

# **LIVINGSTON COUNTY VETERANS' COMMITTEE**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

January 20, 2021

6:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting Held in Accordance with Public Act 254 of 2020

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Meeting ID: 512-519-6608

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5125196608>

Members Present      Joe Riker  
James Wallace  
Robert J. Bezotte  
Kevin Nagle  
Bruce Hundley

Staff Present          Mary Durst

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Joe Riker called meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE**

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **3. ROLL CALL**

### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **4.1 December 16, 2020 meeting minutes**

Motion to approve consent agenda as presented.

**Moved By** Robert J. Bezotte

**Seconded By** K. Nagle

Yes (5): Joe Riker, James Wallace, Robert J. Bezotte, K. Nagle, and B. Hundley

**Motion Carried (5 to 0)**

### **5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

None.

**6. APPLICATIONS FOR RELIEF**

None.

**7. BUSINESS**

**7.1 Utilizing County Legal**

Committee agreed to proposed procedure with the change to include all committee members to be cc'd when utilizing county legal. It was determined that no vote was necessary at this time.

**7.2 LCVS Funded Gift Cards**

Legal opinion provided clarification and approval on the use of funds to purchase gift cards.

Motion to allot up to a total of \$5,000 from LCVS advertising fund to purchase \$25 gift cards for an incentive program for Livingston County veterans not dishonorably discharged.

**Moved By** Joe Riker

**Seconded By** James Wallace

Yes (5): Joe Riker, James Wallace, Robert J. Bezotte, K. Nagle, and B. Hundley

**Motion Carried (5 to 0)**

**7.3 2021 Office Priorities**

Director provided list of priorities for 2021. No questions, concerns or additions from committee.

**7.4 Office Locations**

Former Howell Flagstar Bank Location and former Iron Grip Ninja location considered.

Motion to pursue letter of interest and initial lease negotiations on Iron Grip Ninja property.

**Moved By** Joe Riker

**Seconded By** Robert J. Bezotte

Yes (5): Joe Riker, James Wallace, Robert J. Bezotte, K. Nagle, and B. Hundley

**Motion Carried (5 to 0)**

**7.5 Work Project**

Motion to approve acceptance of MVAA Work Program.

**Moved By** James Wallace

**Seconded By** Joe Riker

Yes (5): Joe Riker, James Wallace, Robert J. Bezotte, K. Nagle, and B. Hundley

**Motion Carried (5 to 0)**

**7.6 Post VSO Position as Grade 5**

Motion to fill vacant Veteran Benefits Counselor position at grade 5.

**Moved By** Joe Riker

**Seconded By** Robert J. Bezotte

Yes (4): Joe Riker, James Wallace, Robert J. Bezotte, and K. Nagle

No (1): B. Hundley

**Motion Carried (4 to 1)**

**8. DIRECTOR REPORTS**

**8.1 Office**

Director reviewed report with Committee.

**8.2 Finance**

Director presented YTD finance report. Also reported a total of \$1,769,492.45 in cash and assets on hand.

**9. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

Chairman Joe Riker stated that the Director will stay on the meeting after all virtual meetings that the press attends to allow for additional questions. Riker also highlighted a recent bill that was introduced to allow Veteran Services to go into closed session when discussing a veteran request for emergency relief.

State Rep and Committee Co-Chair Bob Bezotte briefed the Committee on his new role in Lansing and stated he requested to be on the VA sub-committee.

Director Durst informed the Committee that the Ann Arbor VA is actively calling veterans 75 and older to schedule their COVID injections. Veterans who are 65-74 can ask to see if an injection is available at the time of another scheduled appointment, but are discouraged from calling the VA to make an appointment as stock is limited and phone lines are over-taxed.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn at 7:32 p.m.

**Moved By** Robert J. Bezotte

**Seconded By** James Wallace

Yes (5): Joe Riker, James Wallace, Robert J. Bezotte, K. Nagle, and B. Hundley

**Motion Carried (5 to 0)**

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Mary Durst, Recorder