



Present: Mr. Joe Higgins, Chair
Mr. Wyatt Batchelor, Vice Chair
Ms. Vivian Greentree, Member
Mr. Andy Hilmes, Member
Mr. Bob McMahon, Member
Mr. Destry Rogers, Member
Ms. Patricia Ross, Commissioner
Mr. Pete Peterson, Veterans Service Board Member
Ms. Shelley Seinberg, Attorney General's Office
Ms. Amy Sillmon, Attorney General's Office
Ms. Jarelle Thompson, Foundation CEO, Homeless Coordinator, GDVS
Ms. Raven Holstick, Foundation COO, Transition and Employment Coordinator, GDVS
Ms. Julie Hammond, Foundation CFO, Commissioner's Executive Assistant, GDVS
Mr. Kerry Dyer, Deputy Commissioner, Chief Operations Officer, GDVS
Ms. Camala Ball, Budget Analyst, GDVS
Ms. Irene Mackson, Business Support Analyst, GDVS

On Thursday, December 4, 2025, the Veterans Service Foundation Board meeting was held by video/tele-conference. The members and visitors listed above were present.

Mr. Higgins called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Mr. McMahon made a motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting, which were previously distributed to members to review. Mr. Batchelor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OFFICER REPORTS

Ms. Thompson reported that the trifold has been completed. We need to discuss how many to print and how to get them out to everyone. She asked if anyone on the Board knows of any events happening in their area to please let her know so that she can be there to get the word out about how we can assist them.

Ms. Holstick did not have anything to report.

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Ms. Hammond stated that she had sent out the report below for members to review before the meeting. There has been one additional deposit since then of about \$50.00. There were no questions.

The funds in the accounts are allocated as follows:

General Funds	\$37,198.13
Annual Training	\$ 171.42
Homelessness	\$ 106.21
New Homes	\$ 1,025.00
State Benefit Book Ads	\$ 59.23
Suicide Prevention Hardware	\$ 1,383.06
Suicide Prevention Summit	\$ 3,299.47
<u>Women & Diversity</u>	<u>\$ 314.53</u>
TOTAL	\$43,557.05

DIRECTOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

Mr. McMahon asked if the check from the Cherry Blossom Festival had arrived. He expects it to arrive sometime next week.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Ross announced that GDVS received the Fox Suicide Prevention Grant for the fourth year. The VA is changing the parameters of what we can do with the grant. The prior three years it has been mainly outreach, education, and screening individuals for suicidal ideation and then connecting them to the VA and other resources. Now they are going to make up to \$750.00 available for primary housing instability. We are working with the VA on what that looks like and how we vet individuals to provide rental or mortgage assistance.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rogers discussed an email he received from the VA about housing and all they are doing and the number of hyperlinks with it. He asked if we were aware of it and if we could tap into their resources. Ms. Thompson relayed that we already work with most of the VA partners. Commissioner Ross added

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that the HUD-VASH program is the primary program to get veterans into stabilized housing and there is a limited number of vouchers, which stay with the veteran unless they no longer need it. Mr. Rogers added that there should be a network of organizations out there that deal specifically with the homeless population, and we should figure out how to piggyback on what they do and provide resources for them.

Mr. Rogers started a discussion on what we can do next year for Giving Tuesday. Commissioner Ross mentioned a program we use at GDVS to contact veterans. If we had a list of contacts with their email addresses, we could use this system to generate a message for Giving Tuesday next year.

Board elections were held:

Mr. McMahon made a motion to elect Joe Higgins as Chair for 2026. Mr. Hilmes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Higgins made a motion to elect Wyatt Batchelor as Vice Chair for 2026. Mr. McMahon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Higgins made a motion to elect Bob McMahon as Secretary for 2026. Mr. Batchelor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.


Mr. Higgins made a motion to elect Andy Hilmes as Treasurer for 2026. Mr. McMahon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Rogers made a motion to approve the trifold for distribution. Mr. McMahon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. We will go ahead and schedule a printing and then send them to the Board members.

Mr. Higgins announced that the next meeting will be on January 8 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Higgins adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

SIGNED:


Joe Higgins, Chair