



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

Date
10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

A meeting of the Michigan Veterans Facility Authority (MVFA) Board of Directors was called to order at 10 a.m. by Chair David Henry. The meeting was conducted at (location name and address).

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Attendance Roll Call

Chair Henry requested a roll call from members present. The following MVFA Board of Directors were present: There (was/not) a quorum present.

Michigan Veteran Homes (MVH) staff present: Anne Zerbe, Steve Rolston, Beth Simonton-Kramer, Jason Geissler, Ryan Engle, Niki Wheeler, Melissa Velie, Chris LaJoie, Tiffany Carr, and Lynda Wagner.

Virtual Guests: Shawn Turner, Ron Oja, Melissa Velie, et.al.

3. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by (name) to adopt the agenda dated (this meeting date), as presented, and it was supported by (2nd). The motion carried.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Approval of Proposed Minutes

5.1 A motion was made by Walter and seconded by Slagle to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2025, meeting. The minutes were approved as presented.

5.2 The meeting held May 22, 2025, did not have a quorum. Therefore, there were no formal minutes to approve. Notes about the meeting were distributed to the Board Members.

6. Executive Director's Report

Zerbe introduced the newest volunteer coordinator for Chesterfield, Hilary Kurelich. Zerbe also introduced the new DON for MVHCT, Adrienne Schultz. Each took the floor to share about themselves.

6.1. Update on the replacement project for MVH DJ Jacobetti

Forward movement continues and sitework has begun. There has been a partial re-design with consideration of feedback from staff and leadership from the Homes. Some aspects of construction have gone out to bid again, which should take about 6 weeks. Once the bid is awarded, a revised budget will be finalized and sent to the VA. This process is not expected to affect the current timeline for the project.

6.2. Status of Board Appointments

Engle reported that there are currently 2 vacancies on the board. The appointment office indicated that a replacement for Leon Bauer should be expected soon. Engle requested the Board let him know of potential members: individuals with experience or knowledge in long-term care, finance, or medicine.

6.3. Operational Status of MVHCT

The census is currently at 125 with 2 pending admissions. The CMS survey resulted in no citations, and the VA Survey is expected to arrive within the next week. Henry commented on the significance of a zero-free survey and praised Manning and her team.

The recent 5K run/walk event was successful.

6.4. Operational Status of MVHDJJ

Oja reported the IDR process was used to dispute two of the findings in the VA Survey. MVHDJJ succeeded in overturning a life safety citation. However, the citation surrounding timely conveyance of funds still stands, and a CAP was submitted on July 14, 2025.

The recent inaugural pancake breakfast fundraiser was a success yielding over \$4,000. An additional \$5,800 was raised through a raffle.

The volunteer banquet honored the 126 regular volunteers at Jacobetti including Wanda Westman who accumulated over 12,000 hours.

Henry suggested Oja investigate the possibility of installing a camera for members and staff to observe the construction progress at the new site.

6.5. Operational Status of MVHGR

The census at MVHGR is currently 122 with 3 admissions scheduled over the next week.

MVHGR did achieve the Bronze Award recently and ranks 9th out of 422 homes in Michigan.

Construction is now complete in the new addition, and the certificate of occupancy has been received. The laundry is processing personal clothing at this time with the remainder (i.e. linens, towels, blankets) to be added on August 1, allowing cancellation of the contract with MDOC.

6.6. Operational Status of MVH – Anne Zerbe

There are no additional operations issues to report. Henry reiterated his heart-felt appreciation of the teams at all three communities.

7. **Committee Updates**

7.1. Executive Committee - David Henry

7.1.1. Election of Officers

Slagle nominated Henry for the office Chair, seconded by Rutledge with no other nominations made. It was a unanimous vote to approve, and the motion was carried.

Henry nominated Susick for the office of Vice-Chair, seconded by Rutledge with no other nominations. It was a unanimous vote to approve, and the motion was carried.

Slagle was nominated for the office of Treasurer by Henry, seconded by Walter with no other nominations. It was a unanimous vote to approve, and the motion was carried.

