

American Legion  
Department of Ohio  
VA&R Standing Commission  
4 pm  
October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

1. Called to Order
2. Salute the Flag
3. Prayer
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Roll Call (no quorum, continued as a discussion)

District	Name	Substitute	Attendance
1	Patrick Grzybowski	Kevin Motter	X
2	Charles Craynon		Resigned
3	Michael Blackwell		-
4	Robert Ray		Resigned?
5	Darell Bishop		excused
6	David Cook		X
7	Jeffrey Hoffman		-
8	Donald Capps		X
9	Frank Adley		-
10	Bob Rhode		-
11	Vacant		-
12	Traci Washington		-
13	Leroy Brinkhoff		X
14	Bob Carson	John Life	X

6. Introduction of Guests: Rich Wengatz (13) and Commander Stennis stopped in to thank the commission for all its hard work.
7. District Reports
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup>: met with Sherrod Brown in reference to the PACT Act. Want an outreach to homeless veterans.
    - 7.a.i. Wood county VA service commission said they will not file a claim for veterans without a permanent address. May work with posts to have a PO box set up so they can file claims.
8. Old Business
  - a. Members of the Commission were reminded that the 988 National suicide prevention Lifeline launched 7/16/2022
  - b. Chairman Craynon has resigned due to health reasons

**“Veterans Strengthening America”**

# THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF



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## 9. New Business

- a. VA Cerner System
- b. PACT Act Information sheet was handed out to members of the commission
- c. 2022 National veterans suicide prevention annual report was disbursed and discussed by the commission.
  - 9.c.i. Coordinator Palider informed the commission that Congressional Reps from Ohio have stated they are looking to alter VA language so 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment respecting veterans are not punished for trying to access mental health help at the VA.
    - 9.c.i.1. The commission is interested in researching and writing a resolution urging congress to change these laws so veterans do not refuse mental healthcare out of fear of losing their 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights.

## 10. Resolutions

### 11. Good of the Legion

- a. Legislative Update related to VA
- b. VA on pace to house 38,000 homeless veterans by the end of 2022
  - 11.b.i. Veteran homelessness declined by 47% between 2010 and 2016, it only declined by 6% between 2016 and 2020.
  - 11.b.ii. As of August 30, 2022, VA has achieved 26,554 permanent housing placements, meeting 70% of the goal. VA's homeless programs are averaging 3,319 placements each month.
    - 11.b.ii.1. To meet the goal by the end of the year, we need to continue to place 2,862 Veterans into permanent housing each month through Dec. 31, 2022.

## 12. Closing Prayer

## 13. Salute the flag

## 14. Adjourned @ 4:51

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