

**The Minutes of the 530th Meeting
of the ROCK TOWNSHIP AMBULANCE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
December 22, 2021**

OPEN MEETING:

The 530th regular monthly meeting of the Rock Township Ambulance District Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Lynne Ruzicka at 6:01p.m. on Wednesday, December 22, 2021. The meeting was conducted at House #4.

ROLL CALL:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS AND GUESTS:

Acknowledgement – Chairperson Ruzicka welcomed everyone.

Public Comments – There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairperson Ruzicka made a motion to enter into a closed session with a closed vote and closed record for the purpose of approval of Executive Session Minutes from December 1st and December 7th, for labor contract discussions and personnel, and consultation with counsel to discuss possible litigation, pursuant to Section 610.021 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri. Vice-Chairman Paul seconded the motion.

There being no discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows: Chairperson Ruzicka, “Yes.”; Vice-Chairman Paul, “Yes.”; Secretary Day, “Yes.”; Director Gay, “No.”; Director Sleet, “Yes.”; and Director Mueller, “No.” The motion passed by majority, 4 to 2.

The Board left open session at 6:03p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:25 p.m.

MINUTES:

Approval of the 529th Meeting Minutes from December 1, 2021 –Director Gay motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Secretary Day seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0.

Approval of the Work Session Minutes from December 7, 2021 – Director Gay motioned to approve the work session minutes as presented. Secretary Day seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0, with Director Sleet abstaining.

FINANCIALS:

November 2021 Treasurer’s Report – Mr. Rognan reviewed the November financial report. The District is approximately \$158,000.00, over budget at this time due to Covid Relief funds being received in 2020 and not used until 2021. Revenues and Expenses were then reviewed.

Director Gay 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 unanimously, 6 to 0.

Cancelation Report Summary – The Directors reviewed the detailed report which represented December assignments to the collection agency by EMS/MC. There were 163 accounts, from 2020 and 2021, totaling \$87,484.64.

Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to approve the Cancelation Report Summary. Director Mueller seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Chief's Comments – Chief Appleton reported the following:

2021 had a lot of unknowns, everyone did the best they could and everyone worked their tails off. He is looking forward to making 2022 better. He is proud of everyone at the District and extended a "Thank You!" to everyone.

The two (2) new ambulances are ready and we should take delivery after the first of the year. The two (2) oldest ambulances will then be sold.

Review Completed Patient Surveys – There were none.

Union Business-Shop Steward, Ashley Denman – Ms. Denman thanked the Board for working with the Shop.

Additional Item – Chairperson Ruzicka made a motion to amend the Agenda to discuss New Business before Old Business. Director Mueller seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0

NEW BUSINESS:

Property and Casualty Insurance Renewal – Chief Appleton explained that Mr. Tony Becker had to leave the meeting but is still working on obtaining a proposal from Security Insurance. However, the renewal proposal from VFIS has been received. The premium is \$167,815.00 for 2022. Discussion ensued.

Vice-Chairman Paul made a motion to accept the renewal proposal from VFIS and to authorize Chief Appleton to executive the agreement. Director Day seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0.

2022 Ambulance Fees Increase – Chief Appleton is recommending increasing ambulance fees by 5.4% due to the 5.4% increase by CMN. In addition, the District did not increase ambulance fees in 2021.

Director Gay made a motion to increase ambulance fees as proposed effective with January 1, 2022, dates of service. Director Mueller seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0.

Additional Item – Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to add the topic of Litigation Discussion and Vote to the Agenda. Chairperson Ruzicka seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0.

Litigation Discussion and Vote – Vice-Chairman Paul made a motion authorizing the payment of the judgement in the case of the City of Arnold versus Rock Township Ambulance District (Cause #14JE-CC00980) in the amount of \$1,942,992.90. Director Mueller seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0.

OLD BUSINESS:

2022 Budget – Chief Appleton explained that this budget is what was presented at the work session that was held on December 20, 2021.

Vice-Chairman Paul made a motion to approve the 2022 Budget as proposed. Director Mueller seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

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

Full-Time: Ms. Kate Reed, Lieutenant/Paramedic, three (3) years; and Ms. Mary Anne Cody, Paramedic, thirteen (13) years.

There were no Part-Time anniversaries in December.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

The Directors gave thanks to everyone for all they do and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

NEXT MEETING:

The Board set the next monthly meeting for Wednesday, January 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at House #4.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairperson Ruzicka motioned to adjourn. Director Gay seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0, at 7:49 p.m.



Jeremy Day - Secretary of the Board

Board approved, signed, and sealed on: _____

