

**The Minutes of the 536<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
of the ROCK TOWNSHIP AMBULANCE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
June 22, 2022**

***OPEN MEETING:***

The 536<sup>th</sup> regular monthly meeting of the Rock Township Ambulance District Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Lynne Ruzicka at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 22, 2022. 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 Lindsay Sleet, Director Tara Mueller, Director Andrew West, Chief Jerry Appleton, Deputy Chief Sheila Buchheit, Deputy Chief Josh Hemmelman, Office Manager Jennifer Ello, Mr. Mark Bishop, Legal Counsel for the District, and Mr. Rick Rognan, Treasurer for the District, were all present. Chief Training Officer Corey Golec was not expected to attend.

***PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:***

The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

***VISITORS AND GUESTS:***

Acknowledgement – Chairperson Ruzicka welcomed everyone.

Public Comments – There were none.

***MINUTES:***

Approval of the 535<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes from May 25, 2022 – Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Director West seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed by majority, 5 to 0, with Director Sleet abstaining.

***FINANCIALS:***

May 2022 Treasurer's Report – Mr. Rognan reported on the finances of the District. The District is .25% over budget, approximately \$19,000.00, as of the end of May. Revenues and Expenditures were reviewed. General discussion occurred regarding preliminary tax rates, interest rates, bids for banking services and investments, and legislation regarding the Wayfair tax. A lengthy group discussion ensued regarding the Wayfair tax.

Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, to pay all bills, and to approve all payroll expenditures. Secretary Day seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0.

Cancellation Report Summary – The Directors reviewed the detailed report which represented June assignments to the collection agency by EMS/MC. There were 169 accounts, from 2020, 2021, and 2022, totaling \$92,616.72.

Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to approve the Cancellation 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:

He enjoyed his recent vacation and thanked everyone for stepping up in his absence.

The transition to the health and welfare fund with Assured Partners is going well. UHC has not been helpful. They will only agree to providing one report of the members' deductibles to the trust.

Review Completed Patient Surveys – The Directors reviewed a patient survey.

Union Business-Shop Steward, Ashley Denman – Ms. Denman had nothing to present.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

House #2 Retention Basin/Water Diversion Proposal – Chief Appleton reported that Mr. Jerrod Jokerst, FGM Architect, just received the proposals back from engineering and there are errors. Chief Appleton requested that the item be tabled until the July meeting.

Secretary Day made a motion to table this item until the July meeting. Vice-Chairman Paul seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0.

Service Animals – A Preliminary Introduction – Chief Appleton explained that the use of service animals has been being discussed for several years, for both patients and employees alike. Everyone is excited and would like to introduce the idea to the Directors before a policy is drafted for their consideration.

Ms. Ashley Denman, and her service dog, Draco, addressed the group. Ms. Denman explained the rigorous program required for certified service dogs and gave a demonstration on how Draco can assist someone in need. She also spoke of the calming effect, and positive interaction, that Draco has on others.

Deputy Chief Hemmelman presented data regarding suicide risks, PTSD, and similar conditions that have been helped by service animals. Other benefits would be integrating them into public relations events and sharing them with other agencies in need. The goal would be to eliminate silent suffering.

The group discussed the topic. The Directors requested that a policy be drafted and forwarded to Mr. Bishop for review.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Treat, No Transport (TNT) Rate Increase – Chief Appleton reported that Missouri Medicaid is increasing the allowable payment amount for Treat, No Transports (Code A0998) from \$152.00 to \$252.00, beginning July 1, 2022. A brief discussion occurred.

Chairperson Ruzicka motioned to increase the ambulance fee for a Treat, No Transport, Code A0998, to \$252.00, effective for date of service July 1, 2022. Director West 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 June:

Full-Time: Ms. Nichole Stevison, Paramedic, one (1) year; Ms. Chynna Tame, Paramedic, two (2) years; Mr. Josue Murillo, Paramedic, two (2) years; Mr. Terry Machisen, Paramedic/Crew Chief, twenty-two (22) years; and Mr. Nick Farrel, Paramedic/Chaplain, twenty-four (24) years.

There were no Part-Time anniversaries for June.

**CLOSING COMMENTS:**

Vice-Chairman Paul hoped everyone stayed safe, cool and hydrated during the heat.

Chairperson Ruzicka wanted everyone to keep up the good work and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Director Mueller wished everyone a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The Board set the next monthly meeting for Wednesday, July 27, 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. Vice-Chairman Paul seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 6 to 0, at 6:53 p.m.

  
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Jeremy Day - Secretary of the Board

Board approved, signed, and sealed on this date: 7/27/2022

