The meeting of the Department of Michigan, VA&R Committee was called to order by Tony Licari, Vice Chairman, at 2:00 P.M. in Taft Room of the Holiday Inn Gateway Center, Flint, Michigan.

Present were Standing Committee members; Tony Licari, Alfonse VanHese, Thomas Sheppard, Gary Bordeaux, Gary Easterling, Alternate Committee member Robert Gillett, excused, Don Howard

Legionnaires present, 38

Guests Present: Marilyn Pelc & Jennifer; gave presentation of no cost telephones available for the hearing impaired.
National Vice Commander, Jim Wallace
National NEC Alternate, John Knox

It was moved by Mr. Bourdeau and supported by Mr. Gillette that the minutes of the 21 September 2018, meeting of the Department VA&R Committee be approved. Motion Carried.

Vice-Chairman Liocari requested VA&R Director, Gary Easterling, to report on the current status of the VA&R Division and the status of Department Veteran Service Officers in Detroit and in the field;

The VA&R Division current staff numbers 21 people.

A new contract was signed with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe the Department of Michigan to renew the services with the Tribal Veterans Service Officer and the VA&R Division.

Post Service Officer Training will be held at Higgins Lake, Michigan, 12-15 September 2019.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION RAPID APPEALS IMPROVEMENT AND MODERNIZATION PROGRAM was discussed. If you or any veteran receiving any correspondence from the Veterans Administration, do not select any of the three options until you seek input from a Department Veterans Service Officer.

If need to contact the VA&R Office in Detroit, please call 313-964-6641 due to trouble with installation of new phone equipment.
Gary Easterling was nominated and assigned to a position National VA&R Committee.

Old Business:
None

New Business:
None

There being no further business to come before this committee, it was moved by Mr. VanHese and supported by Mr. Bourdeau that the meeting be adjourned at 2:59 P.M. Motion carried.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

TONY LICARI
VICE-Chairman
VA&R Committee