

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EXECUTIVE

Tammy Sheldon
Veteran's Service Director

1040 S Winter St, Adrian, MI 49221
p: 517-264-5335 | f:517-264-5334
[Website](#)



MEMBERS

Michael Shadbolt, John Saxton, Ted Crockett, Todd Gillman, Terry Collins
301 N. Main St, Adrian, MI 49221

MEETING LOCATION

Chambers

Minutes: Friday, July 10, 2026

I. Call to Order

Present: Executive Committee Members—Chairman Shadbolt, Saxton, Crockett and Gillman. Staff: Ruple, Veterans Service Director; Eschedor, Veterans Relief Service Officer. Excused Liaison Terry Collins, County Commissioner.

Also Present: Administrator Murphy, Marketing & Community Engagement Specialist Quinn Wilt.

The July 10, 2026, LCDVA Executive Committee Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by LCDVA Executive Committee Chairman Shadbolt

II. Approval of Agenda

A. Approval of Agenda: July 10, 2026

Chairman Shadbolt requested a motion to approve the agenda: Motion by Crockett. Second by Saxton to Approve. Votes in Favor: Shadbolt, Saxton, and Crockett. Opposed: None. Motion Passed.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes:

- May 07, 2026
- June 03, 2026
- June 12, 2026

Chairman Shadbolt requested a motion to approve the minutes: Motion by Saxton. Second by Crockett to Approve. Votes in Favor: Shadbolt, Saxton, and Crockett. Opposed: None. Motion Passed

IV. Reports - Veterans Affairs

A. Veterans Service Director's Report on Office Activities

VSD Ruple reported on the department's activities.

V. Existing Business

A. VRF Proposed Policy updates: Approval

Chairman Shadbolt requested a motion to approve the minutes: Motion by Crockett. Second by Saxton to Approve. Votes in Favor: Shadbolt, Saxton, and Crockett. Opposed: None. Motion Passed

VI. New Business

A. Deputy Veterans Service Directors Recruitment:

- Review of hiring timeline and process
- Consideration and approval of a Special Meeting date to review applications to interview
- Discussion of interview process
- Appointment of the Interview/Hiring Committee by the Chair

Chairman Shadbolt reviewed the proposed hiring process for the Deputy Veterans Service Director Position in accordance with the administrative responsibilities of the Lenawee County Department of Veterans Affairs Executive Committee under Michigan Compiled Laws, Act 192 of 1953.

The Deputy Veterans Service Director position has been posted and will remain open through July 12, 2026. Applications will be reviewed, and interviews will be conducted by an interview committee consisting of Executive Committee members Saxton and Crockett, along with Veterans Service Director Timothy Ruple. Following the interviews, the committee will provide a hiring recommendation to the Executive Committee for approval at a future special meeting.

VII. Commissioner Comment

None

VIII. Partner Comments

A. MVTF Updates from Shadbolt

Chairman Shadbolt reported the MVTF reviewed seven applications with two from Lenawee since the May meeting.

IX. Reports- Veterans Relief Service Officer

A. Review of Veterans Relief Fund

VRSO ESchedor reported the VRF Application (26-007) was approved for \$817.05 in financial relief.

B. Review of Michigan Veterans Trust Fund Cases Assisted

VRSO ESchedor reported the MVTF Application (TGFA-2547) was approved for \$3,390.21 in financial relief.

VRSO ESchedor reported the MVTF Application (TGFA-2557) was approved for \$517.64 in financial relief.

X. Public Comment

Executive Committee Member Crockett reminded everyone that Veterans Day at the Fair will be held on July 29. The event will include a program and free food for veterans. Veterans who attend the fair that day will receive free admission. Veterans Service Director Ruple reported that the Veterans Affairs Office will have an information table set up during the program.

XI. Adjournment

Motion by Saxton, Second by Crockett to adjourn the meeting at 10:26 AM. Motion Passed.

