

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 3:30PM 40 McMaster Street, Ballston Spa, NY Conference Room 1 Chair: Tom Richardson

Members:

C. Eric Butler Ed Kinowski Sandra Winney Mo Wright-VC

- I. Welcome and Attendance
- II. Approval of the minutes of the February 1, 2022 meeting.
- III. Veterans Service Office Report
- IV. Veterans Trust Fund Report
- V. Upcoming Honor Deceased Veterans Ceremonies
- VI. Discussion: Partnership with NYLEAP Post Critical Incident Seminar
- VII. Authorizing an MOU with NYS Division of Veteran Affairs for distribution of Fresh Connect Coupons to Veterans
- VIII. Other Business
 - IX. Adjournment



TO:	Steve Bulger, County Administrator Ridge Harris, Deputy County Administrator Michael Hartnett, County Attorney Therese Connolly, Clerk of the Board
CC:	Jason Kemper, Planning Director Bridget Rider, Deputy Clerk of the Board Matt Rose, Management Analyst Clare Giammusso, County Attorney's Office Audra Hedden, County Administrator's Office Stephanie Hodgson, Director of Finance
FROM	I: Frank McClement
DATE	: 4/5/2022
RE:	Veterans Service Office Report
COMN	MITTEE: Veterans
1.	Is a Resolution Required: YES or NO (If YES, please complete #2- #10) (If NO, skip to #10 and provide reason for bringing the item)
2.	Is a Budget Amendment needed: YES or (If yes, budget lines and impact must be provided)
3.	Are there Amendments to the Compensation Schedule: YES or NO (If yes, provide details)
4.	Specific details on what the resolution will authorize:
5.	Does this item require hiring a Vendors/Contractors: YES or NO a. Were bids/proposals solicited: b. Is the vendor/contractor a sole source: c. Commencement date of contract term: d. Termination of contract date: e. Contract renewal and term: f. Contact information:
	 g. Is the vendor/contractor an LLS, PLLC or partnership: h. State of vendor/contractor organization:
	h. State of vendor/contractor organization: i. Is this a renewal agreement: YES or NO
	j. Vendor/Contractor comment/remarks:



6.	Is this an annual housekeeping resolution: YES or NO (If yes, attach the last approved resolution)			
	a.	What were the terms of the prior resolution		
	ь.	Are the terms changing:		
	c.	What is the reason for the change in terms:		
7.	Is a new pos	ition being created: YES or NO		
	a.	Effective date		
	b.	Salary and grade		
8.	Is a new emi	ployee being hired: YES or NO		
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	и. b.	Salary and grade		
	c:	Appointed position:		
	d.	Term:		
9.	Is a grant be	ing accepted: TYES or NO		
	a.	Source of grant funding:		
	b.	Amount of grant:		
	c.	Purpose grant will be used for:		
	d.	Equipment and/or services being purchased with the grant:		
	e.	Time period grant covers:		
10.	Remarks/Re	asoning (Supporting documentation must be attached to this form):		

January - March 2022 - Veterans Committee Report

1. Veteran Service Officer Summary Report

- a. 123 New Claims assembled and submitted
- b. 76 Conducted scheduled appointments
- c. 57 Walk-In clients
- d. 13 DSS Referrals
- e. 3 Medicaid Referral

2. Veterans Events and Trainings Attended

- a. 1/10- Veterans Virtual Town Hall
- b. 1/10-TAP
- c. 1/19- VA VSO Teleconference
- d. 1/20- VA Pension Center Training
- e. 1/26- Capital Region Task Force Meeting
- f. 1/26- VA Compensation for Burn Pits Training
- g. 2/3- Securities and Exchange Commission Training
- h. 2/7-TAP
- i. 2/10- VA Virtual Town Hall
- i. 2/24- Virtual CVSOA Meeting
- k. 2/24-VA Recent Court Decisions Training
- I. 3/14- Veterans Virtual Town Hall
- m. 3/14- Herzog Law wills and Trusts Seminar
- n. 3/15- VA VSO Teams Meeting
- o. 3/21-TAP
- p. 3/22- VA Guide to VA Benefits for Caregivers Webinar
- q. 3/25- Job Fair
- r. 3/30 Veterans Naturalization Training

3. Saratoga County Veterans Transportation

a. 60 Van transportation provided Rides for Jan-March.

