

# The American Legion, Department of Michigan Legislative Committee Meeting Winter Meeting, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Ballroom C

February 12, 2022,

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting was held Saturday, February 12, 2022, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Lansing.

Chair Poxson called meeting to order at 9:05am

**Roll Call** ... Present Tim Poxson, Sonja Patrick, Doug Carignan, David Babbage, Bill Coffey

**Excused** ... Ron McCall

**Districts Present** ... 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 16th, 18th

Number of guests: 20                      Quorum was met

It was moved by Bill Coffey and supported by Jill Gentry that the minutes of the September 17, 2021, meeting of the Department Legislative Committee be approved. Motion carried.

The Chair Advised the committee that an upcoming issue that we will be working on soon via zoom meetings will be Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatments (HBOT) for veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). This treatment is not approved by the FDA so the VA will not authorize it for use yet. However, pilot programs in a few other states have shown this type of treatment can help veterans in many ways and is shown to reduce Veteran Suicides in the pilot programs they have conducted. We will be working with The VFW to move a pilot program forward in the State of Michigan for Veterans. The cost will be about 1.5 million dollars, with per case cost at about \$15,000.

### **Unfinished Business SB 783 & SB 784**

A lengthy discussion regarding changes for the 100% disabled Veteran Property Tax exemption that may occur if SB 783 and SB 784 are passed in the Michigan Legislature. Future resolution may occur based on any changes that may happen with these bills.

### **New Business: HB 4908**

Members also discussed HB 4908, a bill to amend 1972 PA 382, entitled "Traxler-McCauley-Law-Bowman bingo act," Also known as the charitable game act. A short discussion took place regarding where this bill will probably go and what changes have been made to it in the last week.

**HB 4065 A** bill to authorize the Governor to have the Adjutant General award the Michigan Vietnam Veteran Recognition Certificate, to Michigan era Vietnam Veterans. Short discussion took place.

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Several other bills were discussed.

Leading Candidate for National Commander, Jim Triola spoke regarding some bills regarding Toxic burn pits, suicide among Veterans, WW2 Veterans have health care through the VA without going through the process of a means test.

Discussed military Veterans who are immigrants being given their U.S. Citizenship status prior to being Honorably discharged from the Armed Services. This will keep them from being deported once their service is complete.

Department Commander Richard Dubay stopped in to thank everyone for being at the meeting.

**Good of the Legion:**

The Chair reminded all members and guest present that this is a election year, and that Legionaries are prohibited from:

Having their photo taken with Candidates while displaying American Legion Logos including your American Legion Cover.

If a Candidate comes to your post home to give a speech, all American Legion items that identify the location as an American Legion Post or home must be taken down and stored. No Candidate sign of support may be displayed on Post Property.

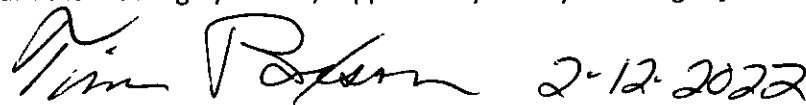
If One Candidate comes an invitation should be issued to the other Candidates to come to the Post Home.

The American Legion does not endorse any Candidate for public office.

And we are not R's or D's we are Veterans serving Veterans.

No resolutions were assigned to this committee.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Patrick, supported by Gentry. Meeting adjourned at 10:30am.



Respectfully Submitted: by Tim Poxson

American Legion Department of Michigan Legislative Chair

MEETING CONVENED: 9:05 AM

NUMBER OF ANTEENDEES: 20  
+ 5 MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

### AMERICAN LEGION LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SIGN-IN

EVENT DATE	February 12, 2022	EVENT	Dep't Winter Meeting
CHAIRMAN	Tim Poxson	LOCATION	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Lansing

↓ **PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME** ↓

	PRINTED NAME	DISTRICT Number
1	Tim Poxson	6
2	Jill Gentry	5
3	DAVID Noel Babby	16 <sup>th</sup>
4	EARY BOURDEAU	2
5	Alfonse VanHose	11
6	Willard Cotter	12
7	Mark Suttow	1st
8	Dave CARIGNAN	7 <sup>th</sup>
9	Bob Gillette	16
10	John Perry	16
11	ED DRAPCZYK	16
12	Craig R Watring	8 <sup>th</sup>
13	David Yahr	AD
14	Tony Licari	18
15	AUGUST miele	7
16	SALGE PARR	7

	PRINTED NAME	DISTRICT Number
17	WENDY RETZLOFF	12
18	WAYNE BLANK	2
19	REN SHREVE	2
20	LAVERN SPOLARICH	8
21	Michael Greece	2
22	Scott Nichols	2
23	Rickal Jumps	5 <sup>th</sup>
24	LORRIE BENNETT	18
25	Sanja Patrick	5
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