



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

March 15, 2022

10:00 a.m.

**APPROVED MINUTES**

A meeting of the Michigan Veterans Facility Authority (MVFA) Board of Directors was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair David Henry. The meeting was conducted at the DTMB State Facilities Administration Building, 3111 W. St. Joseph Highway, Lansing, MI 48917.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Attendance Roll Call**

Chair David Henry called for a roll call of members present.

The following MVFA Board of Directors were present: Zaneta Adams (via telephone), Henry Boutros (via telephone), David Henry, Ken Robbins (via telephone), David Rutledge, MaryAnne Shannon, Brad Slagle

Excused Absences: Mary Naber, Larry Yachcik

No quorum was achieved; only four board members were physically present at the meeting.

Michigan Veteran Homes (MVH) Executive Leadership Team: Anne Zerbe, Fred Schaible, Beth Simonton-Kramer, Patty Altimore

Guests: Christine Apostol, Erica Bobrowski, Tiffany Carr, Sean Depuydt, Ryan Doll, Heather Feuerstein, Assistant Attorney General Jason Geissler, Mike Hassan, Michael Kroll, Cary Lincoln, Carly MacDonald, Jennifer Manning, Renonda Mullen, Ron Oja, Steve Rolston, Jodi Thompson, Courtney Tweedale, Niki Wheeler, et al.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

Absence of a quorum

**4. Public Comment**

None

**5. Approval of Proposed Minutes**

Absence of a quorum

## 6. Executive Director's Report

Anne Zerbe presented the Executive Director's Report:

- **Introduction of MVH Chief of Staff, Beth Simonton-Kramer**

Ms. Simonton-Kramer introduced herself to the board, stating that she has been in this new role for approximately one month; previously, she was the Operations Specialist at the MVH at Grand Rapids. The major focus of her new position will be in the areas of strategic planning, monitoring of performance, and quality measures.

Fred Schaible introduced Heather Feuerstein who is the new DMVA policy and legislative analyst. She will be working in the strategic communications realm, ensuring all legislative reports related to the Homes are submitted through the proper channels.

- **Budget Update**

Anne Zerbe deferred the reporting of the budget update to Fred Schaible since it is related to the executive recommendation and negotiations. Mr. Schaible indicated that the executive budget recommendation was presented by the governor in February 2022. A one-time offset of \$6,000,000 in general fund will serve as a cushion for MVH until Medicaid revenue is sufficient, tentatively by fiscal year 2024.

The executive recommendation did not include any funding for the state match of a replacement home, specifically the MVH at D.J. Jacobetti. Mr. Schaible added that there is no doubt the Jacobetti Home needs to be replaced; it is just a matter of timing. The budget office will be provided with information on operational costs of the new facilities, along with a facility assessment of the current building, indicating the risks/threats. Mr. Schaible will provide board members with a list of applicable representatives to use while advocating for the state's match for a replacement facility.

- **Strategic Plan for 2022**

Due to the absence of a quorum, Anne Zerbe provided an overview of the 2022 Strategic Plan to include objectives and key points for the six goals:

Goal 1 – Deliver High Quality Member-Centric Care

Goal 2 – Improve Service Delivery

Goal 3 – Increase Access to Care

Goal 4 – Expand Availability of Care

Goal 5 – Cultivate a Workplace of Choice

Goal 6 – Build Community Awareness and Support

David Rutledge suggested that the Governance and Policy Development Committee review the strategic plan and then recommend its approval to the full board; MaryAnne Shannon echoed Mr. Rutledge's recommendation. Board members may provide suggestions to the strategic plan via DirectorPoint.

- **Member/Families Satisfaction Surveys**  
The satisfaction surveys have been disseminated to the MVH members and families, with a return submission date of March 18, 2022. The results will be compiled and presented to the board at the May 2022 meeting.
- **Administrator Ron Oja – MVH at D.J. Jacobetti**
  - Provided COVID-19 and vaccine mandate updates.
  - Due to the leveling of COVID rates within the Home, more efforts can be targeted to survey preparation and more informal day-to-day operations.
  - Mr. Oja participated in the Veterans Listening Tour and noted a significant interest in replacing the MVH D.J. Jacobetti building.
- **Administrator Jennifer Manning – MVH at Chesterfield Township**
  - The Home’s census was 46 in January, and the current census is 53.
  - The Home is using agency staff to supplement staffing shortages, which continue to be troubling.
  - Provided a COVID unit update.
  - There have been four facility-related incidents, of which three have been resolved.
- **Administrator Carly MacDonald – MVH at Grand Rapids**
  - The Annual VA Survey process has been completed, and the Home is in compliance at this time.
  - Members are being moved from the old building to the new facility, with a targeted completion timeframe of late spring. Most members are very enthusiastic and pleased to be in the new facility.
  - The COVID vaccine mandate has been implemented, to include testing and exemption requirements.
  - The census in the new facility is 40, while 75 members remain in the old building.

