

The American Legion Department of Michigan

Department Convention VA & R Committee

Meeting was held at: Kewadin Casino Sault Ste Marie in the White Fish Point.

Meeting opened at: 8:30 AM

The following members were elected to these positions:

Chairman: Bob Gillette_____

Vice Chairman: Alfanse Vanhese_____

Secretary: Elizebeth Cuddington_____

Districts present (delegates present their cards):

3rd Dist	4 th Dist	5 th Dist	6 th Dist
7 th Dist	8 th Dist	9 th Dist	10 th Dist
11 th Dist	12 th Dist	16 th Dist	18 th Dist
19 th Dist			

Number of guests: 30

A quorum was present.

Motion to approve the minutes by Alfanso Vanhese. Seconded by Gary Bourdeau. Motion carried.

No resolutions to review and approve.

VA & R Director Gary Easterling gave report for Office and Staff.

VAVS gave report on VAMC and Veterans Homes.

VE & E gave report on veterans employment

There being no further business to come before the committee a motion was made by Bob Gillette to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Gary Bourdeau. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45am.

Respectfully submitted by,



Bob Gillette

Chairman, VA & R Convention Committee

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION
2024 Convention Committee Report

Department Commanded Brian Mohlman appointed Steve Kogge and myself to the Veterans Employment & Education, a subcommittee of the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee. Our proposed plan of action for the success of the Veterans Employment & Education Committee is to be proactive with our committee assignment and make every possible effort to pass on related VE&E information to get to the lowest user level, the veteran.. Steve and I discussed this plan of action, and here it is.

The VE&E Committee intended to use all available US assets: The Department of Veterans Affairs, the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency, Michigan Works, the Department VA&R Committee, and other sources to provide veterans with employment and education information. The committee has used emails as the primary way to distribute this information to members of the VA&R, district commanders, and district service officers, encouraging them to disseminate this information widely to their Legion membership and other veterans seeking employment and furthering their education. It is hoped that these emails have helped our veterans. The VE&E Committee has sent out/forwarded over 1380 related emails.

The Department has requested that this committee establish an awards program and to recognize individuals across the state who have established outstanding records in the employment of and retention of veterans, including veterans with disabilities. The committee chairman has contacted Tyra Nelson, Policy Associate, National American Legion Veterans Employment & Education Commission. Ms. Nelson has provided the committee with information about THE NATIONAL VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION Award program, including the recommended timeline, information sheets, and nomination forms. This will enable the Department of Michigan's VE&E Committee to model its own awards program. All of the information provided by MS Nelson was submitted to Department Headquarters.

Dept Commander Mohlman requested the VE&E Committee to assist VETBIZCENTRAL upcoming training & events when scheduling and providing a Post for their "REBOOT or BOOTS TO BUSINESS" program. Our Department Commander and Adjutant have also provided feedback and assistance with possible locations to host the training.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

THOMAS A. SHEPPARD
Chairman
Veterans Employment & Education Committee