

County of Kent Department of Veterans' Affairs



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VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE September 5, 2013 – 8:00 a.m. 82 Ionia NW, STE 380

Paul Potter, Chair
Fred Chambers
Mary Johnson
Harold Mast
Mel Bauman

MINUTES

Present: Fred Chambers, Harold Mast, Mary Johnson, Mel Bauman, Wayman Britt, Carrie Roy

Guests: None

Absent: Paul Potter

1. **Call to Order** – Fred Chambers called the meeting to order and lead the in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Welcome** – Introductions were made. The committee welcomed Mel Bauman, new committee member.
3. **Approval of Agenda/Minutes** Fred Chambers moved to approve the minutes from August 1, 2013, Mary Johnson seconded. Minutes approved.
4. **Staff Report:**
 - A. **Financial Status as of 09/01/2013:** Ms. Roy reviewed the AFF with the committee. She indicated that funds should be sufficient for the remainder of the year.
 - B. **Emergency Needs and Burials:** Ms. Roy reviewed the emergency relief and burial expenses. She noted that \$1,275 was expended on food vouchers, \$1,926 was expended on utilities, \$2,132 was expended on rent and \$2,340 was expended on burial. Ms. Roy also commented that she will include a key for the report so that it is easier to read and discern.

C. MVTF: Ms. Roy reviewed the MVTF report with the committee. The MVTF committee approved \$15,133 in emergency grants in the month of August.

5. Reports:

A. Claims and Recoveries: Ms. Roy referred to the next report regarding claims and recoveries. She noted that 40 claims were filed in August. She went over the recoveries reported and noted that 7.3 million in annual recoveries are coming into Kent County, \$611,473 every month.

B. Vets Title donation: Ms. Roy reported to the committee that she was contacted by Dave Allen from the Kent County Land Bank and he stated that Vets Title is planning on donating \$2,000 to the department sometime in October.

6. Around the Table: There was discussion on the recommendation that went to the County Board of Commissioners. Wayman Britt gave the committee an overview of the process and explained that the recommendation will be moved the Millage Subcommittee. Wayman also gave an overview of the budget timeline and process. Harold Mast commented that at some point in time the committee should identify veterans groups who are willing to advocate for a Veterans relief millage. Mel Bauman stated that he believes that there is support for a veterans millage.

7. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

8. Next Meeting: October 3, 2013.