



**MICHIGAN VETERANS' FACILITY AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

May 21, 2024  
10:00 a.m.

**PROPOSED MINUTES**

A meeting of the Michigan Veterans Facility Authority (MVFA) Board of Directors was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Chair David Henry. The meeting was conducted at Michigan Veteran Home at Grand Rapids, 2950 Monroe Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Attendance Roll Call**

Chair Henry called for a roll call of members present.

The following MVFA Board of Directors were present: David Henry, Brad Slagle, Leon Bauer (present at 10:05 am), Ken Robbins, MaryAnne Shannon, Barry Walter (present at 10:05 am), Shawn Turner

Excused Absence: David Rutledge

Michigan Veteran Homes (MVH) Executive Leadership Team: Anne Zerbe, Steve Rolston, Beth Simonton-Kramer, Ryan Engle, AAG Jason Geissler, AAG Intern, Lynne Myszak, Carly MacDonald, Tiffany Carr, Jodi Visser.

Virtual Guests: Jennifer Manning, Christopher Lajoie, Ronald Oja, Joshua Davis, Niquette Wheeler, Mohamad Hassan, Cary Lincoln, Heather Engel, Jacquelyn Grunn, Melissa Velie, Mark Wolf, Sean Depuydt, Erica Bobrowski, Ashley Rawlings, Michael Kroll, Sara Brys, Courtney Tweedale, et al.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

*Robbins, seconded by Shannon, motioned to accept the meeting agenda dated May 21, 2024, as amended. The motion passed 7-0.*

**4. Public Comment**

Niki Wheeler expressed her thanks to all three homes and all staff that work there.

**5. Approval of Proposed Minutes**

*Slagle, seconded by Robbins, motioned to adopt the minutes from the March 19, 2024, meeting. The motion passed 7-0.*

## **6. Executive Director's Report**

### **• Anne Zerbe, CEO/ED**

- Anne Zerbe provided an update on the homes. Funding has been requested for demolition of old buildings at MVHGR. Update on MVHDJJ. Mike Hassan will provide the construction updates. Finalizing land acquisition. Anticipating starting construction next year.
- Board appointment update—welcome to new member Shawn Turner.
- Ryan Engle reported on board appointments. There is one remaining vacancy on the board.

### **Update on MVH at Chesterfield Township – Jennifer Manning, Administrator**

- CMS survey was conducted with zero citations. Census is maintaining in the 120's and there is currently 1.5 – 2 year waiting list. The home celebrated its three-year anniversary.

### **Update on MVHDJJ – Ron Oja, Administrator**

- CMS survey zero health concerns, one for lack of mental health sharing agreement, and six life safety concerns. Current census is 105 members.

### **Update on MVHGR – Carly MacDonald, Administrator**

- CMS survey had zero life safety, three areas of concerns include nutrition, falls, and care planning. The home received one citation for the lack of a pharmacy sharing agreement which has been resolved. Current census 120. In April, areas of concern included life safety (two egress doors and one space heater plugged into an extension cord) and the completion of staff education.
- Niki Wheeler discussed that the homes are ranked in the top 30 in the state out of about 425 homes. MVHGR ranked 11<sup>th</sup>, MVHCT 24<sup>th</sup>, and MVHDJJ 26<sup>th</sup>. Grand Rapids is No.1 in Kent County, Marquette is No.1 in Marquette County, and Chesterfield is No.2 in Macomb County.

## **7. Update of Operations - Steve Rolston, Chief Operations Officer**

- All of the facilities are five-star rated. Staffing remains strong.
- NASVH Summer Conference August 12-16.
- Ryan Engle discussed promotional videos for recruitment.
- Mock Survey discussion and effectiveness.
- Employee communication-QR codes virtual comment box, town halls with MVH Leadership, satisfaction survey. The board would like to see the satisfaction survey results.
- Construction updates-MVHGR construction for laundry, pharmacy, and business office operations together. There is still construction needed for the storm damage that happened last year. MVHCT-maintenance building. Booster pump is ready to be installed for in-house laundry.

- Congratulations to Christopher LaJoie who was selected for the American Healthcare Association Future Leaders Program. This is a great opportunity and an honor as only person is selected from each state.

## 8. Executive Committee

- **David Henry**
- New Committee Structure. Bylaws provide the Board has the authority to establish and discontinue committees as necessary. The Board will establish a Clinical Quality and Regulatory Compliance committee and appoint Shannon (chair) and Bauer to serve on it. The Advocacy Committee will be combined with the Outreach Committee due to their similar/interrelated functions. Walter to chair; Rutledge and Turner to serve.

*Henry, seconded by Slagle, motioned to recognize the committees as presented. The motion passed by a roll call vote of 7-0.*

- Audit – The Performance Audit is ongoing; Board members may be contacted.

## 9. Budget and Finance

- **Ken Robbins**
- FY24 –\$8.3 million deficit.
- Once homes are well established, start comparing homes expenses (with each other, with national benchmarks).
- FY25 budget right-aligns the budget with the ongoing needs.
- Discussion of how the MVFA can tell its story, for outreach and fund-raising purposes.

## 10. Governance

- **No report.**

## 11. Outreach

- **Barry Walter**
- Barry discussed a recent conference. Appreciated Ryan and Tiffany's appearances at vet-centric events.
- Discussion of VSO attendance at MVFA meetings.
- Discussion about the 5k at Chesterfield and how it was a great event. Great volunteer involvement.

## 12. Appeals Board

- David Henry states a recommendation for appointment to the Appeals Board will come through the Executive Committee.

## 13. Public Comment

- Ryan Engle states that the MVFA Governance Committee moved the legislative lunch and learn in Lansing to January 2025. Thank You to Senator Huizenga who hosted a

bingo for the members, and to Representative Hood who hosted a coffee hour with the members. Governor Whitmer has proclaimed June 2-5 as State Veterans Home Recognition Week. The first brick was laid at Grand Rapids on June 3, 1886. We celebrate 140 years of care for our veterans.

- Tiffany Carr discussed the flag placement that is tomorrow at MVHGR. Over 5000 plus graves. Discussion on needing a historian to tell our history.

#### **14. Board Comment**

- Barry Walter stated this was very good meeting and has a suggestion for committee name: Advancement and Outreach.
- MaryAnne Shannon expressed gratitude for the data regarding the age breakdown of our census. She would still like to see an average cost per member calculated in the future once key qualifiers are identified.
- Leon Bauer commented as to the number of celebratory days for the homes in the month of June. Although valuable to acknowledge with activities, he noted this can make it expensive and time-consuming for administration and the flow of regularly scheduled activities at homes that month.
- Brad Slagle states congratulations to Chris Lajoie and wonderful having a zero-citation survey at MVHCT.
- Shawn Turner stated he was happy to be here and taking it all in.
- David Henry stated he was happy for team; we have the right people. Thanks to the staff, the heart and soul taking care of our heroes.

*At 12:00 Slagle, seconded by Shannon motioned to suspend the meeting and move into a closed session under Section 8d of the Open Meeting Act to discuss land acquisition. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 7-0.*

*At 12:33 Robbins, seconded by Shannon motions to move into open session under Section 8d of the Open Meeting Act. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 7-0.*

#### **15. Motion**

*The Board authorizes Anne Zerbe to pursue negotiations with Marquette Township area property owners for the purchase of land for the Jacobetti replacement facility. So moved by Robbins, seconded by Shannon. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 7-0.*

#### **16. Adjournment**

*Slagle, seconded by Robbins, to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.*

*At 12:35 pm the meeting was adjourned.*

MaryAnne Shannon,  
MVFA Board Secretary

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