

**THE EASTERN HAMPDEN COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING**  
**REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, September 20, 2023**

Members Present: Chairman Michael Valanzola; Ken Geromini; Tom Christensen  
*Others Present: Jason Burgener, VSO; Pamela Leduc, District Coordinator*

Chairman Valanzola called the meeting to order at 8:03 am.

**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."

**NEW BUSINESS**

Review and vote to approve the August 31, 2023 Regular Session Meeting Minutes

***Motion by Mr. Geromini; seconded by Mr. Christensen; to approve the August 31, 2023 Regular Session Meeting Minutes. Mr. Geromini – yes; Mr. Christensen – yes; Chairman Valanzola – yes.***

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

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

Jason Burgener, Veterans' Service Officer: The biannual recertification process is ongoing. A DAV representative will be meeting with VSO Burgener on the second Wednesday of each of the next few months to train and assist in the processing of federal VA disability claims on behalf of the district's veterans. VSO Burgener has been providing transportation for clients lacking an alternate transportation option. He has reached out to the cemetery commissions/veterans' graves officers in East Longmeadow, Hampden and Wales to confirm the total number of veterans buried in each community for the purpose of ordering Memorial Day flags. VSO Burgener informed the board that he has been addressing the district wide issue of inaccurate information (rank/DOB) on veteran grave markers as reported to him by family members. He will be attending the Western MA Veteran Service Officer Association (WMVSOA) meeting this afternoon in Lenox. VSO Burgener is conducting 7 home visits per week with clients in East Longmeadow and Hampden.

**ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion by Mr. Geromini; seconded by Mr. Christensen; to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 am. Mr. Geromini – yes; Mr. Christensen – yes; Chairman Valanzola – yes.***

Respectfully submitted,  
*Pamela A. Leduc*  
District Coordinator