

**THE EASTERN HAMPDEN COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING**  
**REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, July 12, 2022**

Members Present: Chairman Richard "Rick" Green; Mary McNally; Michael Valanzola (remote)  
*Others Present: Rodney "Rod" Kincaid, District Treasurer*

Chairman Green called the meeting to order at 9:37 am.

**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

"Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the public body as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be at the meeting location listed above, and it is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in person attendance consisting of members of the public. The meeting may also be accessed remotely by following the Zoom instructions below. When required by law or allowed by the Chair, persons wishing to provide public comment or otherwise participate in the meeting, may do so by in person attendance, or by accessing the meeting remotely, as noted above. 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."

**NEW BUSINESS**

Review and vote to approve payroll through June 30, 2022

***Motion by Mr. Valanzola; seconded by Ms. McNally; to approve the warrant through June 30, 2022 as submitted by the District Treasurer. Mr. Valanzola – yes; Ms. McNally – yes; Chairman Green – yes.***

Review and vote to approve accounts payable through June 30, 2022

***Motion by Mr. Valanzola; seconded by Ms. McNally; to approve the warrant through June 30, 2022 as submitted by the District Treasurer. Mr. Valanzola – yes; Ms. McNally – yes; Chairman Green – yes.***

**CANDIDATES FOR VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICER INTERVIEWS**

Board members interviewed William St. Denis and Armand E. Boucher III for the position of Veterans' Service Officer.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. McNally advised that VSO Barrett had contacted her to request that the board consider allowing her to continue in her role as VSO on a fully remote basis. Chairman Green disclosed that VSO Barrett reached out to him as well. Mr. Valanzola expressed his position that he would not be in favor of a fully remote work arrangement for the VSO position.

Chairman Green advised that the Town of Hampden's treasurer contacted him to express his concerns regarding the timely submission of monthly Chapter 115 benefit payments and the filings for state reimbursement of the same. Mr. Kincaid confirmed that the required filings to initiate the state reimbursement process have not been submitted. He advised that the COLA that was granted in February 2022 has yet to be paid to the district's Chapter 115 benefit recipients.

Chairman Green drafted and submitted a letter to the Town of Monson opening the door to Monson's consideration of rejoining the Eastern Hampden County Veterans' Service District. Board members discuss this and other options, namely approaching the towns of Brimfield and Holland.

Ms. McNally inquired about the status of the potential for a retroactive reimbursement to the Town of Monson for the payment of benefits for former employees of the district. Board members had agreed to consult KP Law once Chairman Green has compiled all the facts related to this issue. Chairman Green advised that he has been in contact with Monson's treasurer and is waiting for documentation.

Position to be reposted immediately. Chairman Green to email the candidates.

**ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion by Mr. Valanzola; seconded by Ms. McNally; to adjourn the meeting at 10:58 am. Mr. Valanzola – yes; Ms. McNally – yes; Chairman Green – yes.***

Respectfully submitted,

*Pamela A. Leduc*

District Coordinator

DRAFT