



STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ZANETA ADAMS
DIRECTOR

MINUTES
PUBLIC MEETING
November 10, 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, excused
Trustee Thomas Smith, present
Lindell Holm, Director present
Carolyn Harden, present
Dawn Shinaver, Departmental Analyst

Chairperson Wood called the meeting to order at 10:38 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
Katie Waskiewicz, Legal Counsel - Attorney General's Office
Lori Hornbeck, Engagement and Performance Division Office of
Continuous Improvement/ DTMB

Public Comments

Director Adams reported on the collaboration with the MVAA and the veteran friendly Universities such as GVSU and Davenport University. Director Adams reported that the MVAA will be working in collaboration with LEO on veteran friendly partnerships and gave an update on the CORE initiative, the Lincoln Pillar Award and the Buddy to Buddy program. Director Adams added that the MVAA Facebook page will commemorate veterans on Veterans Day but also wished all veterans a Happy Veteran's Day.

Approval of Minutes

A MOTION (James Dempsey/Carol Hebert) to approve the Public Meeting Minutes, of September 8, 2020, passed and carried.

A total of 34 appeals and reviews were considered and discussed on October 13, 2020

Case 1 (Region 3, Crawford County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for electric in the amount of \$3,459.50.

Case 2 (Region 8, Calhoun County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for sewer hook- up in the amount of \$7,558.52.

Case 3 (Region 2, Grand Traverse County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for water and sewer removal bill in the amount of \$15,836.12 and building material costs in the amount of \$8,143.60.

Case 4 (Region 2, Grand Traverse County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for rent in the amount of \$5,750.00.

Case 5 (Region 8, Berrien County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for basement repair in the amount of \$22,135.74.

Case 6 (Region 1b, Schoolcraft County)

Administrative Withdrawal

Case 7 (Region 1b, Alger County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for furnace and possible chimney repair in the amount of \$3,500.00 in an interim decision.

Case 8 (Region 10, Wayne County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for rent in the amount of \$900.00 and heat/electric in the amount of \$1,945.00.

Case 9 (Region 10, Macomb County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for HOA fees in the amount of \$4,495.39 and mortgage in the amount of \$9,449.24.

Case 10 (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for doors in the amount of \$2,821.61 and electrical wiring in the amount of \$3,150.99. The remaining requests were disapproved for carpet in the amount of \$4,870.00 and Army Emergency Relief loan in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Case 11 (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for furnace in the amount of \$2,700.00, hot water heater in the amount of \$1,200.00 and electrical work in the amount of \$3,187.71.

Case 12 (Region 4a, Mecosta County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new well in the amount of \$5,373.00 in an interim decision.

Case 13 (Region 9, Livingston County)

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

Case 14 (Region 1a, Ontonagon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for a roof in the amount of \$10,000.00. The remaining request has been disapproved in the amount of \$2,992.54.

Case 15 (Region 3, Roscommon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a foundation repair in the amount of \$19,425.00.

Case 16 (Region 4b, Muskegon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for a new roof on the home in the amount of \$2,840.00. The remaining request was disapproved for the garage roof in the amount of \$4,000.00.

Case 17 (Region 10, Wayne County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for a new furnace and air conditioning in the amount of \$6,115.00.

Case 18 (Region 7, Eaton County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for mortgage in the amount of \$4,096.78, cell phone in the amount of \$533.60, electric in the amount of \$674.00 and cable in the amount of \$236.04.

Case 19 (Region 3, Roscommon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new furnace in the amount of \$2,895.00 in an interim decision.

Case 20 (Region 4a, Ottawa County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for mortgage in the amount of \$2,432.69.

Case 21 (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for air conditioning, furnace and hot water tank in the amount of \$8,904.00.

Case 22 (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for a new roof in the amount of \$6,000.00. The remaining request for the roof has been disapproved in the amount of \$1,178.00.

Case 23 (Region 2, Cheboygan County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a new hot water heater in the amount of \$3,480, furnace in the amount of \$12,945 and a water softener in the amount of \$2,190.00.

Case 24 (Region 5, Saginaw County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for electric in the amount of \$3,604.98 and water/sewer in the amount of \$665.73.

Case 25 (Region 9, Jackson County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for heat/electric in the amount of \$2,979.14 and mortgage in the amount of \$9,199.61.

