

# Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting

## REGULAR MEETING OF Jun 23, 2025 REDACTED

| 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 | Present |
|                         |                 |         |
| Speaking Guest(s)       |                 |         |
|                         |                 |         |
|                         |                 |         |
|                         |                 |         |

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY:** Vice-President Dave Hyatt at 1730.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Approval of minutes concluding at 1733 hrs.

**MOTION – 25-0623-01** to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2025 meeting.

**1<sup>st</sup> Ray                      2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister                      4-0 Vote                      PASSED**

**MOTION -25-0623-02** to move into executive session at 1735hrs.

**1<sup>st</sup> McAllister                      2<sup>nd</sup> Ray                      4-0 Vote                      PASSED**

**NOTE:** Commissioner Santiago Foos arrived a couple minutes late due to traffic issues. She arrived and took over the rest of the meeting @ 1736 hrs

Discussed 1 financial Assistance

**MOTION- 25-0623-03** to return to public session at 1822 hrs.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill                      2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister                      5-0 Vote                      Passed**

**Motion– 25-0623-04-01** To approve a waiver for Redacted to exceed the annual limit and receive a 5<sup>th</sup> request.

**1<sup>st</sup> McAllister                      2<sup>nd</sup> Hill                      5-0 Vote                      Passed**

**Motion– 25-0623-04-02** To approve a waiver for Redacted to exceed the \$7,500.00 limit.

**1<sup>st</sup> McAllister                      2<sup>nd</sup> Hill                      5-0 Vote                      Passed**

**Motion -25-0623-04-03** to approve Redacted to receive 1 month's rent, 2 month's car payment, and a utility bill totaling \$2,894.77

**1<sup>st</sup> McAllister                      2<sup>nd</sup> Hyatt                      5-0 Vote                      Passed**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Need for immediate space**

Commissioner Hill/ Director to explore the cost to rent a mobile modular space. July 14<sup>th</sup> (Next meeting is the deadline).

Discussed legal review: the prosecutor's office must provide a timely review on matters that the board requests. If not, the open the opportunity for the board to seek outside legal counsel.

Purchase Property/ Build New? Commissioner Ray can have more information on this.

### **Motts Museum Trip**

There are only 12 veteran and 2 chaperones scheduled for the bus trip. The board said to ask those signed up if they want to bring a guest.

Food has already been ordered but can be changed. Time is running out.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **Boundless Freedom**

Boundless Freedom: Veterans Adventure Weekend is a three-day experience designed exclusively for veterans and their families. It's an opportunity to get outdoors, take on new challenges, and build genuine camaraderie with others who've walked a similar path.

Hosted by Adaptive Sports Connection, this weekend is about honoring your service through action, adventure, and community. Whether you're seeking a new challenge, peace and quiet, or a weekend of bonding with others who understand your journey, we've got you covered.

The weekend is free for veterans and their families, including all meals, lodging, and activities. Spouses, partners, and children are encouraged to attend. There will be a dedicated Kids Activity Area so every family member can enjoy the experience. Lodging is fully accessible and located onsite at Recreation Unlimited in Ashley, Ohio, a 195-acre accessible campus with accessible steam trails, forest, prairie, a seven-acre lake, etc.

Discussed supporting them financially. The board would like to have a presentation at the next meeting to become informed on all they do. Brian is to reach out to schedule.

## **Vet Center**

The counselor assigned to Veteran Services has taken on a new job at the Federal VA. The Vet Center is in the process of finding a replacement. Once that is completed, Veteran Services will be informed to who that will be. In the meantime, normal communication is available and urgent message can be sent to Dr. Berger.

## **Interviews**

The social Service officer position was reposted. Received 22 application with only 9 of them being eligible veterans. The management staff went through the applications and widdled the list down to four applicants. Brian, Andrew, and Bill will complete the 1<sup>st</sup> interview. If an outstanding candidate is identified, a recommendation will go to the board. If not, the top candidates will be have a 2<sup>nd</sup> interview / review with the Board to make a final decision.

Interview will occur soon with a recommendation going to the board by the 14<sup>th</sup> of July, the next meeting.

## **VCAS- Veteran Companion Animal Service**

This group provide companion animals to veterans who require a lifestyle that include a canine with specific personalities to enhance the veteran's needs. This group is campaigning for additional funds and will be having a poker run on Saturday. It was discuss to receive a funds from Veteran Services to support their endeavors.

**MOTION 25-0623-05** to approve \$1,000.00 to donate to the Veteran Companion Animal Service.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill**

**2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister**

**5-0 Vote**

**Passed**

### **Budget Change**

It was requested that the budgeted items (250th Anniversary monuments) be moved from line item 5400 to line item 5228 due to the definition of each line item. It is felt that the monuments would fit better in the 5228 line item.

**MOTION 25-0623-06** to approve the budget change to move the monuments from line item 5400 to line item 5228.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Ray**

**5-0 Vote**

**Passed**

### **DIRECTOR's REPORT**

"Wave Top" report – is a new report that will collect data from the office showing the activity on a bi-weekly basis to include good stories that the office does. This will be collected throughout the year and then will be transposed into of year report that will be share will internal and external stake holder.

Testimony- Brian and Christine will be attending the budget discussion hosted by the Delaware County Commissioner on Thursday June 26<sup>th</sup>. The intent it to briefly explain what the office does and to answer questions from the commissioners.

### **GOOD FOR THE ORDER:**

**NEXT MEETING:** July 14, 2025 is the next scheduled meeting – 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services).

**Motion 25-0623-07** to adjourn the meeting at 2008 hrs.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Ray**

**5-0 vote**

**PASSED**

# Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting

## REGULAR MEETING OF Jun 9, 2025 REDACTED

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

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY:** President Santiago Foos at 1730.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Approval of minutes concluding at 1733 hrs.

**MOTION – 25-0609-01** to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2025 meeting.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill                      2<sup>nd</sup> Hyatt                      5-0 Vote                      PASSED**

**MOTION -25-0609-02** to move into executive session at 1735hrs.

**1<sup>st</sup> Santiago Foos                      2<sup>nd</sup> Ray                      5-0 Vote                      PASSED**

Discussed 4 financial Assistance

HR Updates

Employee Pay

**MOTION- 25-0609-03** to return to public session at 1955 hrs.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill                      2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister                      5-0 Vote                      PASSED**

**Motion– 25-0609-04-01** To approve a waiver for Veteran REDACTED to exceed the monthly limit.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hyatt                      2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister                      4-1 Vote                      Passed**

**Motion– 25-0609-04-02** To approve a waiver for Veteran REDACTED to exceed the \$7,500.00 limit.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hyatt                      2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister                      4-1 Vote                      Passed**

**Motion -25-0609-04-03** to approve Veteran REDACTED to receive 2 months mortgage for her residence.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill                      2<sup>nd</sup> Hyatt                      3-2 Vote                      Passed**

**Motion – 25-0609-05-01** to approve a waiver for Veteran REDACTED to the 6<sup>th</sup> request in an annual cycle.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hyatt                      2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister                      4-1 Vote                      Passed**

**Motion-25-0609-05-02** to approve a waiver for Veteran REDACTED to receive funds over the \$7,500.00 annual limit.

**1<sup>st</sup> McAllister                      2<sup>nd</sup> Hyatt                      4-1 Vote                      Passed**

**Motion-25-0609-05-03** to approve Veteran REDACTED to receive 1 month's rent that was due June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill                      2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister                      4-1 Vote                      PASSED**

**Motion-25-0609-06-01** to approve a waiver for Veteran's spouse REDACTED to go over the \$12,000.00 limit.

**1<sup>st</sup> McAllister                      2<sup>nd</sup> Hyatt                      3-2 vote                      PASSED**

**Motion-25-0609-06-02** to approve Veteran's spouse REDACTED To receive \$2,900.00 for rent, which would top her at the lifetime limit.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hyatt                      2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister                      2-3 vote                      FAILED**

**Motion -25-0609-07-01** to approve Veterans REDACTED a waiver to receive a 5<sup>th</sup> request in an annual cycle.

**1<sup>st</sup> McAllister      2<sup>nd</sup> Hill      4-1 Vote      Passed**

**Motion -25-0609-07-02** to approve Veterans REDACTED a waiver to receive funds going over the \$12,000 threshold

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill      2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister      4-1 Vote      Passed**

**Motion -25-0609-07-03** to approve Veterans REDACTED to receive \$650.00 for an electric bill that is due.

**1<sup>st</sup> McAllister      2<sup>nd</sup> Hyatt      3-2 Vote      Passed**

**Motion – 25-0609-08** to approve a change in the pay scale for Admin FT. The new initial pay will be Grade 7 Step one. All other pays on the scale will remain the same.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill      2<sup>nd</sup> Hyatt      3-2 Vote      Passed**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Motts Museum** – Only 11 veterans have signed up. June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Will need an organization to discuss and provide tip for the bus driver. Food is taken care of.

