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**COUNTY OF SULLIVAN**  
VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY  
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## VETERANS COMMITTEE

April 12, 2012 – 2:30 p.m.

Committee Members: Benson, Edwards, LaBuda, Steingart, and Sorensen

### AGENDA

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- Public Comment
- Opening Remarks – Gene Benson, Chairman
  - Creation of a Veterans Services Officer position in the Veterans Service Agency
- Commanders' Reports – Veterans Service Organizations
- Director's Report
  - Resolution – Introduced By The Veterans Committee To Clarify The Base Rates For Indigent Burials
  - Discussion of "Mountains of Peace Project" – Luiz Aragon, Director - County Planning
  - Veterans GPS Home Program
  - Memorial Day – Monday, May 28, 2012 – 1:00 p.m. – Request that all County Commanders/Post Commanders Email or Mail our office as soon as possible with their Post's scheduled event for Memorial Day
  - Volunteers to place flags at the Sullivan County Veterans Cemetery for Memorial Day
  - Honor Flight from Orange County Veterans -- Trip to Washington, DC – May 8, 2012
- Public Comment

VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY REPORT

April 12, 2012

1. Veterans transported to V.A. Medical Centers:

	<u>Albany</u>	<u>Castle Point</u>
January	54	204
February	41	205

2. Veterans/Dependents buried in Sullivan County Veterans Cemetery through February 29, 2012:

Veterans buried alone. . . . .	999
Spouses buried alone. . . . .	51
Veterans/spouses. . . . .	270
Dependent children. . . . .	1
<b>Total burials in Veterans Cemetery . . . . .</b>	<b>1,321</b>

3. Contacts:

January. . . . .	240
February. . . . .	211

New Vets

January. . . . .	7
February. . . . .	4

4. Homeless Veterans:

January. . . . .	14
February. . . . .	14

**RESOLUTION-2012 INTRODUCED BY THE VETERANS COMMITTEE TO CLARIFY THE BASE RATES FOR INDIGENT BURIALS**

**WHEREAS**, the Sullivan County (“County”) needs to establish rates and limits on the amount of money that can be spent on indigent burials; and

**WHEREAS**, the County is required by New York State Social Services Law 141 to provide a burial for indigent people; and

**WHEREAS**, the County’s Department of Social Services provides for a burial when temporary assistance recipient or other indigent person dies leaving no funds or insurance sufficient to pay the costs and there are no relatives, friends, or other persons liable (pursuant to Section 101 of the Social Service Law) or willing to take responsibility for the burial expenses; and

**WHEREAS**, if money is spent above the limits established herein, the burial is not an indigent burial and the County of Sullivan is prohibited from paying any money towards the funeral cost.

**WHEREAS**, the related rates and limits are set forth in the attached schedule of charges; and

**WHEREAS**, the same rates and policy shall apply to the County’s Veterans Agency who provides burials for our veterans.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the attached schedule establishes and clarifies the County’s rates and limits on the amount of money that can be spent on indigent burials retroactive to January 2012.

**Moved by** \_\_\_\_\_,  
**Seconded by** \_\_\_\_\_,  
**and adopted on motion** \_\_\_\_\_, 2012

## SULLIVAN COUNTY'S POLICY FOR ADULT BURIALS

### Included in the Base Rate \$2,800.00:

- Local transfer to funeral home
- Embalming (if requested) and other preparations including but not limited to dressing/casketing
- Clothes, if needed
- Basic arrangements, staff and supervision
- Maximum of 2 hours of visitation on the same day of the funeral service (if requested)
- Obituary Notice in local newspaper
- Minimum prayer cards and register book
- Transfer to a local cemetery/crematory
- Minimum casket (cloth covered pressboard casket with crepe interior, plain pine traditional casket, or minimum steel casket with crepe interior) depending on the particular cemetery requirements.
- Crematory charges or grave opening, whichever is applicable
- Purchase of a new grave, if required

These may be in addition to the base rate of \$2,800- subject to proper documentation; however in no event will the total cost exceed 3,200:

- Outer interment receptacle, if required- Actual expense with a maximum cap of \$400
- Out of County transport rate of reimbursement for mileage will be \$2.00 per loaded mile from pick up to point of destination within the County. This expenditure is capped at a maximum of \$150.00
- Oversized casket- Up to an Additional \$400
- Winter or weather-related cemetery charges or cemetery receiving vault- Actual expenses with a maximum cap of \$200

## SULLIVAN COUNTY'S POLICY FOR ADULT DIRECT BURIALS/CREMATIONS

- In the event the service is a direct burial or direct cremation the County sets the maximum payment for this service at \$2,000.

## SULLIVAN COUNTY'S POLICY FOR INDIGENT CHILD FUNERALS

- Children from Stillborn to 12-years old - \$800
- Children 12-years old and older are treated as an adult reimbursement