Slagle nominated Shannon for the office of Secretary, seconded by Henry. It was a unanimous vote to approve, and the motion carried.

Elections are held in the odd-numbered years with the next occurrence being in 2027.

7.1.2. Audit Update: Release of OAG Financial Audit Report

The OAG Financial Audit Report resulted in two findings: one involving Medicare billing, and one involving member transaction documentation.



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The MVFA performance audit is in the final stages after 18 months, and the final report is expected soon.

The OAG audit of IT has begun, although the exact scope is not yet clear. The timeline is expected to be similar to the performance audit, and the focus will be on the IT aspect of our operation.

Henry reminded the board that when reports, surveys, and audits are received regarding MVH, it is each board member's responsibility and obligation as an oversight board to review them including any corrective action taken.

7.2. Budget and Finance – Brad Slagle, Chair

The meeting was held on July 10, 2025, and the financial projections for the end of the year have been revised, indicating an increase in VA revenue. The \$4M deficit is mainly due to a complicated land purchase for the new Jacobetti building site which is not yet resolved. A Senate resolution has been introduced which, if passed, will provide resolve the deficit. One item that may have an impact on the budget is the potential federal cuts to Medicaid, which remains on the committee's radar. Donations to the homes are strong, and they continue to grow, allowing for excess dollars which are held by the Treasury, including interest. Excess funds allow MVH to maintain the level of activities from year to year despite that fluctuation in donations.

7.2.1 Member Request for Allowance Increase

This topic was mentioned at the May meeting. A member has requested an increase in personal allowance. Currently, the monthly allowance is \$100 compared to the VA which is \$90 and CMS which is \$60. The Board will send the member a letter stating that the allowance will remain \$100 per month until such time as the VA or CMS increases their allowance to surpass MVH's allowance.

7.3. Quality and Compliance Committee – MaryAnne Shannon, Chair

A presentation was shared with the group as an education to board members about what is involved in maintaining quality and compliance. It can be useful for new board members who have not had exposure to that aspect of the homes.

7.3.1 Quality

In the September meeting, the group discussed the interactive QI tool for assisting LTC staff in determining when a visit to the ER is necessary and then following up with the ER.

7.4. Strategic Engagement Committee – Barry Walter, Chair

7.4.1 The committee met on June 17, 2025. The primary focus was the recommendation for a letter from the board to address HR 1970 – Providing Veterans Essential Medications Act. This high-cost medication resolution was introduced early this year. NASVH has testified twice before Congress. The bipartisan bill has 26 co-sponsors including 3 Michigan Representatives and 4 Michigan Members of Congress.

The content of the letter has been reviewed by the board. It was moved by Walter that the letter be signed by the Chair and seconded by Rutledge. The motion was unanimously approved and carried.

7.5. Executive Director Performance Review Committee

7.5.1. Committee Member Selection

This year is the in-depth version of the ED Performance Review. Slagle is the chair of this committee; Rutledge and Susick will serve as well.

Slagle is currently working to develop a feedback system from the board, peers, and direct reports. He has also discussed with Zerbe opportunities for professional development and will continue to pursue both of those topics with the new committee members.

8. New Business

- 8.1 The NASVH Winter Conference is February 2-5, 2026. Henry encouraged board members to consider attending as it affords the opportunity to advocate for MVH. Attendance would also provide support for Engle who will be elected as first vice-president in Summer 2025 and will become president in Summer 2026.

9. Public Comment

Henry welcomed Beth Gonzalez from the DAV who joined the meeting virtually. He further stated the VSO's are largely responsible for the Michigan Veteran Homes' existence.

There were no other comments.

10. Board Comments

Turner had no comment.

Rutledge had no comment.

Slagle had no comment.

Walter repeated the encouragement for other members to attend NASVH in Washington DC.

Susick congratulated Manning and her team on the great survey and shared how impressed she is with the MVHCT facility having visited twice now.

Henry had no comment.

Adjournment – A motion to adjourn was made by Walter, seconded by Turner. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Minutes certified by MVFA Board Secretary:

MaryAnne Shannon _____
MVFA Board Secretary

Date: _____