

MICHIGAN VETERANS FACILITY AUTHORITY  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
May 15, 2018  
1:00 p.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

A meeting of the Michigan Veterans Facility Authority Board of Directors was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by Chair Jim Redford. The meeting was held at the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency Headquarters – 222 N. Washington Ave. Lansing, MI 48933.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Attendance roll call**

Chair Redford called for a roll call of members present. The following were present: Chair Jim Redford, David Henry, John Thorhauer, Mary Naber, Spencer Hoover, A. Rocky Raczkowski, David Rutledge and MaryAnne Shannon.

**3. Acceptance of the meeting agenda**

*Raczkowski, seconded by Henry motioned to amend the meeting agenda to move item #9 to item #6 and include the reading of draft resolutions as agenda item #7, adjusting all subsequent agenda items appropriately and accept as amended. The motion passed 8-0.*

**4. Approval of Minutes**

*Naber, seconded by Thorhauer motioned to accept the meeting minutes dated April 17, 2018. The motion passed 8-0.*

**5. Public Comment**

There was none.

**6. Housekeeping; DirectorPoint demonstration, TowerPinkster Financial update, Review of 2018 meeting schedule, MVHS updates**

Phil Yeiter provided a demonstration of the DirectorPoint software and answered questions regarding use and features.

Anne Zerbe provided a review of the monthly update from TowerPinkster and SFCS.

Laurie McCullough-Benner and Steve Rolston provided an update CMS certification at the DJ Jacobetti Home for Veterans, QAPI program development at The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans and extended an invitation to board members to participate in the Memorial Day events at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

Hoover encouraged the MVHS to continue to look at processes and functions that can be centralized e.g.; billing functions, rehabilitation services, etc.

Phil Yeiter led a discussion regarding the remainder of the FY 2018 meeting schedule.

*Rutledge, seconded by Shannon moved to amend the approved FY 18 Meeting Schedule to change all remaining meeting locations to Lansing, MI. The motion passed 7-1 with Raczkowski opposed.*

## **7. Closed Session;**

*Raczkowski, seconded by Rutledge motioned to suspend the meeting and move into a closed session for the purpose to consider the purchase or lease of real property pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Section 268 d. The motion passed by roll call vote 8-0 with members Redford, Raczkowski, Rutledge, Naber, Hoover, Thorhauer, Henry and Shannon voting in favor.*

The meeting moved into closed session at 2:05 p.m.

## **8. Open Session**

The meeting came out of closed session at 2:30 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:40 p.m.

## **9. Motion to approve the purchase of Seville Manor .**

*Rutledge, seconded by Hoover motioned to approve the purchase of property formerly known as Seville Manor located in Macomb County at 48512 Hawk Road, Chesterfield Township, Michigan for a price not to exceed \$1,000,000.00. The motion passed 8-0.*

## **10. Reading of Draft Resolutions**

Phil Yeiter presented the following Resolutions for Board approval:

A resolution authorizing the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget to enter into a negotiated sale on behalf of the Authority.

*Raczkowski, seconded by Rutledge motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget to enter into a negotiated sale on behalf of the Authority. The motion passed 8-0.*

A resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds to develop 35 percent design drawings and specifications in accordance with section 302 of public act 201 of 2017 on behalf of the Authority.

*Raczkowski, seconded by Naber motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds to develop 35 percent design drawings and specifications in accordance with section 302 of public act 201 of 2017 on behalf of the Authority. The motion passed 8-0.*

**11. Executive Committee; Position description updates, Appointing authority update, Strategic planning and draft statement of work.**

Henry provided a summary of a May 8, 2018 meeting with General Vadnais, DMVA Director, and the granting of Appointing Authority to Jim Redford has the Chair of the Board of Directors.

Naber provided a summary of a May 1, 2018 Executive Committee meeting where positions descriptions and organization structure were discussed.

