

DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 30, 2025

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Department of Veteran Affairs Committee was held on Tuesday, September 30, 2025 at the Chippewa Courthouse in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Secretary Brooks Partridge called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., as Chairman Jim Shogren was not present. The Veterans Board had a quorum and normal business was conducted.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brooks Partridge, Dr. Frederick Ludwig, Bob Savoie, Damon Lieurance (Non-Voting member)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Shogren

OTHERS PRESENT: John Miller

Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Dr. Fredrick Ludwig, to approve the agenda as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Monthly Report

The monthly report was broken down into new and old business as the board did not have a quorum last meeting.

Old Business:

The month's statistics for the period of July 28, 2025 – August 26, 2025. The office was open for thirty (30) days. There were approximately 70 visits to the office. Our office received and placed approximately 360 calls during this period. John conducted several home visits with veterans that were unable to make into the office. John attended a few events this month as part of outreach to Veterans. John attended a VA townhall in Sault Ste. Marie at the American Legion Post #3, a VA townhall on Drummond Island at Pins restaurant, and a Veterans Dental outreach the was presented by UPCAP. The events were good and there will be a few more events to attend in the near future. There is a Together with Veterans event September 26, 2025 at the VFW in Brimley. The office is still assisting a Veteran with their MVTF application. The process has taken longer than expected. The DAV van is still very busy. This equipment is essential for home visits and remote Veteran assistance.

New Business:

The month's statistics for the period of August 26, 2025 – September 30, 2025. The office was open for thirty-six (36) days. There were approximately 70 visits to the office. Our office received and placed approximately 350 calls during this period. John conducted several home visits with those veterans that are unable to make into the office. John attended the UP Veterans Cemetery committee meeting. The organization is attempting to get a Veterans Cemetery in the UP of Michigan. We currently only have two Veterans cemeteries in Michigan and both are located in the Southern Lower Peninsula. During the meeting it was revealed that the MVAA is involved and currently are working on adding another cemetery in the Grayling area. They are going to conduct an eligibility survey in Marquette County. The MVAA's research states that Marquette County is the best area for the cemetery based on veterans served in a 75-mile radius. John also attended the Together with Veterans event at the VFW post in Brimley. It was very successful and over 60 veterans attended with their families. John did an online training for effective dates with Veteran benefit claims. The training was very good and it answered many questions. The office will also be submitting the CVTF grant paperwork this week. We did not receive this grant from the MVAA for next year. This will impact some of the services we have been able to provide in the past. The

DAV vehicle is still very active.

Approval of the Minutes

Old Business:

The committee received and reviewed the August 11, 2025 committee minutes.

It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Dr. Fredrick Ludwig, to approve the August 11, 2025 minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

New Business:

The committee received and reviewed the August 26, 2025 committee minutes.

It was moved by Dr. Fredrick Ludwig, supported by Robert Savoie, to approve the August 26, 2025 minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Burials

Old Business:

No burials for July 28, 2025 – August 26, 2025

New Business:

No burials for August 26, 2025 – September 30, 2025

Grave Markers

Old Business:

No grave marker funds were used in July 28, 2025 – August 26, 2025.

No action needed.

New Business:

No grave marker funds were used in August 26, 2025 – September 30, 2025.

No action needed.

Food Assistance

Old Business:

Food assistance in the total of \$200 during the July 28, 2025 – August 26, 2025.

It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Dr. Fredrick Ludwig, to approve the food assistance for this time frame. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

New Business:

Food assistance in the total of \$100 during the August 26, 2025 – September 30, 2025.

It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Dr. Fredrick Ludwig, to approve the food assistance for this time frame. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Old Business:

MVAA Grant Distributions in the amount of \$200

- **Advertisement - \$0**
- **Transportation - \$0**
- **Food Assistance - \$200**
- **Emergent Relief - \$0**
- **Part-time Compliance Officer/Project Director - \$200**

The committee reviewed the MVAA grant distributions in the amount of \$200.

It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Dr. Frederick Ludwig, to approve the MVAA grant distributions in the amount of \$200. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

New Business:

MVAA Grant Distributions in the amount of \$100

- **Advertisement - \$0**
- **Transportation - \$0**
- **Food Assistance - \$100**
- **Emergent Relief - \$0**
- **Part-time Compliance Officer/Project Director - \$100**

The committee reviewed the MVAA grant distributions in the amount of \$100.

It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Brooks Partridge, to approve the MVAA grant distributions in the amount of \$100. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Date of next committee meeting.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Brooks Partridge, to have the next meeting take place on October 28, 2025 at 4:00 pm. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Committee Comments

No comments

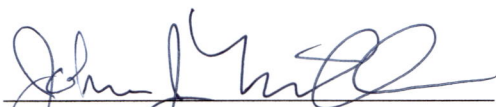
Chairman Comments

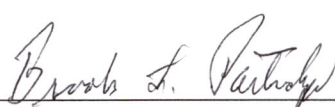
No comments

Adjourn

It was moved by Brooks Partridge, supported by Robert Savoie to adjourn. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.


John Miller, Recorder


Brooks Partridge, Secretary / Treasurer