



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

ZANETA ADAMS  
DIRECTOR

**MINUTES**  
PUBLIC MEETING

September 8, 2020  
***Board of Trustees and Staff***

Chairperson Barry Wood, present  
Vice Chairperson Robert Williams, present  
Trustee James Tighe, present  
Trustee Carol Hebert, present  
Trustee Jim Dempsey, present  
Trustee Jill Mathews, present  
Trustee Thomas Smith, present  
Lindell Holm, Director present  
Carolyn Harden, present  
Dawn Shinaver, Departmental Analyst

Chairperson Wood called the meeting to order at 10:41 a.m.

Notice of Open Meetings Act Compliance – Yes

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

**Introduction of Guests**

Zaneta Adams, Director of the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency  
Fred Schaible, Legislative Liaison of the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency

**Public Comments**

Director Adams and Legislative Liaison Fred Schaible undated the MVTF Board on status of a case that had been brought to the attention of a legislator by the applicant. Discussion followed.

**Approval of Minutes**

A MOTION (James Dempsey/Jill Mathews) to approve the Public Minutes, of August 11, 2020, passed and carried.

**A total of 30 appeals and reviews were considered in closed case discussion**

**Case 240** (Region 9, Monroe)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for 2019 property taxes in the amount of \$1,155.22.

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**Case 241** (Region 9, Livingston County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for mortgage in the amount of \$5,580.68.

**Case 242** (Region 4, Allegan County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new furnace in the amount of \$3,300.00 and electric in the amount of \$2,437.00.

**Case 243** (Region 10, Oakland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for new drain lines in the amount of \$4,900.00.

**Case 244** (Region 3, Roscommon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new well in the amount \$7,162.00.

**Case 245** (Region 5, Gladwin County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new well in the amount of \$5,160.00.

**Case 246** (Region 9, Jackson County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new furnace in the amount of \$3,350.00.

**Case 247** (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for electrical work in the amount of \$3,270.00.

**Case 248** (Region 4, Muskegon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a basement drain in the amount of \$18,400 and basement repairs in the amount of \$6,105.00.

**Case 249** (Region 9, Jackson County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a new roof in the amount of \$8,350.00.

**Case 250** (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for assisted living care in the amount of \$8,116.80.

**Case 251** (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for a new furnace in the amount of \$7,900.00 and electrical work in the amount of \$5,321.00.

**Case 252** (Region 10, Oakland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for rent in the amount of \$4,690.00 and electric in the amount of \$301.79.

**Case 253** (Region 4, Mecosta County)

Resolved

**Case 254** (Region 4A, Lake County)

Resolved

**Case 255** (Region 2, Emmett County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new well in the amount of \$10,100.00.

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**Case 256** (Region 9, Jackson County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a new septic and drain field system in the amount of \$11,750.00.

**Case 257** (Region 5, Gladwin County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for mold remediation in the amount of \$16,811.27, repairs in the amount of \$43,912.29 and new flooring in the amount of \$11,989.74.

**Case 258** (Region 4A, Mecosta County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a new well in the amount of \$4,940.00 and a new roof in the amount of \$5,850.00.

**Case 259** (Region 4, Muskegon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for water damage and removal of items to Complete Restoration in the amount of \$7,952.73. The remaining \$9,500.00 funds will be paid by you.

**Case 260** (Region 3, Alpena County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for sewer pipelines in the amount of \$8,500.00.

**Case 261** (Region 7, Ingham County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for home repairs in the amount of \$4,939.14.

**Case 262** (Region 8, Berrien County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new air conditioning unit in the amount of \$2,600.00.

**Case 263** (Region 1, Alger County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new roof in the amount of \$8,440.00.

**Case 264** (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for the builder in the amount of \$9,500.00, plumbing in the amount of \$2,100.00 and wall and ceiling insulation in the amount of \$2,400.00 contingent upon an application and response from FEMA for disaster assistance provided to the State Veterans Trust Fund office. The remaining requests for electrical and HVAC costs in the amount of \$10,000.00 were disapproved.