The Executive Committee presented to the board the following recommendations for consideration:

Executive Assistant – hired by MVAA - enters into a MOU with this position to provide administrative support to the board.

Financial Analyst – hired through contract to provide support to the MVFA. This position would report through MVAA by MOU.

Chief of Staff – hired through contract to provide support to the MVFA. This position would report through MVAA by MOU.

Shannon indicated that nontraditional staffing models should continue to be explored in order to provide the best care possible to veterans.

Henry expressed concern that if the MVFA isn't careful and diligent in their approach to the initial staffing models the potential exists to get tied into a model that may not be most effective in the future.

Rutledge indicated that the 2016 Workgroup wanted flexibility in staffing models and to create more independence from the State of Michigan employment models in order to provide the best care possible and to reduce the draw on the State of Michigan General Fund. Rutledge reiterated the need to resolve the organizational structure in a timely fashion.

Redford indicated a desire to enter into MOUs with MVAA for limited term positions during the transitional period, citing the need for staff support to assist the limited number of staff currently providing support.

Naber noted that she feels contractual relationships does the same things as MOUs and eliminates the tie to State of Michigan civil service employees.

Redford indicated that MVAA staff would provide proposed hiring options and organization structures for review by the board by June 1, 2018 and proposed to vote on options at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. There was general consensus that this was an appropriate way to proceed.

Shannon requested pros and cons be provided with each option.

Redford excused Directors Naber and Raczkowski at 3:30 p.m.

Steve Potter presented a statement of work for strategic planning facilitation highlighting two separate phases for review and discussion.

*Hoover, seconded by Shannon motioned to approve the statement of work for strategic planning services as presented not to exceed \$150,000.00 in total cost. The motion passed 6-0 with Raczkowski and Naber not voting.*

## **12. Finance Committee; Discussion regarding the establishment of accounts , State Budget Office workgroup development**

Hoover provided a summary of a May 3, 2018 Finance Committee meeting with the State Budget Director. Hoover reported that based on guidance from the SBO and the Attorney General's office there was consensus that the MVFA has the statutory authority to establish bank accounts outside of the State of Michigan for the purposes of receiving non state appropriated funds.

Ryan Doll from the State Budget Office indicated that he was working with MVAA to establish a workgroup that would assist in the coordinated effort to ensure transparency and reporting standards are developed.

Hoover indicated that he will work with both MVAA support staff and the SBO to pursue the creations of designated MVFA bank accounts.

## **13. Governance Committee;**

Thorhauer noted that the Governance Committee is developing an attendance policy.

## **14. Building & Facilities Committee;**

Nothing to report.

## 15. Board Comments

Henry thanked MVAA staff for their continued support and hard work to date.

## 16. Public Comment

Jack Devine of the Vietnam Veterans of America commented that in his opinion there is always a requirement to receive legislative authorization on the expenditure of funds. Additionally, Mr. Devine noted that the current staff providing administrative support is very good at their jobs and noted that the board is in a great place with those staff members. In closing Mr. Devine asked the board to remember our important the continuity of care inside state veteran homes is both for members and family.

American Legion Public Affairs Director Mark Sutton commented that independence from the State of Michigan has always been part of the legislative intent and that it is the position of the Michigan American Legion that has an independent organization the MVFA needs to hire the best staff possible in order to ensure that Michigan veterans get the best care possible. Mr. Sutton also made note of the complete attendance of board members and how positive that is to see.

Betty, a volunteer and family member of a GRHV resident commented that consistency in caregivers is incredibly important to family members and residents and that it is frustrating to see turnover and/or lack of consistency in staff assigned to units.

Larry Yachcik commented that culture changes is incredibly important and evident, noting that he has seen significant improvement and change since his time as a Workgroup member in 2016. Mr. Yachcik noted that he looks forward to being involved with the MVFA.

## 17. Adjournment

Henry, *seconded by Hoover*, motioned to adjourn the meeting. *The motion passed 6-0.*

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.



James Robert Redford  
Board Chairman  
MVAA Director