

ANTRIM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

2013 Annual Report

May 8, 2014

Submitted by Deborah Peters, Director

County Expenditures for 2013 Please refer to the attached document, *Soldiers & Sailors Relief Fund Expenditures*, hereafter referred to as the Relief Fund. This document gives a breakdown of all monies expended by the Antrim County Veterans' Affairs Committee for the last eight years. The number of emergency relief applications increased by nine over last year. The monies spent increased by \$11443.78. The monies expended for burial applications increased by \$1200 over 2012's figure. The Relief Fund came in at \$13227.32 under budget for FY 2013.

Donations to the Relief Fund The Mason's Bellaire Lodge No. 398 donated \$500 to be used specifically for heat. A veteran donated \$20.

Outreach I continue to hold office hours at the Elk Rapids AMVETS Post the third Wednesday of every month. This arrangement is working out quite well.

Miscellaneous Last year I reported that we had implemented a simplistic tracking system specific to the duties of each employee with the idea that the data may be beneficial in the future. I discussed this matter with the Human Services committee on February 20, 2014. I was asked to consider methods of tracking that would take less time but would still provide the BOC with enough information to make educated decisions. I have identified three areas to focus on and will continue to track those areas.

State Expenditures for FY 2012/2013 The Michigan Veterans Trust Fund approved emergency relief applications in the amount of \$4380.33.

Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office Report The report from the VA outlining expenditures to individual Michigan counties for the year of 2013 is unavailable at this time. As soon as the report is made public I will provide each commissioner with a copy.

Training I maintain my accreditation as a county veterans' counselor through the National Association of County Veterans Services Officers (NACVSO) by attending the Michigan Association of County Veterans Counselors (MACVC) spring training conference in Lansing every April. I expand my training by attending the MACVC fall conference and the fall conference hosted by The American Legion at Higgins Lake.

I currently hold accreditation with the following veterans' service organizations: The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Military Order of Purple Heart, Vietnam Veterans of America, The Veterans of Foreign Wars and NACVSO. Holding accreditation with the service organizations places me in the same category as the service officers who work in the Detroit VA building. Once the veteran appoints a service organization to assist with his/her claim I then have access to their VA health records and VA computer records. It also allows VA employees to speak freely with me regarding the veterans' claim and gives me the authority to sign documents on the veterans' behalf.

Tim Cary was hired as our new Veterans Service Officer (VSO) on 12/10/2013. He is a retired Coast Guard veteran and resides in Central Lake. He has worked for the Patriot Place in Gaylord, currently works for the Goodwill Inn in Traverse City as a case manager and obtained his BA degree in social work from Ferris State. Tim will attend the NACVSO conference in June to obtain accreditation as a county VSO.

Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to stop in. Thank you.

SOLDIERS & SAILORS RELIEF FUND YEARLY EXPENDITURES

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
MVTF	151.79	49.12	32.54	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Burials	12900.00	9600.00	14400.00	14400.00	18300.00	17400.00	9300.00	10500.00
Marker Settings	6890.00	6170.00	9980.00	5340.00	2850.00	1200.00	2700.00	1300.00
National Archives	1360.00	4960.50	1506.00	278.00	805.00	100.00	25.00	0.00
Emergency Assistance	5731.02	18011.48	27942.59	22987.26	17387.02	34092.62	17823.90	29267.68
Transportation Allowance	1131.43	14523.72	8903.79	1467.00	1681.00	507.55	1829.00	480.00
Gas Cards	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	350.00	400.00	225.00
Total	28164.24	53314.82	62764.92	44472.26	41023.02	53650.17	32077.90	41772.68
2007 budget \$45,000			requested an additional \$8,000 toward end of year					
2008 budget \$49,000			requested an additional \$15,000 toward end of year					
2009 budget \$62,000								
2010 budget \$60,500								
2011 budget \$55,000								
2012 budget \$55,000								
2013 budget \$55,000								

ANALYSIS OF SOLDIERS & SAILORS RELIEF FUND APPLICATIONS 2013

ASST. TYPE	AMOUNT	MUNICIPALITY	AMOUNT
Auto Repair	1824.77	Bellaire	3213.49
Auto Ins./Reg.	1746.23	Boyerne City	652.50
Auto Payments	1028.47	Central Lake	4310.82
Dental	3287.00	Charlevoix	655.62
Gas Cards	200.00	East Jordan	329.84
Groceries	1545.49	Eastport	2000.00
Heating Fuel	6970.93	Elk Rapids	701.69
Home Repair	2000.00	Ellsworth	1339.38
Property Taxes	607.93	Elmira	4151.49
Rent	6074.24	Homeless	247.41
Utilities	3982.62	Kewadin	2461.50
		Mancelona	6155.64
		Rapid City	3048.30
TOTAL	29267.68	TOTAL	29267.68

of applications 62

approved 53

denied 9

ANTRIM COUNTY DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS STATISTICS

Office Visits

2007 = 292
2008 = 285
2009 = 362
2010 = 494
2011 = 516
2012 = 507
2013 = 686

VA Distributions to Antrim County Veterans Compensation and Pension

2006 = \$2,885,000
2007 = \$3,043,000
2008 = \$3,489,000
2009 = \$4,026,000
2010 = \$4,339,000
2011 = \$5,716,000
2012 = \$5,054,000
2013 = not available yet

County Burial Benefit Applications

2006 = 48
2007 = 40
2008 = 53
2009 = 51
2010 = 64
2011 = 58
2012 = 33
2013 = 37

Emergency Relief Fund Applications

2006 = 25
2007 = 56
2008 = 72
2009 = 52
2010 = 53
2011 = 43
2012 = 53
2013 = 62

BURIAL REPORT 2006

Applications	Veterans	Spouses	Denied	Approved	WWII	KW	VN	Peacetime	Amount Paid
48	38	10	5	43	19	6	11	2	\$12,900

BURIAL REPORT 2007

Applications	Veterans	Spouses	Denied	Approved	WWII	KW	VN	Peacetime	Amount Paid
40	31	9	8	32	18	2	8	3	\$9,600

BURIAL REPORT 2008

Applications	Veterans	Spouses	Denied	Approved	WWII	KW	VN	Peacetime	Amount Paid
53	39	14	5	48	18	14	6	1	\$14,400

BURIAL REPORT 2009

Applications	Veterans	Spouses	Denied	Approved	WWII	KW	VN	Peacetime	Amount Paid
51	36	15	3	48	23	6	5	2	\$14,400

BURIAL REPORT 2010

Applications	Veterans	Spouses	Denied	Approved	WWII	KW	VN	Peacetime	Amount Paid
64	46	18	3	61	31	7	7	1	\$18,300

BURIAL REPORT 2011

Applications	Veterans	Spouses	Denied	Approved	WWII	KW	VN	OIF	Amount Paid
58	40	18	0	58	20	11	8	1	\$17,400

BURIAL REPORT 2012

Applications	Veterans	Spouses	Denied	Approved	WWII	KW	VN	Peacetime	Amount Paid
33	19	14	2	31	7	4	6	2	\$9,300

BURIAL REPORT 2013

Applications	Veterans	Spouses	Denied	Approved	WWII	KW	VN	Peacetime	Amount Paid
37	30	7	2	35	15	6	8	1	\$10,500