

# County of Kent Department of Veterans' Affairs

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## VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

October 2, 2014 – 8:00 a.m.

82 Ionia NW, STE 380

## MINUTES

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

**Guests:**

**Absent:**

1. **Call to Order** – Paul Potter called the meeting to order and lead the in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda/Minutes** Fred Chambers moved to approve, Mary Johnson seconded. Minutes approved.
3. **Staff Report:**
  - A. **Financial Status as of 10/01/2014:** Ms. Roy reviewed the AFF with the committee. She noted that the budget has 29% percent remaining.
  - B. **Emergency Needs and Burials:** Ms. Roy reviewed the emergency relief and burial expenses. She noted that there was \$750 expended on rent in September. There was \$5,313 expended on utilities in September. Food expenditures were as follows, \$1,308.95. In September 4,580 was expended on burials. Ms. Roy also reviewed the administrative expenses of \$18,236.47 for the month of September.
  - C. **Michigan Veterans Trust Fund:** Ms. Roy noted that there were 213 applications and 9 of them were approved totaling \$7,949.16.

*“Kent County . . . where diversity and inclusion matter”*

**5. Reports:**

A. **Claims and Recoveries:** Ms. Roy referred to the next report regarding claims and recoveries. The Department filed 46 claims in September. She reported that there is currently \$12,315 in recoveries for the month of September, \$999,938 in total monthly recoveries and about 11 million in annual recoveries.

**6. Around the Table:** There was discussion regarding the millage campaign. Paul Potter gave information on the outreach he has been conducting to promote the millage. Fred Chambers shared that he is actively talking to people as well. Mary Johnson asked if she could get yard signs to pass out in her area. Paul Potter discussed some conceptual ideas for programs for veterans. The ideas of helping female veterans and veterans with employment were discussed. There was extensive discussion regarding administrative versus program expenses and how that should be sorted out. The committee agreed that that issue needs some clarification.

**7. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

**8. Next Meeting:** November 6, 2014