

**The Minutes of the 514th Meeting
of the ROCK TOWNSHIP AMBULANCE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
August 26, 2020**

OPEN MEETING:

The 514th regular monthly meeting of the Rock Township Ambulance District Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Ruzicka at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26, 2020. The meeting was conducted at House #4.

ROLL CALL:

Directors and Administrative Personnel – Secretary Christy Gay conducted a roll call of those in attendance. In addition to herself, Chairperson Lynne Ruzicka, Vice-Chairman Mark Paul, Director Paul Horn, Director Lindsay Sleet, Director Jeremy Day, Chief Jerry Appleton, Deputy Chief Sheila Buchheit, Deputy Chief Andrew West, Office Manager Jennifer Ello, Mr. Mark Bishop, Legal Counsel for the District, and Mr. Rick Rognan, Treasurer for the District, were all present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

VISITORS AND GUESTS:

Acknowledgement – Chairperson Ruzicka welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Public Comments – There were none.

MINUTES:

Approval of the 513th Meeting Minutes from July 22, 2020 – Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to approve the last meeting minutes as presented. Director Day seconded.

There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0.

FINANCIALS:

July 2020 Treasurer's Report – Mr. Rognan reviewed the income and expenses from July. He reported that the District is 1.28% (approximately \$83,000.00) over budget as of July 31, 2020. He provided an overview of COVID-19 funding stipulations, County property re-assessments, and interest rates. He then continued with a detailed review of expenditures contained in the Treasurer's Report. A brief discussion ensued.

Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, to pay all bills, and to approve all payroll expenditures. Director Sleet seconded.

There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed by majority, 5 to 1, with Director Horn voting, "Nay."

COMMUNICATIONS:

Chief's Comments – Chief Appleton reported the following:

Call volume is up; it came back with a vengeance. Unscheduled overtime is high, due in part, to the shortage of part-time Paramedics.

Board training has been canceled due to Covid-19. Discussion occurred about the District sponsoring Board training on site.

The new Lucas 3 devices have arrived and are "in-service."

The ambulance was sold for \$11,550.00. The new owner has already taken possession of it and it is off the District's books.

The crews were able to get anthrax vaccines through Washington University.

Representative Dan Shaw will be at the District tomorrow to discuss issues regarding Covid-19.

The foundation and utilities are going in at the Arnold site. Equipment is at the ready at the Fenton site. They are still waiting on the electric and sewer to be capped.

Chief Appleton read a letter that was received from Joachim-Plattin Ambulance District (JPAD). They commended our Paramedics (Ms. Katherine McClune, Mr. Andrew West, and Ms. Ashley Denman) for their outstanding efforts and thanked them for their care and assistance during JPAD's recent motor vehicle accident involving their ambulance crew.

Review Completed Patient Surveys – The Directors reviewed the surveys that were returned.

Union Business-Shop Steward, Ashley Denman – Ms. Denman said that the shop was starting to work on negotiations and is looking forward to working with the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

CARES Act/Covid 19 Funding – Chief Appleton explained that Jefferson County received twenty-six million dollars from the Federal Government, for Covid-19 funding. It has yet to disburse any of the funds to the schools, EMS, Health Department, etc. The County has developed a process, similar to applying for a grant, for entities to apply for Covid-19 funding. RTAD formed a committee which has been working on developing a list of supplies. Mr. Bishop has corresponded with the County regarding the process. The District will provide documentation to Mr. Bishop who will prepare a Resolution for the Board to consider. The deadline set by the County is October 5th. Mr. Bishop has recommended that the District submit its documentation two weeks prior to the deadline. Discussion occurred regarding some of the equipment that the District needs and is considering. The group discussed holding a Special Board Meeting, via the internet, on September 16th, to accommodate the submission timeframe.

Preliminary Tax Rate Discussion – Prepare for Public Hearing – Mr. Rognan reviewed the assessed valuation from the County. The resulting preliminary tax rate for 2020 is \$.2044, which is less than the 2019 rate. Discussion ensued regarding the District's voter approved tax rate, tax rate ceiling, and discrepancies found regarding the State of Missouri's collection rate. Chief Appleton located a nine-cent voter approved tax increase, from 1987, which is not being collected. The District has been in touch with the State regarding the discrepancy. The District will wait to publish the Public Hearing Notice until the State has completed its investigation of the matter.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Acknowledgement of employee promotion and service – Chief Appleton announced the following service anniversaries for August:

Full-Time: Mr. Michael Moormann, Paramedic, three (3) years; Mr. Jon Muller, Paramedic/Lieutenant, five (5) years; Mr. Andrew West, Paramedic/Deputy Chief, ten (10) years; Mr. Patrick DeClue, Paramedic/Crew Chief, sixteen (16) years; Ms. Pam Maness, Paramedic/Crew Chief, sixteen (16) years, and Ms. Kym Bartlett, Paramedic, sixteen (16) years.

There were no Part-Time anniversaries for August.

Trends and Statistics – Mr. Ian Ross, Paramedic, presented the group with statistics regarding the District's Call Volume. His presentation included a breakdown of call volume per truck, per house, etc. The Board thanked Mr. Ross for his work on the project and his presentation of the data.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

Secretary Gay inquired to Ms. Ello about the billing company. Ms. Ello responded with two thumbs up.

Vice-Chairman Paul thanked everyone "out there" for the job they are doing.

Director Sleet thanked everyone.

Director Day stated that he loves to investigate (tax issue) and offered his assistance to Chief Appleton.

Director Horn was appreciative of the statistical data that was presented. He also inquired about new ambulances. Chief Appleton replied that two (2) ambulances are on the replacement schedule for 2021. Director Horn inquired about the duty vehicle assignments. Chief Appleton provided, "7000-Chief; 7002-Crew Chiefs; 7003-Deputy Chief Buchheit; and 7004-Deputy Chief West." Director Horn then inquired about the trees located next to House #3. Chief Appleton reported that the property with the trees is for sale.


NEXT MEETING:

The Board will hold a Special Meeting, via internet, on Wednesday, September 16, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting was set for Wednesday, September 23, 2020, immediately following a 6:00 p.m. Public Hearing, at House #4.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Day motioned to adjourn. Vice-Chairman Paul seconded.

A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0, at 7:36 p.m.



Christy Gay - Secretary of the Board



Board approved, signed, and sealed on: 9-23-20