

Arizona Military Family Relief Fund Advisory Committee Meeting

Director's Conference Room
3839 North 3rd Street, Suite 209, Phoenix, AZ 85012
December 10, 2013 – 2:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present

Stanley Zeitz – Acting Chair
John Aldecoa*
Larry Brown*
Carol Culbertson
George Cushing*
Paul McKenney* (2:05)
Larry Struck*
Thomas Troxell

Committee Members Absent

Robert Barnes, ADVS Deputy Director/Designee
Martin Badegian
Paul Clark, Vice-Chairman
Randy Meyer, Chairman
Kathy Pearce

** Participated in the meeting by teleconference*

MFRF Committee Staff

Travis Schulte, ADVS/MFRF
Sean Price, ADVS

Assistant Arizona Attorney General - Invited

CALL TO ORDER and APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Acting Chair Zeitz called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Thomas Troxell moved to approve the draft minutes of the public meeting held on November 19, 2013. John Aldecoa seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Acting Chair Zeitz read the Advisory Committee's Disclosure Policy. Advisory Committee members must disclose their knowledge of an applicant to the Advisory Committee during the consideration process. Knowledge of an applicant that benefits all members of the Advisory Committee during the consideration process does not create a conflict of interest. If an Advisory Committee member has knowledge of an applicant and has a vested interest in the outcome of the Committee's findings or seeks to benefit or gain from a vote on a particular application, he/she is required to recuse his or herself from consideration of that applicant as it creates a conflict of interest.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Acting Chair Zeitz moved the meeting to executive session at 2:01 p.m. to discuss MFRF applications that are, according to ARS 41-608.04.E., confidential. Executive Session is allowable under ARS 41-608.04.E.

APPLICATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Acting Chair Zeitz returned the meeting to public session at 2:49 p.m. to vote on applications:

1. 2011E **November J** – Thomas Troxell moved to recommend application be approved for \$9,500 for assistance with applicant's overpayment collection, but not for \$11,310.48 as requested as that amount would exceed the \$10,000 assistance limit. Carol Culbertson seconded the motion, and the motion carried without objection.

2. 2011E **December H** – Thomas Troxell moved to recommend application be approved for \$1,990.08 for two months’ rent, electricity and auto payment. John Aldecoa seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.
3. 2013 **November B** – Thomas Troxell moved to recommend application be approved for \$1,405.25 for assistance with one month mortgage and auto payment. Carol Culbertson seconded the motion, and the motion carried without objection.
4. 2013 **November C** – Larry Brown moved to recommend the application be approved for \$5,263.37 for two months assistance with rent, water, gas, auto payment, auto insurance, child care, electricity and cell phone, but not for three months as requested as that award would exceed the \$10,000 assistance limit. Per discussion, Larry Brown amended his motion to recommend the application be approved for \$6,985.11 for three months’ rent, water, gas, auto payment, auto insurance and child care, minus the electricity and cell phone to bring the award under the \$10,000 assistance limit. Applicant’s request for cable is ineligible for assistance per Award Criteria. John Aldecoa seconded the motion. Carol Culbertson asked if the Committee was wanting to have the applicant’s electricity turned off as it is a basic utility. Acting Chair Zeitz confirmed it is a basic utility but the applicant should be able to pay the electric bill as he is receiving over \$2,300 per month in assistance from the Committee, which meets his stated financial need on the application. Larry Brown and Thomas Troxell stated additional assistance with utilities may be available through Wounded Warriors, APS or the City of Yuma. Per vote, the motion carried unanimously.
5. 2013 **December D** – George Cushing moved to recommend the application be approved for \$4,406.31 for two months’ plus applicable past due rent, natural gas, auto payment, auto insurance, electricity and cell phone up to \$150.00 per month, minus assistance for auto loan and student loan as they are ineligible for assistance per Award Criteria. The third month was not recommended as applicant stated GI Bill benefit will be resumed in February. John Aldecoa and Paul McKenney seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.
6. 2013 **December E** – Larry Brown moved to recommend the application be approved as requested for \$6,212.77 for assistance with child support, medical bills, internet, auto payment, electricity, water, natural gas and two months’ rent. George Cushing inquired about requiring documentation on the combat connection of applicant’s cited physical hardships as his case is based on that claim. Larry Brown amended his motion to recommend the application be approved as requested for \$6,212.77 for assistance with child support, medical bills, internet, auto payment, electricity, water, natural gas and two months’ rent plus past due contingent upon the applicant providing documentation that connects physical hardships cited in application to combat deployment. Carol Culbertson seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

MARKETING REPORTS

Larry Struck spoke about MFRF at the Military Order of the Purple Heart meeting on December 4.

CALL TO PUBLIC

No public attendance.

ADJOURNMENT and NEXT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Members Larry Struck and George Cushing left the meeting at 3:03, reducing Committee Member attendance below quorum. Larry Brown moved to adjourn the Advisory Committee meeting. Carol Culbertson seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 3:03 pm.

The next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. in the Director’s Conference Room.