Case 26 (Region 9, Jackson County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for the back half of roof in the amount of \$4,650.00.

Case 27 (Region 5, Midland County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for a new furnace, hot water heater and air conditioning in the amount of \$9,000.00 and electrical work in the amount of \$8,300.00. The remaining requests were disapproved to rebuild the home in the amount of \$155,000.00 and new appliances in the amount of \$6,274.94.

Case 28 (Region 3, Ogemaw County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for mortgage in the amount of \$3,344.61 and heat/electric in the amount of \$220.50.

Case 29 (Region 3, Barry County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new septic system in the amount of \$10,125.00.

Case 30 (Region 3, Roscommon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new furnace in the amount of \$2,995.00, 2017 property taxes in the amount of \$448.25 and 2018 property taxes in the amount of \$771.82.

Case 31 (Region 31, Leelanau County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for new windows in the amount of \$8,560.00.

Case 32 (Region 7, Eaton County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new furnace in the amount of \$4,730.00.

Case 33 (Region 2, Leelanau County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for a new furnace in the amount of \$2,397.00 in an interim decision contingent upon the remaining request for \$1,000.00 to be paid by you.

Case 34 (Region 2, Grand Traverse County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for delinquent rent obligation in the amount of \$3,928.68.

The total amount authorized for emergency grants approved/partially approved was twenty-two for **\$119,348.57**.

A MOTION (James Dempsey/Carol Hebert) to accept the emergency grant approvals and denials that were made in the October 13, 2020, case discussion passed and carried.

A total of 23 appeals and reviews were considered and discussed on November 10, 2020

Case 35 (Region 4b, Muskegon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a new roof already installed and financed in the amount of \$8,631.56.

Case 36 (Region 4a, Osceola County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a new roof in the amount of \$23,620.00.

Case 37 (Region 4b, Allegan County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for rent in the amount of \$5,725.00.

Case 38 (Region 9, Jackson County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for a new roof to be paid to Mullins Roofing (gutters and downspouts are not included) in the amount of \$7,476.00 contingent upon applying for DHHS and an approval for the remaining \$1,500.00. Please provide a copy of the DHHS decision to the State office before payment can be processed.

Case 39 (Region 4b, Muskegon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for heating gas in the amount of \$490.78, water/sewer in the amount of \$948.94, electric in the amount of \$1,182.11 and rent in the amount of \$1,950.00.

Case 40 (Region 10, Wayne County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for rent in the amount of \$2,380 and heat/electric in the amount of \$120.00.

Case 41 (Region 4b, Muskegon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for trash in the amount of \$51.75, water in the amount of \$127.09, heating gas in the amount of \$170.11, vehicle payment in the amount of \$433.00 and internet/cable in the amount of \$537.99.

Case 42 (Region 4a, Mecosta County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new well in the amount up to \$5,940.00 to be paid contingent upon the remaining \$500.00 to be paid by the county fund and other \$500.00 to be paid by you before payment can be made by the State office. Please provide a copy of the county fund decision to the State office and your payment to the contractor before payment can be processed.

Case 43 (Region 4b, Allegan County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for electric in the amount of \$348.84, mortgage in the amount of \$1,274.44 and lot rent in the amount of \$1,835.88.

Case 44 (Region 10, Wayne County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new front porch to be paid in the amount of \$6,277.00 contingent upon a license number of the contractor.

Case 45 (Region 2, Benzie County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a well permit in the amount of \$284.00 and a new well in the amount of \$6,131.85.

Case 46 (Region 6, Huron County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for electric in the amount of \$3,998.43.

Case 47 (Region 5, Saginaw County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for rent in the amount of \$650.00, vehicle payment in the amount of \$844.29, vehicle insurance in the amount of \$508.84, electric in the amount of \$358.00 and phone in the amount of \$211.58.

Case 48 (Region 8, Calhoun County) MOVED TO DECEMBER MEETING, BOARD REQUESTS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Case 49 (Region 2, Missaukee County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new roof to be paid in the amount up to \$14,275.00 contingent upon contractor license number.

Case 50 (Region 4b, Mecosta County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a new septic and drain field in the amount of \$9,000.00.

Case 51 (Region 9, Jackson County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for heat/electric in the amount of \$3,288.70 and phone in the amount of \$1,101.63.

