25-1208-05 to continue to use the 300% poverty guidelines and change the policy from "gross total income" to "net total income" to be able to assist veterans.

1st McAllister

2nd Hill

5-0 Vote

PASS

Special Event Policy approval:

The Directors created a policy for the county and auditor regarding the office's utilization of "vouchers" for special events, replacing the use of the term "gift card." Further discussion is expected in future meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Wreaths Across America –

A letter was received in the office discussing the upcoming Wreaths Across America. This was brought up to confirm there was no action needed from the board to purchase wreaths. The wreaths for 2025 have already been encumbered and the wreaths for 2026 does not occur until after the new year. No action needed at this time.

DIRECTOR's REPORT

Wave Report

The bi – monthly report was sent via email to the board to review.

GOOD FOR THE ORDER:

NEXT MEETING: December 22nd, 2025, is the next scheduled meeting – 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky Street (Veterans Services).

Motion 25-1208-06 to adjourn the meeting at 1912 hrs.

1st McAllister

2nd Hill

5-0 vote

PASS

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REGULAR MEETING OF December 22nd, 2025

| Commissioners | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Christine Santiago Foos | President | Present |
| Dave Hyatt | Vice President | Present |
| Ric Ray | Secretary | Present |
| Jeff Hill | Member | Present |
| John McAllister | Member | Present |
| Veteran Services | | |
| Brian Galligher | Director | Present |
| Wm. Piwtorak | Deputy Director | Excused |
| Foxx Schneider | Social Services | Present |
| Speaking Guest(s) | | |
| Dr Moore | Guest | Present |
| | | |
| | | |

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: President Christine Santiago Foos in 1730.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Approval of minutes concluding at 1734 hrs.

Motion – 25-1222-01 to approve the minutes from 12-08-2025 as amended

1st McAllister 2nd Hill 5-0 Vote PASS

Guests: Dr Moore

Dr. Moore appeared before the board to represent his 501(c)(3) nonprofit, which provides specialized care for veterans facing various mental health challenges. During his presentation, he highlighted critical warning signs and triggers to monitor, particularly during the high-stress holiday season. To illustrate the local impact of his work, Dr. Moore shared demographic data for his current patient base within Delaware County. He currently treats 39 residents across the county, including 11 patients in Lewis Center alone. To sustain these services, he is requesting \$4,750 in funding to support his continued outreach and treatment for struggling veterans throughout the region. The board also took Dr Moore's contact information to assist in reaching other known organizations by the board to possibly assist Dr Moore in the future.

Motion-25-1222-02 to move into executive session at 1826 hrs.

1st Hill 2nd Ray 5-0 Vote PASS

The board received an update regarding the housing situation of veteran REDACTED A quote was presented alongside a proposal to partner with Habitat for Humanity; however, the project is currently pending the completion of veteran REDACTED application. The board concluded that it would continue its efforts to assist veteran REDACTED by identifying organizations willing to fund a professional home inspection. This inspection is a critical next step to determine the total repair costs and ensure the home meets necessary safety standards.

Motion-25-1222-03 To approve the payment for Veteran REDACTED in the amount of \$1,370.55 to cover the cost of his mortgage payment.

1st Hill **2nd McAllister** **5-0 Vote** **PASS**

Motion-25-1222-04 To approve funds to cover costs of services for Dr Moore and his nonprofit to assist veterans in Delaware county up to \$6,000.00 with the director of the office receiving an invoice verifying the total cost.

1st Ray **2nd Hyatt** **5-0 Vote** **Pass**

Motion- 25-1222-05 to return to public session at 1908 hrs.

1st McAllister **2nd Ray** **5-0 Vote** **PASS**

OLD BUSINESS:

Ramp request:

The board revisited the request submitted by Susan Barr regarding the installation of a ramp at her home for True North. While the request for the home-connected ramp was not approved, the board recommended receiving an estimate to install a restroom in the shop area instead. A cost estimate for this project is currently being developed, and further discussion will follow once that information is available. The estimate and logistics will be presented to the board in the future.

Wreaths Across America:

The office received a formal invitation regarding the upcoming Wreaths Across America ceremony. The board confirmed that the office will cover the cost of 100 wreaths for the event. The Director will attempt to process this purchase using their procurement card "P-Card", awaiting successful payment for the wreaths.

Motion-25-1222-06 to cover the cost of \$1,700 for Wreaths Across America for next year
1st Ray 2nd Hill 4-0 Vote (1 Abstain)

NEW BUSINESS

Heros Ball:

The hero's ball will be held in April 2026 in which discussion on sponsors of the event and tables being sponsored was had. Further discussion on how the office will be in part with the event to follow.

Ohio Warrior Hockey Program:

Commissioner Hill introduced a sled hockey program to the board, which is designed to help local veterans build camaraderie. The board noted that official support from the office may be considered in the future, with further discussions scheduled for a later date. To facilitate this, Commissioner Hill plans to contact the organization's leadership to invite them to present their mission and operational details to the board.

DIRECTOR's REPORT

Wave Report

The bi-monthly report was distributed to the board via email for review. During the holiday season, the office successfully completed its outreach project, delivering gift bags to veterans residing in nursing homes throughout the county. These bags included treats, a durable mug, holiday cards, and thank-you notes provided by the Olentangy Local School District. Outreach Coordinator Kimberly Gilley organized the distribution to ensure every identified veteran was reached, marking a successful holiday initiative for the office.

End of the year evaluations:

The Director will email the year-end staff performance evaluations to the Commission for their review. During the session, the board discussed potential salary adjustments for office staff, considering the 2025 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the federal pay scale.

Training:

Motion-25-1222-07 to allow the director of Veteran Services Brian Gallagher to complete training for ODVS being granted extended time to ensure training is completed.

1st Ray **2nd Hyatt** **5-0 Vote** **PASS**

Motion-25-1222-08 for the approval of the Federal “COLA” increase but not approve the yearly step increases for the staff in the office. Further discussion will follow in lieu of future evaluations.

1st McAllister

2nd Hyatt

5-0 Vote

PASS

GOOD FOR THE ORDER:

NEXT MEETING: January 12th, 2025, is the next scheduled meeting - 1952 hrs. - At 91 N. Sandusky Street (Veterans Services).

Motion 25-1222-09 to adjourn the meeting at 1912 hrs.

1st McAllister

2nd Santiago-Foos

5-0 vote

PASS