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MEMBERS

Michael Shadbolt, John Saxton, Ted Crockett, Todd Gillman, Terry Collins
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MEETING LOCATION

Chambers

Minutes: Thursday, May 7, 2026

I. Call to Order

Present: Executive Committee Members—Chairman Shadbolt, Saxton, Crockett. Staff: Sheldon, Veterans Service Director; Ruple, Deputy Veterans Service Director; Eschedor, Veterans Relief Service Officer, along with Liaison Terry Collins, County Commissioner were present. Excused: Gillman

Also Present: Administrator Murphy, Marketing & Communications Coordinator Jen Ambrose, and Community Engagement Specialist Quinn Wilt.

The May 07, 2026, LCDVA Executive Committee Meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by LCDVA Executive Committee Chairman Shadbolt.

II. Approval of Agenda

A. Approval of Agenda: May 07, 2026

Chairman Shadbolt requested a motion to approve the agenda: Motion by Crockett. Second by Saxton to Approve. Votes in Favor: Shadbolt, Saxton, and Crockett. Opposed: None. Motion Passed.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes: March 13, 2026

Chairman Shadbolt requested a motion to approve the minutes: Motion by Crockett. Second by Saxton to Approve. Votes in Favor: Shadbolt, Saxton, and Crockett. Opposed: None. Motion Passed

IV. Reports - Veterans Affairs

A. Director's Office Activity Report

VSD Sheldon reported on the department's activities.

V. Existing Business

No Existing Business

VI. New Business

A. Veteran's Service Director – Planned Retirement and Recruitment Process

Chairman Shadbolt announced that, in March, the Executive Committee received formal notification that Veterans Service Director Tammy Sheldon will retire effective July 9, 2026. Director Sheldon began serving Lenawee County in June 1982 and was officially employed with the Lenawee County Department of Veterans Affairs on October 4, 1982, marking more than 44 years of dedicated service to Lenawee County and its veterans and their families.

Chairman Shadbolt reviewed the proposed hiring process for the Veterans Service Director position in accordance with the administrative responsibilities of the Lenawee County Department of Veterans Affairs Executive Committee under Michigan Compiled Laws, Act 192 of 1953.

The position has been posted and will remain open through May 22, 2026. Applications will be reviewed during a special open meeting of the Executive Committee, with personally identifiable information removed prior to review. The Executive Committee will identify approximately three to four candidates to move forward for interviews based on qualifications and merit.

Interviews will be conducted during a special open meeting with participation from the Executive Committee, Veterans Service Director Tammy Sheldon, the County Administrator or Deputy Administrator, and the County Human Resources Director. A second round of interviews may be conducted if necessary.

The Executive Committee selected June 3, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. for the application review meeting. Candidate interviews will be tentatively conducted on June 12, 2026.

VII. Commissioner Comment

Commissioner Collins reported that the County Commissioners and Administration are working on a proposed budget for 2027.

VIII. Partner Comments

A. MVTF Updates from Shadbolt

Chairman Shadbolt reported the MVTF reviewed Eight applications with One from Lenawee since the March meeting.

IX. Veterans Relief Fund

A. Review of VRF Applications

VRSO ESchedor reported the VRF Application (26-005) was approved for \$2,938.76 in financial relief.

VRSO Eschedor reported that VRF Application (26-006) was approved for \$1,982.50 in financial relief.

B. VRF Proposed Policy updates

Chairman Shadbolt introduced the first reading of the proposed updates and revisions to the Veteran Relief Fund Policies, in accordance with established VRF policy procedures for handling new or amended policies, including first reading followed by action at a subsequent meeting.

Veterans Service Director Tammy Sheldon reviewed the recommended changes with the Executive Committee for consideration and discussion. In accordance with policy procedure, the Board will conduct the second reading and take action to vote on the proposed updates at the July 10, 2026, meeting.

X. Public Comment

DVSD Ruple provided information regarding upcoming local veterans events in the community.

VSD Sheldon commented that the new Lenawee County Veterans Affairs Office website looks wonderful and noted that it has taken about a year to fully develop and roll out. She recognized Marketing & Communications Coordinator Jennifer Ambrose for her work on the project. She also noted the significant amount of time he personally invested in supporting the development, including hours spent on research and gathering resources to help build out the website content.

She encouraged the public to visit the website and added that if anyone has events or information they would like to share, they are welcome to reach out to the office.

XI. Adjournment

Motion by Crockett, Second by Saxton to adjourn the meeting at 08:58 AM. Motion Passed.

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MEMBERS

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MEETING LOCATION

Chambers

Minutes: Wednesday, June 3, 2026

I. Call to Order

Present: Executive Committee Members—Chairman Shadbolt, Saxton, Crockett and Gillman. Staff: Sheldon, Veterans Service, along with Liaison Terry Collins, County Commissioner were present.

Also Present: Administrator Murphy, Marketing & Communications Coordinator Jen Ambrose, and Community Engagement Specialist Quinn Wilt. The June 03, 2026, LCDVA Executive Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:09 AM by LCDVA Executive Committee Chairman Shadbolt.

II. Applications for Veterans Service Director

Chairman Shadbolt read each candidate's number and asked for a show of hands indicating support for advancing the candidate to the interview stage.

Chairman Shadbolt requested a motion to approve the selected candidate (5,7,12): Motion by Crockett. Second by Gillman to Approve. Vote in Favor: Shadbolt, Saxton, Crockett and Gillman. Opposed: None

Interview Format Discussion: Committee members discussed the interview format, including the types of questions that may be asked and the process for evaluating and rating candidates.

Chairman Shadbolt directed Director Sheldon to contact the selected candidates by telephone and email to confirm their interview date and assigned time slots.

Note: If a selected candidate is unable to attend the scheduled interview session, that candidate will not be rescheduled, and the remaining interview schedule will be adjusted accordingly.

- A. Candidate (1)
- B. Candidate (2)
- C. Candidate (3)

- D. Candidate (4)
- E. Candidate (5)
- F. Candidate (6)
- G. Candidate (7)
- H. Candidate (8)
- I. Candidate (9)
- J. Candidate (10)
- K. Candidate (11)
- L. Candidate (12)
- M. Candidate (13)

III. Public Comment

NO Public Comments

IV. Adjournment

Motion by Saxton, Second by Crockett to adjourn the meeting at 02:02 PM. Motion Passed.

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MEETING LOCATION

Chambers

Minutes: Friday, June 12, 2026

I. Call to Order

Chairman Shadbolt called the special Executive Committee meeting to order. The purpose of this meeting is to interview two candidates for the Veterans Service Director position.

Present: Executive Committee Members—Chairman Shadbolt, Saxton, Crockett and Gillman. Staff: Sheldon, Veterans Service Director, along with Liaison Terry Collins, County Commissioner were present.

Also Present: Administrator Murphy, Marketing & Communications Coordinator Jen Ambrose, Cevin Walker, and Timothy Ruple

The June 12, 2026, LCDVA Executive Committee Meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM by LCDVA Executive Committee Chairman Shadbolt.

II. Veterans Service Director Interviews

Interviews for the following Veterans Service Director Applicants were held: Timothy Ruple and Cevin Walker.

Between Interviews: Motion by Crockett, Second by Saxton to go into recess; Motion by Crockett, Second by Saxton to return from recess.

Motion by Saxton, seconded by Crockett, to offer the Veterans Service Director position to the candidate receiving the highest interview score.

Chairman Shadbolt stated that it had been moved and seconded that Timothy Ruple be selected as the next Veterans Service Director.

Chairman Shadbolt opened the floor for discussion. Discussion followed.

Chairman Shadbolt called for a vote. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0, approving Timothy Ruple's selection as the next Veterans Service Director.

A. Applicant # 7 - Timothy Ruple

B. Applicant #12 - Cevin Walker

III. Public Comment

No Public Comments.

IV. Adjournment

Motion by Gillman, Second by Crockett to adjourn the meeting at 10:42 AM. Motion Passed.

**LENAWEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2026**

CLAIMS ACTIVITY & VA FORMS		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YR TO DT
VA 10-10EZ & 10-10EZR	Healthcare Enrollment Applications	6	2	1	1	3	2							15
VA 10-10d	CHAMPVA Application for Benefits	2	3	5	2	2	1							15
VA 10-8678	Annual Clothing Allowance	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
VA 21-0779	Nursing Home Info in Connection w/Claim for Aid & Attendance	0	0	0	3	3	0							6
VA 21-0781	Stmnt in Support of Mental Health Disorders/PTSD Stressor Stmnt	2	3	0	1	1	1							8
VA 21-0966	Intent to File a Claim for Comp, Pension, or DIC	26	17	21	19	24	25							132
VA 21-22	Appt of Service Org as Claimant's Representative (POA)	18	22	19	27	22	24							132
VA 21-526EZ	Disability Compensation & Related Compensation Benefits (S/C)	6	11	17	7	13	19							73
VA 21P-527EZ	Veterans Pension (Non-S/C)	0	0	0	1	1	0							2
VA 21P-530EZ	Federal Burial, Plot, and Travel Allowance	6	9	5	1	8	6							35
VA 21P-534EZ	DIC and Accrued Benefits by Surviving Spouse/Child (S/C)	3	4	1	0	4	5							17
VA 21P-534EZ	Survivors Pension (Non-S/C)	0	0	0	4	2	0							6
VA 21-2680	Exam for Housebound or Aid & Attendance for SMC and SMP	1	2	3	5	3	2							16
VA 21-674	Approval of School Attendance for Dependents	0	2	0	0	0	0							2
VA 21-686c	Request to Add/Remove Dependents	1	2	7	4	6	5							25
VA 21-4138	Statement in Support of Claim	18	31	29	19	22	47							166
VA 21-4502	Special Adaptive Automobile Allowance & Adaptive Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
VA 21-8940	Increased Compensation Based on Unemployability (S/C)	0	2	5	0	1	2							10
VA 22-1990 & 28-1900	Veteran's Education Benefits, Ch 30, 31, 33, 1606	0	0	0	0	0	1							1
VA 22-5490	Dependent's Education Benefits, Ch 33 & 35	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
VA 26-1880	Request for Home Loan Certificate of Eligibility	2	2	0	0	1	1							6
VA 26-4555	Special Adapted Housing	0	0	0	1	0	0							1
VA 40-1330	Headstone/Marker/Medallion/Urn/PMC	3	11	6	8	6	7							41
														0
APPEALS PROCESS														
VA 20-0995	DRR: Supplemental Claim (Reconsideration/Reopen)	7	9	7	3	9	12							47
VA 20-0996	Decision Review Request: Higher Level Review (HLR)	0	0	1	0	0	1							2
VA 10182	Decision Review Request: Board Appeal (NOD)	2	0	1	0	0	2							5
														0
SUPPORT SERVICES														
MVAA	Michigan Veterans Trust Fund (MVTF) 65+ Peacetime	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
MVAA	Michigan Veterans Trust Fund (MVTF)	0	0	0	1	1	1							3
MVAA	Request for Records of Active Military Service (DD Form 214)	5	2	3	2	5	5							22
SF-180	Request for Military Records and Awards	4	1	3	2	4	2							16
LCDVA	County Burial Allowance	0	0	6	0	0	0							6
LCDVA	DAV Van Transportation Network (Vets Transported to/from VAMC)	10	13	13	10	10	12							68
LCDVA	Veterans' Relief Fund (VRF)	3	1	1	1	0	1							7
														0
VSO ACTIVITIES & DEMOGRAPHICS														
LCDVA	Personal Interviews (Intake/Appointments/Claim Development)	65	74	79	56	83	82							439
LCDVA	File Reviews	49	55	57	38	58	61							318
LCDVA	Claims Status Checks	61	70	72	54	60	67							384
LCDVA	Vet (M/F) Age 70+ Seeking Monthly C&P (Living/Deceased)	13	10	13	10	18	17							81
LCDVA	Female Vet Seeking Monthly Monetary C&P Benefits	0	0	3	0	0	0							3
														0
														0

**COUNTY BURIAL AND HEADSTONE PLACEMENTS
FOR THE MEETING OF: JULY 2026**

[illegible]