4. Veterans Trust Fund

a. Balance on hand of \$ 142043.66

5. Peer to Peer Summary

- a. Tuesdays: Coffee Night
- b. 1/8- Albany Fire Wolves Lacrosse Game
- c. 2/1-2/28- Find the love contest
- d. 2/26- Financial Wellness Class
- e. 3/24- Soul Shop Suicidal Awareness Training
- f. 3/25- Job Fair
- g. 3/30- Guitar Night



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CC:	Jason Kemper, Planning Director Bridget Rider, Deputy Clerk of the Board Matt Rose, Management Analyst Clare Giammusso, County Attorney's Office Audra Hedden, County Administrator's Office Stephanie Hodgson, Director of Finance
FROM	: Frank McClement
DATE	: 4/5/2022
RE:	Monthly Veterans Trust Fund Report
COMN	AITTEE: Veterans
1.	Is a Resolution Required: YES or NO (If YES, please complete #2- #10) (If NO, skip to #10 and provide reason for bringing the item)
2.	Is a Budget Amendment needed: YES or (If yes, budget lines and impact must be provided)
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	 f. Contact information: g. Is the vendor/contractor an LLS, PLLC or partnership: h. State of vendor/contractor organization: i. Is this a renewal agreement: YES or NO j. Vendor/Contractor comment/remarks:



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7.	Is a new position being created: YES or NO a. Effective date b. Salary and grade
8.	Is a new employee being hired: YES or NO a. Effective date of employment b. Salary and grade c: Appointed position: d. Term:
9.	Is a grant being accepted: YES or NO a. Source of grant funding: b. Amount of grant: c. Purpose grant will be used for: d. Equipment and/or services being purchased with the grant: e. Time period grant covers:
10.	Remarks/Reasoning (Supporting documentation must be attached to this form): Regular Veterans Trust Fund Report to BOS Veterans Committee

VETERANS TRUST FUND

DATE	TRANSACTION DESCRIPTION	DISE	URSEMENTS		DEPOSITS	ACTU	AL BALANCE
		1					
10/5/2021	All Pro - John Dalton Emergency Disbursement	\$	1,250.00			\$	116,151.70
		<u> </u>				<u> </u>	
	MONTH TOTAL: OCTOBER 2021	\$	1,250.00	2	•	\$	116,151.70
			010.50			S	115,938.92
11/1/2021	AT&T - Caroline Chisham Emergency Disbursement	\$	212.78 584.51	-		\$	115,354.41
	M&T Bank - Caroline Chisham Emergency Disbursement	13	304.31	-		3	110,000,000
11/9/2021	Reds Roll Off - John White Emergency Disbursement	\$	750.00	_		S	114,604.41
11/9/2021		+				1	
11/9/2021	Town of Greenfield Donation			\$	3,000.00	8	117,604.41
1	2012 0. 0.0001000 0.0001000						
	MONTH TOTAL: NOVEMBER 2021	\$	1,547.29	\$	3,000.00	\$	117,604.41
						Ī	
12/16/2021	Frank McClement - Gift Card Purchases	\$	3,000.00			\$	114,604.41
				L			
12/23/2021	Spirit of Life Church, Corinth Donation			\$	300.00	\$	114,904.41
				_		-	114 046 12
12/31/2021	Interest April - December 2021			\$	41.71	12	114,946.12
	I CONTINUE TO THE TOTAL TO THE ROOM	S	3,000.00	-	341.71	10	114,946.12
	MONTH TOTAL: DECEMBER 2021	+	3,000.00	1 9	<u> </u>	+	111,010.15
	MONTH TOTAL: JANUARY 2022	\$	•	S	•	<u> </u>	114,946.12
	MONTH TOTAL: JANOART 2022	-		1		1	
12/31/2021	Reallocation of unspent 2021 Honoring Veteran's Grant Funds per Bd Res 339-2021			\$	27,264.24	8	142,210.36
123112021	Reallocation of mispein 2021 Honoring Voteran's Chain I amas per Da 100 357-2021	+		 		1	
1/26/2022	Rich's Route 50 Service Center - Bernard Rodgers Emergency Disbursement	8	566.70			\$	141,643.66
2/18/2022	HVCC Donation IMO Richard Lucas Sr.			\$	50.00	\$	141,693.66
	MONTH TOTAL: FEBRUARY 2022	\$	566.70	\$	27,314.24	\$	141,693.66
3/11/2022	Operation Adopt a Soldier - IMO Red Lucas			\$	100.00	\$	141,793.66
			····	\		 	140 640 22
3/22/2022	Terri Heritage - IMO Thomas Harrington			\$	250.00	12	142,043.66
	LIVONITY MOMAY. MANORY 2022			S	350.00	1 8	142,043.66
	MONTH TOTAL: MARCH 2022	\$		1 3	330.00	 	172,073.00
TOTAL		\$	107,550.58	100	249,594.24	18	142,043.66
TOTALS		1 3	10/2020	ι Ψ	art 2 go 2 7 hart	, w	A-12,0-10-10-0

