

WEXFORD COUNTY
 VETERANS SERVICE COMMITTEE
 CHAIRMAN – JOE PORTERFIELD
 DIRECTOR – CHRIS EMMONS
 VSO – ERIC STURGEON

- (A) CALL TO ORDER – Meeting call to order September 8h, 2025, at 3:00 P.M. by Joe Porterfield.
- (B) ROLL CALL: Gray Taylor, Jack Baughan, Joe Porterfield, Rhonda Workman - excused, Greg Schmidt, Chris Emmons, Eric Sturgeon.
- (C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Everyone stood to recite the pledge allegiance
- (D) ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.
- (E) APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion made by Gary Taylor & 2nd Greg Schmidt to approve the agenda. Motion passed.
- (F) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR: Motion made by Gary Taylor & 2nd by Greg Schmidt to approval of August 13th, 2025, minutes meeting. Motion passed.
- (G) PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS: None presented.
- (H) PUBLIS COMMENTS: Public comments are limited to 3 minutes per person.
- (a) Lady here to just review what we do!
- (I) AGENDA ITEMS:
- (1) Financial/Directors HR Report: Given by Chris Emmons.
- (A) Veterans Service Expenditures:
- (a) Office Supplies - \$216.19
 - (b) Contracted Services - \$48,646.00
 - (c) Travel & Conferences - \$498.76
 - (d) Vehicle Manut. & Operations - \$3,404.34
 - (e) Memorial Wall/Expenses -\$00.00
 - (f) Expo/Expenses - \$1,096.67
- (B) Grant Expenditures:
- (a) Office Supplies - \$205.01
 - (b) Contracted Services - \$2,800.00
 - (c) Travel & Conferences - \$70.96
 - (d) Veterans Grant Expenses - \$0.00
 - (e) Promotional - \$6,930.00
 - (f) Veterans Expo -\$4,025.60
 - (g) New Freedom/Ride - \$7,346.28
 - (h) Balance held in Emergency Fund \$48,646.00 as of 08/31/2025
Request authorized for the period ending: 08/31/2025
- (2) Directors HR Report for September 8th, 2025: Given by Chris Emmons:
 Veterans seen in office - 61, logged phone contacts-10, veterans who received emergency assistance-0, Veterans ineligible/denied for emergency assistance-1, and County Burial benefits and letters have been initiated-1, County Burial Benefits ineligible –0. Total expenditures as 08/31//2025 \$12,769.14. Available Balance as of 08/31/2025 \$104,343.59! Total percentage of budget used 47.59%! We were able to service 61 veterans this month, including 20 Service Connected claims, three Supplemental Claims, 3 Higher Level Reviews, No CHAMPVA Application, 8 VA Healthcare Application, 123 personal interviews and 562 Files Reviews. Additionally, we supported 29 aging Veterans (aged 70

or older) and 6 female Veterans. Our team maintains an average of 10 calls daily, and we receive between 2 to 5 voicemails outside of business hours, which we address on the next business day.

MVAA Grant: We received an email on August 29th, 2025, that the FY26 CVSF budget has not been passed yet and to not assume we will receive the funding. The email is attached to this report.

Training:

+ Michigan Association of County Veteran Counselors (MVACVC) Fall Conference: September 10-12, 2025.

+ VA Advanced Appeals: Date to be determined.

Networking, Collaboration, and Community Engagement: This month, we held productive meetings with key stakeholders.

+ **Salute to Service Northern District Fair:** Provided a \$1,000.00 donation and said a few words at the beginning of the flag ceremony.

+ **Meeting with Think Tank Members:** Members scheduled a meeting to discuss the way ahead with the group. The meeting was very constructive, and I believe we now see eye to eye on our issues.

+ **Senior Networking Advocacy Group (SNAG) Meeting:** Attended my monthly SNAG meeting where I Collaborated with local Senior agencies to better serve our aging Veterans.

Administrative Updates:

+ We are assisting with records retrieval for WWI Veterans to complete the memorial wall at the courthouse.

Upcoming Focus:

+ Veteran Picnic at Salute to Service game at Cadillac High School.

Approval Needed: None.

Conclusion: We remain committed to making a positive impact on the lives of those we serve. Thank you for your continued support and collaboration. Motion made by Gary Taylor, 2nd by Greg Schmidt to approve the Financial and Director Report as given for July 9th, 2025. Motion passed.

+ Total expenditures \$12,769.14 as of 08/31/2025!

+ Available budget balance \$104,343.59 as of 08/31/2025!

+ Total percentage used %47.59!

(I) **EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:** None.

(J) **OLD BUSINESS:** None.

(K) **NEW BUSINEES:**

(L) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** The lady still reviewing what we do!

(M) **COMMITTEE COMMENTS:** None.

(N) **CHAIR COMMENTS:** None

(O) **NEXT MEETING:** October 8th, 2025 @ 3:00 P.M.

(P) **ADJOURN:** Motion made by Gary Taylor, 2nd by Rhonda Workman to adjourn.

(Q) **There being no further business to come before the WCVS**

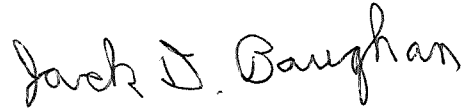
Commissioner the meeting was duly closed at 4:22 P.M. Next schedule meeting is October 8th, 2025 @ 3:00 P.M.!



Joe Porterfield
Chairman



Chris Emmons
Director



Jack Baughan
Secretary

Eric Sturgeon
Veterans Service Officers