

DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 26, 2026

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Department of Veteran Affairs Committee was held on, Monday, January 26, 2026, at the Chippewa Courthouse in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Acting Chairman Brooks Partridge called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. The Veterans Board had a quorum and normal business was conducted.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Savoie

OTHERS PRESENT: John Miller

Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Brooks Partridge, supported by David Pearce, 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 November 24, 2025 through December 29, 2025; The office was open for Thirty-six (36) days. There were approximately forty-five (45) visits to the office. Our office received and placed approximately two hundred seventy-six (276) phone calls during this period. John conducted several home visits with veterans that were unable to make into the office. John attended local gun show that was held at LSSU. Due to the weather the gun show did not have the normal turn out. John was still able to interact with several Veterans at the event and it was a positive outreach event for the office. The DAV vehicle has been very active and the program is operating very smoothly thanks to the Veteran volunteer drivers. The office completed and submitted one application to the MVTF this month.

New Business:

The month's statistics for the period of December 29, 2025 through January 26, 2026. The office was open for Twenty-nine (29) days. There were approximately twenty-nine (29) visits to the office. Our office received and placed approximately two hundred fifty-five (255) phone calls during this period. Congratulations to Brooks Partridge on another term on the Veterans Committee. Brooks has been her since the beginning and we are glad he has accepted another term. Welcome to Dave Pearce our new member of the Veterans Committee. Dave has had an extensive military career and is currently the Post Commander of the Sault Ste. Marie VFW. This month John conducted several home visits with those veterans that are unable to make into the office. The UP Veterans Cemetery committee had a meeting with the MVAA and State Representatives this month. The meeting was to ensure that the State Representatives had the information they needed to draft legislation for a cemetery in the UP. Marquette is the agreed upon area for the cemetery. This is because the total Veterans in a 75-mile radius of Marquette County is the most concentrated. John attended a meeting with Michigan Works this month. The meeting was about the different opportunities for Veterans that are seeking employment. The meeting went well and it may turn into a quarterly meeting. The MVTF application submitted last month was awarded to the Veteran. The DAV vehicle is still very active.

Approval of the Minutes

Old Business:

The committee received and reviewed the November 24, 2025 committee minutes.

It was moved by Brooks Partridge, supported by Dr. Fredrick Ludwig, to approve the November 24, 2025 minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

New Business:

The committee received and reviewed the December 29, 2025 committee minutes.

It was moved by Dr. Fredrick Ludwig, supported by Brooks Partridge, to approve the December 29, 2025 minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Burials

Old Business:

No burials for November 24, 2025 – December 29, 2025.

New Business:

No burials for December 29, 2025 – January 26, 2026.

Grave Markers

Old Business:

No grave marker funds were used in November 24, 2025 – December 29, 2025.

No action needed.

New Business:

The committee received a statement from Oaklawn Gardens for Veteran Medallion installation in the total amount of \$810.00.

It was moved by Brooks Partridge, supported by Dave Pearce, to approve the Oaklawn Gardens invoice in the amount of \$810.00. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Footstone

New Business:

The committee received a statement from St. Helen Roscommon Monument for the placement of a footstone for a local Veteran in the amount totaling \$105.00. It was discussed as to the requirement of Chippewa County to reimburse for this expense. The committee agreed to pay this expense as a one-time service. The committee wanted to ensure that this was not president setting as it was not believed it is an expense the County is required to reimburse. The VSO, John Miller, will seek further clarification with the requirements.

It was moved by Brooks Partridge, supported by Dr Fredrick Ludwig, to approve the St. Helen Roscommon Monument invoice in the amount of \$105.00. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Food Assistance

Old Business:

Food assistance in the total of \$150 during the November 24, 2025 – December 29, 2025.

It was moved by Brooks Partridge, 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 \$75 during the December 29, 2025 – January 26, 2026.

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

Date of next committee meeting.

The next meeting will be Monday, February 23, 2026, at 12:00 pm.

It was moved by Brook Partridge, supported by David Pearce, to have the next meeting take place on Monday, February 23, 2026, at 12:00 pm. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Committee Comments

Committee Member David Pearce wanted to express his happiness about being on the committee. He stated that he looked forward to working with the current committee members and helping local Veterans.


Chairman Comments

No comments

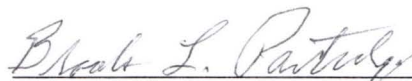
Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm.



John Miller, Recorder



Brooks Partridge, Secretary / Treasurer