**Vet Fest**- a three page document was provided to the board showing the amount of participation that is coming from the community to include the Federal VA, City of Delaware, YMCA, Source point, and numerous other organizations that are both non-profit and for profit organizations.

**Motion – 25-0609-09** to approve up to \$12,000.00 to cover expenses for the Event to include a majority of the funds going to cover food trucks that will Provide food to veterans attending the event.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill      2<sup>nd</sup> Santiago Foos      5-0 Vote      Passed**

**Billboards**- A document was given out showing the billboards available (At the time of the call). In reviewing the availability two billboards were recommended for the best viewing by Delaware County Residents. The cost would be \$13,447.00. These billboards are rented fairly quickly and it is recommended to secure them sooner than later. In the discussion the board would like to know what these would cost long term (Annually).

**Motion-25-0609-10** to secure the two billboards recommended by authorizing \$13,447.00. If they are already rented – locate the next best two billboards and secure using up to the \$13,447.00 authorized for payment.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hyatt**

**2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister**

**5-0 vote**

**PASSED**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

CVSO Lisa Upperman requested to attend the annual National CVSO training located in Louisville Kentucky July 12 thru 18<sup>th</sup> 2025. In addition to take an additional class that will help her with the additional training she had in last year's national convention. She is requesting Registration, Hotel, Per Diem, and Mileage reimbursed.

**Motion – 25-0609-11** to approve Lisa Upperman the ability to attend the National CVSO conference located in Louisville Kentucky July 12 thru the 18<sup>th</sup> 2025. The spending limit for all aspects of the travel is \$3,000.00 dollars.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hyatt**

**2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister**

**5-0 Vote**

**PASSED**

**Delaware Foundation** Brian and Bill attended a meeting at the Delaware Foundation and listened to a presentation discussing 4 different funds available. After finding out the details what Delaware County Veterans Services is wanting to do: Establish a public fund for people to donate to supporting the efforts of establishing three monuments to be located in Delaware, Powell, and Sunbury for the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The foundation heavily recommended to establish a donor advised fund. This fund is able to support the initial goal and to support other projects based upon the wording created when the contract is developed.

The next step would be for the director to file the appropriate application so that the foundation can create a contract that would be reviewed by Delaware County Veterans Services Legal.

**Motion- 25-0609-12** to approve the director to file an application for a Donor Advised fund supporting the project of getting three monuments developed supporting the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary and to confirm any additional funds support other Delaware County Veteran Services projects.

**1<sup>st</sup> Hill**

**2<sup>nd</sup> McAllister**

**5-0 vote**

**PASSED**



**Veteran Stand Down** – October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025 from 8am to 1 pm the veteran stand down will take place at the Columbus convention center. The question that arises from this, does the commission want to explore if Veteran Services could explore options to provide transportation to and from the event for Delaware County Veterans?

After a brief discussion, the consensus was the board would like to see what option would be available and what type of cost would it entail to get veterans there and back. A future discussion would be warranted.

## **DIRECTOR's REPORT**

No report

## **GOOD FOR THE ORDER:**

June 14<sup>th</sup> is Flag Day – John Crouse asked for any old and tattered flags to be donated. The flags will be burned at the Oak Grove Cemetery beginning at 10am on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> and will most likely last till 4 pm or a little later. A small ceremony will commence the event.

Anyone can stop by and drop off flags at the cemetery as well.

**NEXT MEETING:** June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 is the next scheduled meeting – 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services).

**Motion 25-0609-13 to adjourn the meeting at 2110 hrs.**

**1<sup>st</sup> McAllister**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Hill**

**5-0 vote**

**PASSED**