

**THE EASTERN HAMPDEN COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING**  
**REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, June 14, 2023**

Members Present: Chairman Michael Valanzola; Mary McNally; Ken Geromini  
*Others Present: Rodney "Rod" Kincaid, District Treasurer; Pamela Leduc, District Coordinator*

Chairman Valanzola called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.

**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

"Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting will be conducted via remote means. Members of the public who wish to access the meeting may do so by following the Zoom instructions below. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts, we will post on the Town of East Longmeadow, Town of Hampden and Town of Wales municipal websites an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting."

**OLD BUSINESS**

Veterans' Service Officer position discussion: Mr. Scobie has withdrawn from consideration for the appointment as Veterans' Service Officer (VSO). Board members discussed their current options and reconsideration of the remaining applicants. Chairman Valanzola disclosed a personal relationship with a family member (wife) of Mr. Whitecross and advised that he would abstain from any action related to Mr. Whitecross until Mr. Geromini was able to properly vet the candidate. Ms. Leduc to schedule a second interview with Mr. Whitecross next week contingent upon board members' availability.

The board discussed the viability of a flexible work schedule for the VSO position.

The volume and tone of communications received by Ms. Leduc via phone and email from Felix Tranhese was discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Review and vote to approve payroll and accounts payable for May 2023

***Motion by Ms. McNally; seconded by Mr. Geromini; to approve payroll and accounts payable for May 2023 as submitted by the District Treasurer. Ms. McNally – yes; Mr. Geromini – yes; Chairman Valanzola – yes.***

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Kincaid requested the board's approval to process payment in the amount of \$625.00 to MassCor for cemetery flags for the Town of Hampden pursuant to an email received on 05.25.23 from Jered Sasen, Director of Veteran Services for the Town of Wilbraham. Mr. Geromini to follow up with Hampden officials. Action postponed.

Mr. Kincaid recommended that the board compensate Ms. Leduc for her efforts in ensuring that ongoing operations of the district are not compromised in the absence of a VSO. The board requested that Ms. Leduc submit a proposal for their review and consideration.

Ms. Leduc requested the board's approval to purchase an all in one printer for the East Longmeadow VSO office.

***Motion by Ms. McNally; seconded by Mr. Geromini; to approve the purchase of an all in one printer for the East Longmeadow VSO office. Ms. McNally – yes; Mr. Geromini – yes; Chairman Valanzola – yes.***

**ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion by Mr. Geromini; seconded by Ms. McNally; to adjourn the meeting at 3:37 pm. Ms. McNally – yes; Mr. Geromini – yes; Chairman Valanzola – yes.***

Respectfully submitted,

*Pamela A. Leduc*

District Coordinator

DRAFT