



Wexford County

VETERANS SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES FROM
FEB 11, 2026 MEETING

Chairman Gary Taylor
Director Kent Myers
VSO Kassie Kennaugh

NOTICE OF MEETING The Wexford County Veterans Services Committee will hold a regular meeting on February 11, 2026 beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the MSU Conference Room on 401 Lake Street, Cadillac, MI 49601.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

- A. CALL TO ORDER- meeting called to order at 1500
- B. ROLL CALL- Gary Taylor present, Rhonda Workman present, Joe Porterfield present, Jack Baughan present, Kassie Kennaugh present, Kent Myers present, Greg Schmidt excused
- C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- D. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA- none
- E. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA- Motion made by Jack Baughan, seconded by Rhonda Workman, all in favor aye, motion passes unanimously
- F. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 14TH, 2026 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES- Motion made by Jack Baughan, seconded by Rhonda Workman, all in favor aye, motion passes unanimously
- G. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS- None
- H. PUBLIC COMMENTS- Question about 2026 Expo Attendance? Yes, we will organize and attend EXPO

The Board welcomes all public input and appreciates adherence to the time limits established. Each period shall be limited to 15 minutes in total. Each person shall be limited to one three minute comment per period. A group representative shall be limited to one five minute comment per period.

I. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Financial/Directors Report

*See attached HR Directors Report for January 2026

*Financial Report \$42,529.55 in emergency relief fund, total expenditures \$123,400 and available balance \$75,685 with 62% total budget used. Motion made by Rhonda Workman and support from Joe Porterfield to approve and accept financial and directors report. Motion approved unanimously.

2. Operation Discussion

a. Meal Gift Cards for Veterans- We would like to purchase.

*Kassie Kennaugh discusses a requested authorization for \$500 worth of food vouchers, 10 x \$50 vouchers, Joe Porterfield makes motion, Rhonda Workman seconds and motion passes unanimously.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with physical limitations that may tend to restrict access to or participation in this meeting should contact the County Administrator's office (231-779-9453) at least twelve (12) hours prior to the scheduled start of the meeting.

- b. NACVSO Training
 - *Feb 23-28 2026 virtual training, Kassie will attend on computer
 - c. Upcoming Events-Wexford County Fair, NACVSO training February, Women's Conference, Salute to Service, VSO Training March
 - *VSO training in March at Grand Traverse Resort with MVAA
 - *Women's conference 44,000 women veterans, Kassie will attend
 - * Veterans Salute- Kassie discusses venue and events at Salute
 - *Request for Coast Guard fly over for Veterans Salute
 - d. Accreditation-MVAA. Legion update
 - *Legion accreditation should come soon for Kent Myers, possibly by the end of February 2026. Possibly other accreditation options in 2026
 - e. Grant update
 - *Grant has been approved, awaiting Grant Agreement Contract from State of Michigan MVAA. Kassie Kennaugh discusses upcoming 2027 grant request, keeping in mind there are 2538 veterans in county from recent census report.
 - f. MVAA Trust fund committee
 - *Discussion of using Michigan Veterans Trust Fund committee to review MVTF applications from Wexford County Veteran Services,
 - h. Manton Museum – Joe Porterfield and Kassie Kennaugh highlight meeting with Manton Military Museum and future collaboration with their group of veterans. Meeting was packed and very informational.
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- 3. Closed Session- 8 Applications. Motion by Joe Porterfield, seconded by Rhonda to enter closed session at 1524, motion passes unanimously
 - 4. Open Session – Motion to enter back into open session 1545, motion passes unanimously
 - 5. Emergency assistance request to be voted on:
 - 26-01 Joe Porterfield motions to approve \$406.78, Gary Taylor seconds, motion passes unanimously
 - 26-02 Joe Porterfield motions to approve \$400.39, Rhonda Workman seconds, motion passes unanimously
 - 26-03 Joe Porterfield motions to approve \$370.00, Rhonda Workman seconds, motion passes unanimously
 - 26-04 Joe Porterfield motions to advise veteran to seek financial planning, unable to help at this time. Rhonda Workman seconds, motion passes unanimously
 - 26-05 Joe Porterfield motions to approve \$609.08, Rhonda Workman seconds, motion passes unanimously
 - 26-06 Joe Porterfield motions to approve \$492.67, Rhonda Workman seconds, motion passes unanimously
 - 26-07 Joe Porterfield motions to approve \$1000.00, Rhonda Workman seconds, motion passes unanimously
 - 26-08 Joe Porterfield motions to approve \$573.83, Rhonda Workman seconds, motion passes unanimously

- J. OLD BUSINESS - none
- K. COMMITTEE COMMENTS - none
- L. CHAIR COMMENTS
 - *Thank you for your hard work
- M. NEXT MEETING March 11, 2026 @ 3:00 p.m.
- N. ADJOURN 1603