032022_MAR_2022 Vets Trust Fund Report.xls 3/29/2022



TO:	Steve Bulger, County Administrator Ridge Harris, Deputy County Administrator Michael Hartnett, County Attorney Therese Connolly, Clerk of the Board
CC:	Jason Kemper, Planning Director Bridget Rider, Deputy Clerk of the Board Matt Rose, Management Analyst Clare Giammusso, County Attorney's Office Audra Hedden, County Administrator's Office Stephanie Hodgson, Director of Finance
FROM	: Frank McClement
DATE	: 4/5/2022
RE:	Upcoming Honor Deceased Veterans Ceremonies
COM	AITTEE: Veterans
1.	Is a Resolution Required: YES or NO (If YES, please complete #2- #10) (If NO, skip to #10 and provide reason for bringing the item)
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	-



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	c:	Appointed position:			
	d.	Term:			
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	a. L				
	b.	Amount of grant:			
	C.	Purpose grant will be used for:			
	d.	Equipment and/or services being purchased with the grant:			
	е.	Time period grant covers:			
10.	Remarks/Re	asoning (Supporting documentation must be attached to this form):			
		der to the BOS, upcoming Honor Deceased Veterans Ceremonies to be			

Upcoming Honor Deceased Veterans Ceremonies

Month	Town/City	Veteran Submitted
April	Town of Malta	Doris and John Principe- Korea
May	Town of Stillwater	Lawrence "Rex" Carney
June	Waterford	TBD
July	Corinth	TBD
August	Mechanicville	Chris Scambati



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FROM	I: Frank McClement
DATE	: 4/5/2022
RE:	For Discussion: Partnership with NYLEAP- Post Critical Incident Seminar
COMN	AITTEE: Veterans
1.	Is a Resolution Required: YES or NO (If YES, please complete #2- #10) (If NO, skip to #10 and provide reason for bringing the item)
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10.	Remarks/Reasoning (Supporting documentation must be attached to this form):
	Discussion with Director McClement and Dr. Michael Prezioso, Saratoga County OMH regarding partnership with NYLEAP to host Veterans at a Post Critical Incident Seminar



TO:

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FROM	I: Frank McClement	
DATE	: 4/5/22	
RE:	NYS Fresh Connect Checks MOU	
COM	MITTEE: Veterans	
1.	Is a Resolution Required: YES or NO (If YES, please complete #2- #10) (If NO, skip to #10 and provide reason for bringing the item)	
2.	Is a Budget Amendment needed: YES or (If yes, budget lines and impact must be provided)	
3.	Are there Amendments to the Compensation Schedule: YES or (If yes, provide details)	
4.	Specific details on what the resolution will authorize: Frank McClement and Staff to distribute NYS Division of Veteran Affairds Fresh Connect coupons.	
5.	Does this item require hiring a Vendors/Contractors: a. Were bids/proposals solicited: b. Is the vendor/contractor a sole source: c. Commencement date of contract term: d. Termination of contract date: e. Contract renewal and term: f. Contact information: g. Is the vendor/contractor an LLS, PLLC or partnership: h. State of vendor/contractor organization: i. Is this a renewal agreement: YES or NO Vendor/Contractor comment/remarks:	



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	и. b.	Amount of grant:			
	о. С.	Purpose grant will be used for:			
	d.	Equipment and/or services being purchased with the grant:			
	e.	Time period grant covers:			
0.	Remarks/Re	easoning (Supporting documentation must be attached to this form):			
	A resolution Affairs, for	on needed for Frank McClement to sign MOU with NYS Division of Veteran distribution of Fresh Connect Coupons to Veterans			



March 18, 2022

Frank McClement
Director
Saratoga County Veteran Service Agency
2144 Doubleday Avenue
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

RE: DVS FreshConnect Checks MOU

Dear Director McClement:

This letter establishes an agreement between the New York State Division of Veterans' Services (DVS) and the Saratoga County Veteran Services Agency (County VSA) through which DVS will provide vouchers known as "New York State FreshConnect Checks" ("vouchers") for Veterans, Servicemembers, and their immediate family members to use at farmers markets and farm stands within New York State.

As used within this agreement and the corresponding program, the term "Veteran" means an individual who served in the active military, naval, or air service of the United States, or in any National Guard or other Reserve military force of the United States.

