

DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 24, 2025

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Department of Veteran Affairs Committee was held on Monday, November 24, 2025 at the Chippewa Courthouse in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Chairman Jim Shogren called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The Veterans Board had a quorum and normal business was conducted.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brooks Partridge, Dr. Frederick Ludwig, Robert Savoie, Damon Lieurance

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: John Miller

Approval of the Agenda

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

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Monthly Report

The office has been open for twenty-eight (28) days from October 28, 2025 – November 24, 2025. There were approximately sixty-three (63) visits to the office. Our office received and placed approximately three hundred thirty (330) phone calls during this period. John conducted several home visits with veterans that were unable to make into the office. Chairman Jim Shogren submitted his resignation taking immediate effect. Mr. Shogren contributed many years of service to our local veterans. Mr. Shogren was instrumental in establishing the office and worked for many years as the county VSO. Mr. Shogren later became a committee member and was the Chairman for several years. His commitment to local veterans and his knowledge of how the office should operate will be missed. John attended Veterans Day events in the community. Sault Area High School and Rudyard High School conducted Veterans Day ceremonies and both were attended by John. Both ceremonies were conducted with great respect for our Veterans. Operation Green light was a success. The Chippewa County Courthouse and the Cloverland Electric powerhouse were illuminated green in support of Veterans. Thank you to Chippewa County and Cloverland Electric for their support. The DAV vehicle program has been very active. The success of the DAV program is a direct result of the many Veteran volunteer drivers and the local DAV chapter, thank you. During the month of November, we have not received any MVTF applications.

Approval of the Minutes

The committee received and reviewed the October 28, 2025 committee minutes.

It was moved by Dr Fredrick Ludwig, supported by Robert Savoie, to approve the October 28, 2025 minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Burials

No reimbursements for burials were submitted for the month of November.

No action needed.

Grave Markers

No grave marker funds were used in November.

No action needed.

Food Assistance

Food assistance of \$150

No action needed.

Vote to approve the resignation of Chairman Jim Shogren

Chairman Jim Shogren submitted his resignation with immediate effect following the last Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting.

Committee members discussed the resignation of Chairman Jim Shogren. The committee recognized the many contributions and the hard work that Jim has done for Veterans in our community. It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Dr. Fredrick Ludwig to accept the immediate resignation of Jim Shogren. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Election of a Chairman Pro Tem (Temporary Chairman) of the Veterans Affairs Committee

The Veterans Affairs Committee elected a Chairman Pro Tem.

Committee members discussed the need for a Chairman Pro Tem (Temporary Chairman). The committee will elect a permanent Chairman when all committee seats are filled. The committee members agreed that Brooks Partridge should be the Chairman Pro Tem and the Secretary / Treasurer until the committee vacancy is filled. It was moved by Dr. Fredrick Ludwig, supported by Robert Savoie, to elect Brooks Partridge Chairman Pro Tem. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Review of Veteran candidates for the current Veterans Affairs Committee openings

The committee received and reviewed the Veteran applications for the committee openings.

The committee discussed all candidate applications. Committee member Brooks Partridge did not complete an application. Mr. Partridge wanted to discuss personal concerns with the board. A discussion was conducted and Mr. Partridge stated he would like to continue with the committee. The committee recommended Brooks Partridge and David Pearce for members of the committee. The recommendations will be provided to the County Administrator for presentation to the County Commission.

Date of next committee meeting.

The next meeting will be Monday, December 29, 2025 at noon.

The committee discussed a change in committee meeting times for the winter months. A meeting time earlier in the day was discussed due to travel distance and winter weather conditions. The committee agreed on meeting the last Monday of the month at noon during the winter months. It was moved by Brooks Partridge, supported by Robert Savoie, to have the next meeting take place on Monday, December 29, 2025 at noon. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Committee Comments

Committee member Robert Savoie brought it to the committee's attention that Veteran flags were removed from the Stalwart Cemetery without permission. John will look into the incident and will inform the committee of the findings.

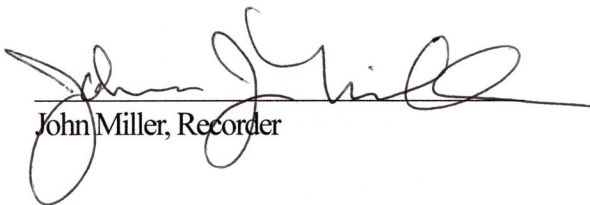
Chairman Comments

No comments

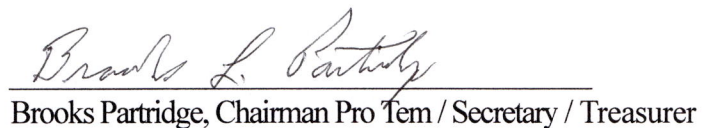
Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.



John Miller, Recorder



Brooks Partridge, Chairman Pro Tem / Secretary / Treasurer