**Case 265** (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for home repairs in the amount of \$10,552.00, bathroom and plumbing in the amount of \$4,400.00, heat ducts in the amount of \$2,200.00, drying out home in the amount of \$2,000.00 and carpentry in the amount of \$8,340.00.

**Case 266** (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for basement flooring in the amount of \$7,789.34.

**Case 267** (Region 4B, Kent County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for tree removal in the amount of \$1,900.00.

**Case 268** (Region 2, Grand Traverse County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for 2018 and 2019 property taxes up to \$3,650.00 contingent upon a poverty exemption approval and verification provided to the State Veterans Trust Fund office.

**Case 269** (Region 1, Ontonagon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a new roof in the amount of \$12,992.54.

**Case 270** (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for home repairs in the amount of \$50,000.00.

**Case 271** (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for new flooring in the amount of \$6,150.42 and new appliances in the amount of \$3,621.75.

**Case 272** (Region 10, Wayne County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for bathroom repairs.

The total amount authorized for emergency grants approved/partially approved was fifteen for **\$104,953.96**.

A MOTION (James Dempsey/Jill Mathews) to accept the emergency grant approvals and denials that were made in the preceding closed case discussion, passed and carried.

**Accounting Report**

None

**Ineligibles/Administrative Errors – Reconsideration**

None

**County & District Committees--Committee Appointments**

None

**Unfinished Business**

Director Holm gave an update on expenditures adding that while the application count is down this fiscal year the grants administered are higher than the previous fiscal year. Director Holm discussed other possible avenues to assist veterans with non-profit organizations.

**New Business**

Director Holm reported on an opportunity to collaborate with Gleaners Community Food Bank to support food distribution efforts aimed at reducing food instability for veterans in a five-county service area of SE Michigan. Supporting documents and Board discussion followed. Director Holm updated the MVTF Board on GreenPath and recommended renewal of the grant for another year. Director Holm discussed Heroes Haven, a nonprofit organization supporting veterans with PTSD and TBI related issues, and asked the MVTF Board to consider assisting

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Heroes Haven with a grant in the amount of \$4,800.00 for kitchen upgrades and \$1,300.00 to upgrade the women's bathroom to code. Director Holm discussed the MVTF appropriations budget. Director Holm discussed

and updated the MVTF Board on the amount of flood cases due to the Midland dam breaks. The Board discussed placing a cap on the dollar amount for flood effected areas.

A MOTION (J.J. Thigh/James Dempsey) to approve a grant for Gleaners to support the emergency food box for veterans distribution in the amount of \$43,000, as well as My Neighborhood Mobile Grocery (MNMG) program for veterans in the amount of \$9,000, passed and carried.

A MOTION (James Dempsey/Carol Hebert) to approve a GreenPath grant of \$8,000 for FY21 passed and carried.

A MOTION (Robert Williams/Jill Mathews) to approve two grants to Heroes Haven for \$4,800 and \$1,300 to enable programming passed and carried.

A MOTION (James Dempsey/Jill Mathews) to approve the MVTF Appropriations Budget presented passed and carried.

A MOTION (J.J. Thigh/Carol Hebert) to have MVTF staff to draft a policy for veterans asking for grants that have been affected by the dam breaks in flood areas to cap grant amounts to \$15,000.00 passed and carried.

### **MVTF Board Activities**

None

### **MVTF Staff Activities**

Director Holm reported upcoming meetings with Grosse Pointe War Memorial

### **Good of the Order**

Director Holm reported that the next Strategic Planning Meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2020.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting Adjourned at 12:22p.m. to go into a closed session.


A MOTION (James Dempsey/J.J. Thigh) to go into a closed session passed and carried.

Chairperson Wood called the meeting to order at 1:23 p.m. to approve Appeals and Reviews.

A MOTION to approve the Appeals and Reviews (J.J. Thigh/James Dempsey) passed and carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

A MOTION (James Dempsey/J.J. Thigh) to adjourn passed and carried.

Approved: 

Barry Wood, Chairperson

12/4/2020

Date