

# County of Kent Department of Veterans' Affairs

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82 Ionia NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503  
Phone: (616) 632-5722 e-mail: [kcdva@KentCountyMI.gov](mailto:kcdva@KentCountyMI.gov)  
[www.accesskent.com/VeteransAffairs](http://www.accesskent.com/VeteransAffairs)

## VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

July 3, 2014 – 8:00 a.m.

82 Ionia NW, STE 380

### MINUTES

**Present:** Mary Johnson, Fred Chambers, Mel Bauman, Paul Potter, Wayman Britt, Carrie Roy

**Guests:** Tiana Lamb (GVSU student)

**Absent:** Harold Mast

1. **Call to Order** – Paul Potter called the meeting to order and lead the in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda/Minutes** Mary Johnson moved to approve, Mel Bauman seconded. Minutes approved.
3. **Staff Report:**
  - A. **Financial Status as of 07/01/2014:** Ms. Roy reviewed the AFF with the committee. She noted that the budget has 58% percent remaining.
  - B. **Emergency Needs and Burials:** Ms. Roy reviewed the emergency relief and burial expenses. She noted that there was \$3,066.20 expended on rent in May and 2398.60 on rent in June. There was \$2,203.79 expended on utilities in May and 3707.38 expended on utilities in June. Food expenditures were as follows, \$1,096.99 in May and 799.39 in June. In May \$5,100 was expended on burials, and \$2,840 was expended in June.

**C. Michigan Veterans Trust Fund:** Ms. Roy noted that there were 11 applications for assistance; all 11 were awarded resulting in \$11,079.14 in May and 9 awarded in June resulting in \$10,124.32

**5. Reports:**

**A. Claims and Recoveries:** Ms. Roy referred to the next report regarding claims and recoveries. The Department filed 107 claims in the third quarter, and 40 claims in May and 34 in June with a total of 212 for the year. She reported that there is currently \$13,896.00 in recoveries for the month of July, \$83,376.00 in total monthly recoveries and about 10.5 million in annual recoveries.

**6. Around the Table:** Prior to the Staff Reports, discussion regarding the millage committee and the rental of a small building on 456 Plymouth Ave in Grand Rapids. There has been a campaign administrator brought onboard however there is still a struggle with the requirements for the campaign manager position. Paul Potter discussed reaching out to veterans through churches, colleges, military organization and other non-profit organizations to gain support for the millage. Fred Chambers and Wayman Britt had nothing to report. The members of the committee took time to explain the difference between state, federal and local veteran affairs to guest Tiana Lamb as well as gave a brief history of the programs available.

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

**8. Next Meeting:** August 7, 2014