



**MFA Board Minutes**  
21 September 2021, 10:00 am

The meeting was called to order by Holly Talley at 10:04 am. *Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the meeting was held via Zoom.*

The following board members were in attendance:

- Dustin Guy
- Sulanda Lonnette
- Dennis Andras
- Lt. Col. Ebony Carter
- Sarah Mulhearn
- William Tilley
- Sen. Gerald Boudreaux
- Rep. Raymond Crews
- Homer Rodgers
- Mike Cushman

Non-board members present included:

- Holly Talley, Third Party Administrator
- Lani Durio, Executive Counsel
- Julie Baxter-Payer, Deputy Secretary

Guests in attendance:

- Larry Williams, LDVA Outreach Coordinator
- William McInnis, LDVA Veterans Assistance Counselor

The board confirmed that a quorum was present and the meeting continued.

The minutes from the August 16, 2021 meeting of the Board were reviewed. Sen. Boudreaux made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction to remove his name as seconding the motion to approve previous minutes due to not being present. Sulanda Lonnette seconded the motion, and it passed without objection.

The MFA Board discussed waving the requirement for MFA to be the “last resort” for those in the 25 parishes declared by FEMA as disasters areas due to Hurricane Ida. This will be considered on a case by case basis, where it is not applicable for the Veteran to exhaust all other resources prior to making an application to MFA. Applicants are still encouraged to seek assistance from other sources, when available.

- It will be requested that if the Veteran receives additional payments from another entity which may duplicate payments awarded by the MFA Fund, that they notify the MFA Third Party Administrator at that time, as they may be required to repay the duplicated MFA funds.

A motion was made by Dennis Andras to set the above guidelines for response to Hurricane Ida assistance requested and to request an increase in the MFA Fund’s spending authority for FY22. Sen. Boudreaux seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

Discussion was had to revisit the 5 applications approved by the Board for \$400 at the August 16, 2021 meeting of the Board, if the assistance is still needed and they can provide all documents required that had been missing from their applications. The MFA Third Party Administrator will follow up with these applicants to inquire about their current status and need for assistance. A motion was made by Dustin Guy to reconsider these applications. Sen. Boudreaux seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.



Holly Talley presented the fund balance report to discuss where the MFA Fund currently stands. Dennis Andras made a motion to accept the balance report, Homer Rodgers seconded the motion, and it passed without objection.

Due to applications discussed remaining confidential, unless approved by the Board, a motion was made for the Board to go into a closed executive session of Board members, the MFA Administrator and LDVA's Executive Counsel present. A motion was made by Sulanda Lonnette. Dennis Andras seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection. Larry Williams and William McInnis exited the Zoom.

The following applications were considered by the Board:

1. KPAR 0921 (19) requesting \$ 1,497. Dennis Andras made a motion to deny the application due to repairs needed not being current and/or having already been completed. Veteran may apply again at a later date, should they need additional assistance. Rep. Crews seconded the motion. The application was denied without objection.
2. CKEL 0921 (20) requesting \$1,827.44. Dennis Andras made a motion to approve the application for \$1,436.85 for the amounts verified with creditors. Rep. Crews seconded the motion. The application was approved without objection.
3. BGAY 0921 (15) requesting \$10,000. Rep. Crews made a motion to approve the application for \$400 for Hurricane Ida assistance. Sen. Boudreaux seconded the motion. The application was approved without objection.
4. JSAR 0921 (18) requesting \$ 5,514. Dennis Andras made a motion to approve the application for \$2,168.51 for the amounts verified with creditors and a replacement refrigerator. Receipts must be provided for the purchase made. Sen. Boudreaux seconded the motion. The application was approved without objection.
5. IPAI 0921 (35) requesting \$ 3,552.85. Rep. Crews made a motion to approve the application for \$2,587.26 for the amounts verified with creditors. Homer Rodgers seconded the motion. The application was approved. Dennis Andras abstained.
6. BGRE 0921 (25) requesting \$2,000. Sen. Boudreaux made a motion to deny the application due to not all information was provided as required and Veterans monthly household income is sufficient to cover household expenses. Sulanda Lonnette seconded the motion. The application was denied without objection.
7. JPIT 0921 (36) requesting \$1,919.88. Sen. Boudreaux made a motion to table the application until the September 30 meeting. Veteran must provide photo ID and other information requested. Dennis Andras seconded the motion. The application was tabled without objection.
8. SCAR 0921 (40) requesting \$10,000. Dennis Andras made a motion to table the application until the September 30 meeting. Veteran must provide photo ID and other information requested. Rep. Crews seconded the motion. The application was tabled without objection.
9. BCRU 0921 (45) requesting \$10,000. Dennis Andras made a motion to table the application until the September 30 meeting. Veteran must provide photo ID and other information requested. Sen. Boudreaux seconded the motion. The application was tabled without objection.
10. PWAL 0921 (53) requesting \$3,500. Dennis Andras made a motion to table the application until the September 30 meeting. Veteran must provide photo ID and other information requested. Sen. Boudreaux seconded the motion. The application was tabled without objection.
11. BBEA 0921 (59) requesting \$4,496. Dennis Andras made a motion to table the application until the September 30 meeting. Veteran must provide photo ID and other information requested. Sen. Boudreaux seconded the motion. The application was tabled without objection.
12. ABOU 0921 (62) requesting \$2,900. Sen. Boudreaux made a motion to approve the application for \$2,900 for the rental assistance for October and November. Dustin Guy seconded the motion. The application was approved without objection.

A motion was made to adjourn by Dennis Andras and seconded by Sulanda Lonnette. It passed without objection. The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 pm.