

# 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

November 6, 2014 – 8:30 a.m.

82 Ionia NW, STE 380

## MINUTES

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

**Guests:**

**Absent:** Fred Chambers, 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** None.

**3. Staff Report: None.**

**A. Financial Status as of 10/01/2014:** No report given.

**B. Emergency Needs and Burials:** No report given.

**C. Michigan Veterans Trust Fund:** No report given.

**5. Reports:**

**A. Claims and Recoveries:** No report given.

**6. Around the Table:** The discussion centered a round the millage passing on November 4 and the steps that the department should take going forward. There was much discussion on the budget process. Mr. Britt clarified for the committee that while PA 192 of 1953 states that the county board of supervisors shall furnish, equip and maintain adequate office facilities fro the county department of veterans affairs, the general fund allocation covers that mandate, and is included in the budget as an

accounting principal. It was also clarified that the Board of Commissioners have final authority and say over the budget through their approval process as they are elected to ensure that county tax dollars are spent in the wisest, most efficient means possible to meet the needs of the community. There was also extensive discussion on the hiring of additional staff and how best to proceed. After lengthy discussion on the budget, Mary Johnson moved to allocate funding for additional staff based on the anticipated need for 2 additional service officers and one administrative assistant. Mel Bauman amended the motion to include the close monitoring of progress to ensure that staff would only be hired if the need was present. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

**8. Next Meeting:** December 4, 2014