Chair Henry expressed gratitude on behalf of the board to Steve Rolston and the administrators. He reported his appreciation for their ability to dig in and stay in the trenches during turbulent times, while performing as outstanding leaders and serving the veterans.

## 7. MVH Committee Updates

### Executive Committee

- Chair Henry reported that the budget and its implications were discussed at the committee meeting.
- He encouraged board members to make legislative contacts and advocate for funding for a MVH D.J. Jacobetti replacement facility.

### **Budget and Financial Oversight Committee**

- Chair Slagle stated that the committee met and have final reports for the end of fiscal year 2021; however, some of the accounting requirements do not make the reports meaningful for the board.
- Revenue from previous years was used to balance the budget for fiscal year 2021. The challenge for fiscal year 2022 is that revenues are not as high as expected since there is a lag in admissions due to staffing shortages.
- Chair Slagle met with members of the MVH Leadership Team to discuss ways to enhance fundraising in the Marquette area.

### **Facility and Capital Improvement Committee**

- Chair Boutros stated that the committee met on February 2, 2022 and discussed options regarding the MVH D.J. Jacobetti and budget implications. The committee discussed the possibility of two new site locations in the Marquette area for a replacement facility.
- Construction Manager Mike Hassan provided an overview of the current maintenance activities, punch list items, budget issues, and the VA reimbursement status for the two new buildings.

### **Governance and Policy Development Committee**

- No report

### **Outreach and Fund Development Committee**

- Chair Yachcik - no report
- Community Engagement Coordinator Tiffany Carr reported:
  - The gift acceptance policy is under review to ensure that it aligns amongst the Homes.
  - The 3-year collection of donor data continues to grow.
  - MVH at Grand Rapids flagpole project has received 99.6% of funding; the dedication ceremony will occur on May 13, 2022.
  - Funding for the MVH at Grand Rapids Hebe Fountain project is on hold awaiting a quote from Christman.
  - MVH at Chesterfield Township is working on a strategic growth plan with front-line staff.
  - MVH at D.J. Jacobetti is engaged in expanding partnerships with legacy donors.

### **Executive Director Evaluation Committee**

- Chair Shannon reported that the committee is in the research phase of the process, and she hopes to have it completed by late-May. She has added 5 proactive questions to the 2-part evaluation tool. Ms. Shannon is recruiting input from the board members as who should be included in the 360-degree evaluation process.
- The committee is tasked with a written report due to Chair Henry who will review the findings with Anne Zerbe; subsequently, the report will be presented to the board for approval.

## 8. New Business

- Maryanne Shannon inquired as to the AG's interpretation for board members to attend board meetings virtually, if needed, due to an ADA accommodation. The AGs recently issued an opinion on whether the Open Meetings Act considers medical accommodations to attend meetings virtually; this would apply to both the board members and public.
- AAG Geissler recommended the attainment of requesting documentation for the accommodation for transparency purposes. Applicable board members should request a personal accommodation from the board to attend the meetings remotely.
- David Rutledge will work with the AAG Geissler regarding the development of a policy addressing virtual meeting attendance.

## 9. Public Comment

None

## 10. Board Comments

David Rutledge – no comment

MaryAnne Shannon – no comment

Brad Slagle – no comment

David Henry – no comment

Fred Schaible provided clarification on the process for board appointments and reappointments. He will provide a document outlining the process and it will also be posted on the MVH website. The DMVA Director's position on the board becomes a non-voting member of the board one year after the second home has opened which will be this summer. The new non-voting position creates an opening for the appointment of another board member.

## 11. Adjournment

Chair Henry adjourned the meeting at 11:40 am



Bradford Slagle,  
MVFA Board Secretary