

# **DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**December 23, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Chippewa County Department of Veteran Affairs Committee was held on Tuesday, December 23, 2024 at the Chippewa Courthouse in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Chairman Shogren called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Shogren, Brooks Partridge, Bob Savoie

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dr. Frederick Ludwig

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Melissa Donaghe, John Miller

## **Approval of the Agenda**

**It was moved by Robert Savoie, supported by Brooks Partridge, 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 November 26, 2024 – December 23, 2024. There were approximately 50 visits to the office. Our office received and placed approximately 283 phone calls during this period. The office has been filing claims and assisting Veterans since John has received accreditation. Melissa has officially received her accreditation from the Veterans Affairs Office of General Counsel. Melissa has now started the process to receive her PIV card and is seeking cross accreditation with various Veteran organizations. John is in the final phase of the PIV card process and is hopeful he will receive approval soon. Melissa and John continue to meet with local Veteran organizations. In December John attended the VFW, Post 9023, monthly meeting in Brimley. The meeting went well and Melissa and John will continue to meet with these organizations. John attended the Pearl Harbor Day memorial service at the U.S. Coast Guard Station in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. The service was presented by the American Legion, Post 3, with representation from the AMVETS, VFW, and Canadian Legion being present. Four (4) memorial wreaths were placed in the water to honor those that gave their lives on that day. It was a very special ceremony and John was honored to attend. The DAV transportation vehicle continues to assist Veterans on a regular basis by getting them to their appointments in Iron Mountain. The MVAA grant is still waiting to be received by the County. The state is working on getting the grant funds out to the counties and is aware of how the delay could have an impact. Our office would like to wish everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

## **Approval of the November 26, 2024 Minutes**

The committee received and reviewed the October 1, 2024 committee minutes.

**It was moved by Bob Savoie, supported by Brooks Partridge, to approve the October 1, 2024 minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

## **Burials**

No burials.

**No action needed.**

**Grave Markers**

No graver marker funds used in December 2024.

**No action needed.**

**Food Assistance**

Food assistance of \$100; all food assistance was provided by MVAA grant assistance.

**No action needed.**

**MVAA Grant Distributions in the amount of \$1445.77**

- **Advertisement - \$0**
- **Transportation - \$0**
- **Food Assistance - \$100**
- **Emergent Relief - \$0**
- **Part-time Compliance Officer/Project Director - \$1345.77**

The committee reviews the MVAA grant distributions in the amount of \$1445.77

**It was moved by Brooks Partridge, supported by Bob Savoie, to approve the MVAA grant distributions in the amount of \$1445.77. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

**Date of next committee meeting.**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 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 January 28, 2025 at 4:00 pm. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.**

**Committee Comments**

No comments.

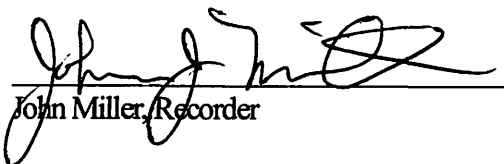
**Chairman Comments**

Wished everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

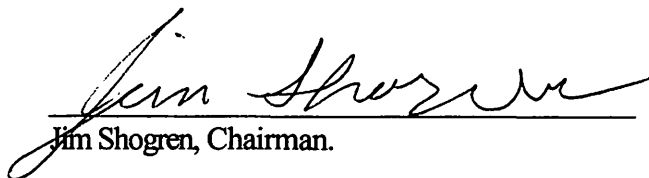
**Adjourn**

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

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.



John Miller, Recorder



Jim Shogren, Chairman.