As used within this agreement and the corresponding program, the term "Servicemember" means an individual presently serving in the active military, naval, or air service of the United States, or in any National Guard or other Reserve military force of the United States.

As used within this agreement and the corresponding program, the term "immediate family members" means the spouse or domestic partner, child, sibling, or parent of a Veteran or Servicemember. Additionally, an un-remarried surviving spouse of a Veteran, as defined in Title 38 of the United States Code, shall qualify as an immediate family member.

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM) shall issue two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) worth of vouchers for the above-stated purpose to DVS. DVS will determine the division of these vouchers between DVS offices and County VSA offices after the number of County VSA participants is determined. Each voucher shall be a bearer instrument containing a unique serial number. Each voucher shall be worth two dollars (\$2) at any participating farmers' market or farm stand within New York State. NYSDAM lists, provided to DVS and the County VSA in April 2022, shall detail all the farmers' markets and farm stands participating in the Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) available as of that month.

NYSDAM shall use all reasonable best efforts to train all participating farmers markets and farm stands regarding the criteria for this program and the advantages of accepting these vouchers from Veterans, Servicemembers, and their immediate family members. NYSDAM shall respond to questions arising if Veterans, Servicemembers, and their immediate family members experience problems using vouchers at participating farmers markets and farm stands.

The County VSA shall use all reasonable best efforts to promote this program to all interested parties, including, but not limited to, farmers market vendors, farm stand operators and other market participants; Veterans, Servicemembers, and their immediate family members; and sources of public information widely available to these parties.

The County VSA shall notify DVS of its decision to participate in the FreshConnect Checks program no later than April 1, 2022.

DVS shall determine the allocation of vouchers no later than April 8, 2022. DVS shall provide that allocation to NYSDAM no later than April 15, 2022.

NYSDAM and DVS shall provide a training webinar via Webex to the County VSA on April 26, 2022 at 1 pm about the purpose and methods of this program. Please register at https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/i.php?RGID=rb3308ed124d5f57c03a0c47f5b21033e

NYSDAM shall ship vouchers to the County VSA office in May 2022 and the County VSA must confirm via email to NYSDAM their receipt of these vouchers.

After sending email confirmation to NYSDAM, the County VSA shall distribute these vouchers to Veterans, Servicemembers and their immediate family members. Each recipient shall receive ten (10) vouchers from the issuing State Veterans Benefits Advisor or county partner. DVS and county partners shall distribute these vouchers to recipients on a first-come, first-served basis. The County VSA shall provide via email to NYSDAM a list of all voucher distribution sites.

The County VSA shall have each recipient who is issued vouchers complete a "FreshConnect Voucher Packet Request and Acceptance Form." On this same form, the County VSA shall record the date when distributing ten (10) vouchers to a recipient, the range of serial numbers in every 10 vouchers distributed to the recipient, the site of issuance, and the name of the County VSA employee who issued the vouchers.

The County VSA shall keep the originals available for inspection by an auditor for a period of at least seven years from the last day of this agreement. Additionally, at the end of this program, the County VSA shall return to NYSDAM any vouchers not distributed to Veterans, Servicemembers, and their immediate family members. NYSDAM shall hold harmless the County VSA, its officers, directors, and employees for any unused vouchers not returned to NYSDAM at the end of the program term.

The County VSA, NYSDAM, and DVS agree that the term of this program will run from May 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022. The County VSA understands that this program shall terminate on December

31, 2022. However, NYSDAM and DVS leave open the possibility of renewing this program at a later date upon their mutual consent. This agreement shall not terminate before December 31, 2022, without a revised written agreement between the County VSA and DVS stating a new termination date.

Each party to this agreement warrants that it has the right to enter into this agreement and grant the rights that it has granted herein. Each party agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the other party from all claims, damages, costs, liabilities, losses and expenses it may suffer as result of the other party's breach of warranty. Nothing in this letter shall create or give to third parties any right of action against the County VSA, NYSDAM or DVS beyond such rights that may legally exist despite this agreement.

This agreement shall become effective on the date it is signed by the latter of the two parties. If not signed by one party within ten (10) business days of the other party's signature, then this letter of agreement shall not become effective.

This letter constitutes the entire agreement between the County VSA and DVS. No waiver, change, or modification from the terms contained in this letter is valid or binding unless agreed to in writing and signed by NYSDAM and DVS.

Signatories:

\sim \sim \sim \sim \sim		
	Frank McClement	
Viviana DeCohen	Director Saratoga County Veteran Service Agency	
Director New York State Division of Veterans' Services		
	Date:	
Date:3/21/2022		