Case 52 (Region 5, Gratiot County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for replacement of drain lines in the amount of \$7,695.00, bill for services in the amount of \$195.00 and bill for services in the amount of \$250.00.

Case 53 (Region 8, Berrien County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for a furnace and A/C unit in the amount to be paid up to \$5,825.00 contingent upon Home Shield Warranty paying the remaining \$2,000.00. Please provide a copy of their decision to the State office before payment can be processed.

Case 54 (Region 2, Leelanau County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for water/sewage removal bill in the amount of \$15,836.12. The remaining requests were disapproved for the basement rebuild materials in the amount of \$8,120.00 and labor by a non-licensed contractor in the amount of \$8,000.00.

Case 55 (Region 4b, Muskegon County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for mortgage in the amount of \$5,296.37.

Case 56 (Region 10, Wayne County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for cell phone in the amount of \$252.66, internet/cable in the amount of \$353.69, vehicle payments in the amount of \$455.85 and \$471.07, electric in the amount of \$725.78, vehicle insurance in the amount of \$986.31 and mortgage in the amount of \$7,311.05.

Case 57 (Region 6, Genesee County)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for a new roof to be paid in the amount up to \$7,500.00 or Andy's Roofing in the amount up to \$8,475.00 contingent upon verification of contractors licenses and a new furnace to Blue Flame Heating & Cooling in the amount of \$3,555.00.

The total amount authorized for emergency grants approved/partially approved was eleven for **\$86,224.71**.

A MOTION (James Dempsey/Bob Williams) to accept the emergency grant approvals and denials that were made in the November 10, 2020 case discussion, passed and carried.

Accounting Report

None

Partnership Reports

Director Holm reported that Consumers Energy sent the MVTF a contribution in October 2020. He gave an update on the GreenPath monthly activity report adding that the numbers that GreenPath had assisted veterans were increasing monthly until the COVID19 pandemic in March 2020. Usage of the program has begun to increase again in recent months. Director Holm reported that he met with Habitat for Humanity to discuss how H4H could possibly collaborate with the MVTF to assist more veterans that are in need. Director Holm also gave a brief update on Gleaners, adding that Gleaners is making a food contribution for the MVAA's Veteran Care Package event on November 14 in Macomb. A separate Veteran Care Package event in Muskegon County is also taking place on November 14 and includes a food contribution from the MVTF through Feeding America West MI.

Ineligibles/Administrative Errors – Reconsideration

None

County & District Committees--Committee Appointments

None

Unfinished Business

Director Holm gave an update on the proposed Special Policy 2020-1, 2020 Flood Emergencies. Director Holm also discussed the upcoming term dates of MVTF Board members.

A MOTION (Bob Williams/JJ Tighe) to approve the Special Policy 2020-1, 2020 Flood Emergencies, passed and carried.

New Business

Lori Hornbeck (DTMB) gave an overview of the last stages of MVTF Strategic Plan, discussion followed. Some edits were discussed and will be implemented and will be ready for the MVTF December 8th meeting. Director Holm reported that an additional full-time position will be necessary to accomplish the goals of the Strategic Plan. A position description was given to the Board for their consideration. Chair Barry Wood, Trustee Jim Dempsey and Director Holm volunteered to serve on the Strategic Programs Committee. Director Adams gave her recommendation of the FTE and the Strategic Plan. Director Holm discussed the loss of the Oakland County agent and updated the Board on the status of Wayne County not taking applications. Director Holm reported that the MVAA will be moving office location in 2021. Director Holm discussed how MVTF plans to commemorate MVTF's 75th Anniversary. Board discussion follow

MVTF Board Activities

Trustee Jim Dempsey updated the MVTF Board on DAV Fundraisers happening across the country and added that he is participating in an upcoming 5K.

MVTF Staff Activities

Director Halm reported that he attended a MVA Leadership Conference and gave a brief overview of the conference.

Good of the Order

Chair Barry Wood reported that the terms of the MVTF Chair and Vice Chair positions ends February 2021 and that nominations for these positions will be considered at the January 2021 meeting of the Board of Trustees. Chairman Wood wished all veterans a Happy Veterans Day, as well as Happy 245th Birthday to the United States Marine Corps.

Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

A MOTION (Carol Hebert/Jim Dempsey) to adjourn passed and carried.

Approved:



Barry Wood, Chairperson

1/13/2021

Date: