



MFA Board Minutes

June 19, 2018, 1:00pm

The meeting was called to order by Vanessa Melancon at 1:05pm.

The following board members were in attendance:

- State Treasurer John Schroder
- Secretary Joey Strickland
- Homer Rodgers
- Sulanda Lonnette
- Col. Jona Hughes
- Thomas Enright (accompanying State Treasurer Schroder)
- Alex Juan
- Billy Robbins

Non-board members present included:

- Homer Rodgers, LDVA Undersecretary
- Julie Baxter-Payer, LDVA Executive Counsel
- Vanessa Melancon, MFA Administrator

Board confirmed that a quorum was present and the meeting continued with the pledge and a moment of silent reflection/prayer.

Vanessa Melancon explained that she is now the Third Party Administrator for the MFA program.

The minutes from the emergency board meeting held on May 29, 2018 were read. State Treasurer Schroder made a motion to accept the minutes, Alex Juan seconded the motion and it was passed without objection.

Vanessa Melancon reviewed the fund balance report. State Treasurer Schroder made a motion to accept the report, Alex Juan seconded the motion, and it was passed without objection.

There was brief discussion about the history of the MFA Fund and the need for donations. State Treasurer Schroder offered to help bring attention to the Fund.

The following applications were considered:

- 1) DMAN0618; requested \$7,347.30
 - The board requested that the MFA Administrator as the applicant how he incurred the hardship, and whether or not he could keep his bills current if his request was approved. Col. Jona Hughes made a motion to defer the application until these questions were answered. Alex Juan seconded the motion and it passed without objection.



2) KTHO0618; requested \$6,322.41

- After reviewing the application the board found that the amount requested was not for basic necessary expenses. Alex Juan made a motion to deny, Sulanda Lonnette seconded the motion, and it was passed without objection.

3) SMAN0618; requested \$3,596.83

- The board reviewed the application and found that the veteran was experiencing a severe hardship due to the complete loss of her home after a fire. Alex Juan made a motion to approve the application, State Treasurer Schroder seconded the motion, and it was passed without objection.

4) DBEA0618; requested \$3,640.92

- The board reviewed the application and found the request was not for basic necessary expenses. Secretary Strickland made a motion to deny, State Treasurer Schroder seconded the motion, and it was passed without objection.

5) ODEC0618; requested \$9,672.00

- The board reviewed the application and felt that, while there was valid hardship, the need was for ongoing assistance that a one-time grant could not address. The members felt a partial grant of \$500 would allow enough relief from pressing needs for the veteran to find a permanent solution. State Treasurer Schroder made a motion to approve \$500, Secretary Strickland seconded the motion, and it was passed without objection.

State Treasurer Schroder recommended that the Board look into establishing cooperative relationships with utility companies, car and home lenders, etc.

The board confirmed the date and time of the next meeting: July 17, 2018 at 1:00pm.

A motion was made to adjourn by Alex Juan and seconded by Billy Robbins. The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 with no objections.