



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY
LANSING

BRIAN LOVE
DIRECTOR

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN VETERANS TRUST FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 14, 2025

Board of Trustees and Staff

Chairperson James Dempsey, present
Vice Chairperson Paul McIvor, present
Trustee James Wallace, present
Trustee John Gardner, excused
Trustee Rodney Loonsfoot, present
Trustee Gregory Spight, present
Vacancy
Lindell Holm, Director, present
Carolyn Harden, Departmental Supervisor, present

Chairperson Dempsey called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

Notice of Open Meetings Act Compliance

Chairperson Dempsey received confirmation that the meeting notices were posted pursuant to Public Act 267 of 1976, the Open Meetings Act

Introduction of Guests

Brian Love - Director – Michigan Veteran Affairs Agency
Steffany Muirhead – Chief of Staff – Michigan Veteran Affairs Agency

Accounting Reports

Presented

Approval of Minutes

A MOTION (Paul McIvor/Rodney Loonsfoot) to approve the Public Minutes of November 12, 2024, passed and carried.

A total of 18 appeals/reviews and two 65+ cases were reviewed in a closed discussion on December 10th when there was no quorum for a public meeting.

Case TFGA 1079

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$10,952.55

Case TFGA 1081

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$15,304.46.

Case TFGA 1132 – Appeal

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application in the amount 4,000.00.

MVTF Board Meeting
January 14, 2025

Case TFGA 1167

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$7,995.00.

Case TFGA 1184

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$3,850.00

Case TFGA 1203

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$8,225.00.

Case TFGA 1210

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$10,627.31.

Case TFGA 1014

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$19,260.00.

Case TFGA 1223

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$10,867.00.

Case TFGA 1235 – Appeal

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$4,695.00.

Case TFGA 1238

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$5,751.85.

Case TFGA 1239 – Appeal

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$10,250.00.

Case TFGA 1241

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$5,243.00.

Case TFGA 1244

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$8,200.00.

Case TFGA 1245

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application in the amount of \$9,400.00.

Case TFGA 1275

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$14,295.00.

Case TFGA 1277

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$2,407.91.

Case TFGA 1285

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$639.83.

Case TFGA 1291 - 65+

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$1,617.13.

MVTF Board Meeting
January 14, 2025

Case TFGA 1300 – 65+

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application in the amount of \$18,313.27.

The total number/amount of emergency grants approved/partially approved: was seventeen for **\$152,867.83**.
The total number/amount of emergency grants approved/partially approved for 65+ Peacetime was one for \$1,617.13.

A total of 13 appeals/reviews were reviewed in a closed case discussion for January 14, 2025.

Case TFGA 1169

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application in the amount of \$7,001.53.

Case TFGA 1204

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$19,500.00.

Case TFGA 1245 - Appeal

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$8,400.00.

Case TFGA 1287

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application in the amount of \$431.00.

Case TFGA 1296

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application in the amount of \$7,740.99.

Case TFGA 1304

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application in the amount of \$16,474.00.

Case TFGA 1305

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application in the amount of \$10,500.00.

Case TFGA 1321

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application in the amount of \$12,250.00.

Case TFGA 1323

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$10,600.00.

Case TFGA 1334

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application in the amount of \$19,975.00.

Case TFGA 1342

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$7,700.00.

Case TFGA 1351

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application in the amount of \$4,550.00.

Case TFGA 1357

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application in the amount of \$20,485.00.

The total number/amount of emergency grants approved/partially approved: was six for **\$58,510.99**.
The total number/amount of emergency grants approved/partially approved for 65+ Peacetime was zero.

MVTF Board Meeting
January 14, 2025

A MOTION (Paul McIvor/Jim Wallace) to accept the emergency grant approvals and denials made in the December 10, 2024, and the January 14, 2025, case discussion, passed and carried in the amount of **\$211,378.82**.

County & District Committees--Committee Appointments

A MOTION (Rodney Loonsfoot/Gregory Spight) to approve County/District appointments and reappointments, passed and carried.

Ineligibles/Administrative Errors – Reconsideration

None.

Unfinished Business

MVTF Director Holm reported that he will be traveling to Texas January 21-24, 2025, with MVAA Director and MVAA Deputy Director to discuss the Texas home loan programs for veterans. Director Holm also gave an update on the VFW National Home Regenerative Agriculture Demonstration Farm program, adding that they have four members that are currently going through the program who will be presenting their project proposals for the year-long cohort. Holm added that the Home will have an advisory board; two members from the MVTF, two members from MDARD, and three members from the VFW National Home that will be overseeing and making decisions on the program. Holm also reported that he is hopeful to get an agent to volunteer at the Home that will assist taking Trust Fund applications at the VFW National Home. Director Holm reported that he submitted the MVTF Annual Report, a brief discussion followed. Director Holm gave an update on the status of gubernatorial appointments specifically the MVTF Board members whose terms are ending and the vacant board spot. A brief discussion followed.

New Business

None

Strategic Programs Sub-Committee Reports

None

MVTF Board Activities

Vice Chairperson McIvor reported that he will be attending his mid-winter conference January 29-31, 2025, to be held in Kalamazoo Michigan. Chairperson Wallace reported that he will be attending the American Legion Conference in Port Huron February 7-9, 2025. Chairperson Loonsfoot reported on the first Annual National American Indian Charter that is the first congressionally chartered Native-American VSO. A brief discussion followed. Chairperson Loonsfoot reported that he attended a Tribal Leaders Summit in Washington, D.C. last month where he represented the Michigan tribal community at the White House Tribal Summit, adding they met with Congressional leaders to promote tribal interests. Trustee Loonsfoot gave an update on the Toys for Tots campaign in the Upper Peninsula which ended in December. Loonsfoot reported that the Toys for Tot's campaign raised over \$30,000.00. A brief discussion followed.

MVTF Staff Activities

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Director Holm reported that MVTF Outreach Analyst, Erik Napieralski is attending a Salesforce meeting today.

Good of the Order

MVTF Director Holm reported on a veteran who received a grant from the MVTF. The veteran sent a heartfelt letter thanking the MVTF for assisting him with his dental needs that had been ongoing for years. Because of the MVTF grant, the veteran was able to get all the dental work completed and is now out of pain. A brief discussion followed. Chairperson Dempsey reported that he offered to be an advocate to a peacetime veteran who is in dire need of assistance and has several ongoing health issues. Chairperson Dempsey has also offered to drive this veteran to Ann Arbor to meet with his social worker tomorrow.

Public Comments

MVAA Director Love addressed the Board thanking them for all their hard work advocating for our veterans. Chief of Staff, Steffany Muirhead, also thanked the MVTF Board for their service.

Executive Session

None

Adjourn

A MOTION (Paul McIvor/Jim Wallace) to adjourn, passed and carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Approved: 

James Dempsey, Chairperson

11 Feb 2025

Date