DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 28, 2026

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Department of Veteran Affairs Committee was held on Monday, September 28, 2026, at the Chippewa Courthouse in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Committee Chairman Dr. Frederick Ludwig called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. The Veterans Board had a quorum and normal business was conducted.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Frederick Ludwig, Brooks Partridge, Robert Savoie, David Pearce, Daman Lieurance

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: John Miller

Approval of the Agenda

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

Public Comment

John Miller stated that Joe Coulard was in the office and wanted local Veterans and the committee to know that the local Honor Guard is looking for new members. The Honor Guard assists with the burial of local Veterans and members must be Veterans with an Honorable Character of Discharge. Veterans that are interested in joining the local Honor Guard can contact the office and John will refer them to Joe.

Monthly Report

The office has been open for twenty-nine (29) days from August 31, 2026 - September 28, 2026. There were approximately seventy (70) visits to the office. Our office received and placed approximately three hundred twenty-six (326) phone calls during this period. One home visit was conducted this month. John attended four (4) VA outreach events this month. They were in Trout Lake, Kincheloe, and two (2) held at the VFW post #3676 in Sault Sainte Marie. The Veteran attendance was very good at all locations. The VA registered several Veterans for VA healthcare and the office made plenty of new contacts. The director of the MVAA, Terry Sabo, and his team visited the office on September 22, 2026. The meeting went well. The county grant was discussed and other initiatives. The MVAA is looking to implement these programs to assist county veterans. The county was approved for the CVSF grant. The grant will assist with training needs, an advertising campaign, and the possibility of a part-time VSO. The office submitted two (2) applications to the MVTF this month and decisions have not been returned as of this meeting. The DAV vehicle has been very active this month.

Approval of the Minutes

The committee received and reviewed the August 31, 2026, committee minutes.

It was moved by David Pearce, supported by Brooks Partridge, to approve August 31, 2026, minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Burials

No burial funds were used in September
No action needed

Grave Markers

No grave marker funds were used in September.
No action needed.

John contacted the businesses that usually seek reimbursement for markers, and they did not reply with an answer or invoice for possible grave marker reimbursement before the scheduled meeting. The board requested that John continue to seek an answer and report back to the committee.

Food Assistance

We issued one Food Voucher in the amount of $100 during the month of September.
No action needed.

Date of next committee meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 26, 2026, at noon.

It was moved by David Pearce, supported by Robert Savoie, to have the next meeting take place on Monday, October 26, 2026, at noon. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Committee Comments

Dave Pearce mentioned that the Sault Sainte Marie VFW post #3676 had received a donation of 2 burial plots for Veterans in Chippewa County. Anyone interested should contact the VFW post #3676.

Chairman Comments

No comment

Adjourn
It was moved by Chairman Dr Frederick Ludwig, supported by David Pearce, to adjourn. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

John Miller, Recorder

Dr Fredrick Ludwig, Chairman