

**The Minutes of the 528th Meeting
of the ROCK TOWNSHIP AMBULANCE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
October 27, 2021**

OPEN MEETING:

The 528th regular monthly meeting of the Rock Township Ambulance District Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Lynne Ruzicka at 6:05 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27, 2021. The meeting was conducted at House #4.

ROLL CALL:

Directors and Administrative Personnel – Director Lindsay Sleet conducted a roll call of those in attendance. In addition to herself, Chairperson Lynne Ruzicka, Vice-Chairman Mark Paul, Director Christy Gay, Chief Jerry Appleton, 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. Director Tara Mueller participated audio visually. Secretary Jeremy Day was absent.

Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to excuse Secretary Day. Chairperson Ruzicka seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS AND GUESTS:

Acknowledgement – Chairperson Ruzicka thanked everyone for attending.

Public Comments – There were none.

Additional Item – Chairperson Ruzicka motioned to move the order of business to Item #1 under New Business. Director Gay seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Health Insurance Proposal – Mr. David McKinney – Mr. David McKinney of Custom Insurance Services addressed the group regarding insurance proposals and rates for the 2022 renewals. Dental insurance rates, with Guardian, will remain the same until January 1, 2023. Life, STD, & LTD insurance rates, with the Standard, will remain the same until January 1, 2024. United Healthcare is proposing an approximate 7% rate increase to the District's current health insurance plan. Discussion occurred.

Vice-Chairman Paul made a motion to accept the renewal proposal from United Healthcare and to authorize Chief Appleton to execute all documents needed for the renewal. Director Sleet seconded. There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows: Chairperson Ruzicka, "Yes."; Vice-Chairman Paul, "Yes."; Director Gay, "Yes."; Director Sleet, "Yes."; and Director Mueller, "Yes." The motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

The meeting returned to the regular order of business.

MINUTES:

Approval of the 527th Meeting Minutes from September 22, 2021 – Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Director Gay seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

FINANCIALS:

September 2021 Treasurer's Report – Mr. Rognan reviewed the September financial report. Revenues and Expenses were reviewed. He reiterated that the overage is due to Covid relief funds received in 2020 and then spent 2021.

Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, to pay all bills, and to approve all payroll expenditures. Director Gay seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

Cancelation Report Summary – The Directors reviewed the detailed report which represented October assignments to the collection agency by EMS/MC. There were 184 accounts, from 2020 and 2021, totaling \$108,537.05.

Vice-Chairman Paul motioned to approve the Cancelation Report Summary. Director Sleet seconded. There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Chief's Comments – Chief Appleton reported the following:

The District has had a busy month with meetings, projects, etc.

Chief Appleton thanked everyone for attending the House #1 open house.

The City of Arnold is requiring trees and shrubs to be planted at the 1800 Lonedell Road property before the sale. Closing is scheduled for mid-November.

The sale of old House #2, 4537 Hwy 21, is complete.

There are only a few minor items needing attention at new House #1.

Additional delays have occurred with new House #2 but we should be moving in next week.

The District is reviewing data to ensure the proper location for a new House #3.

Chief Appleton is continuing to meet with other agencies regarding a joint facility for House #5. A group discussion occurred.

District personnel will be meeting with Mr. Rognan tomorrow for a budget meeting.

Review Completed Patient Surveys – The Directors reviewed several Patient Surveys that was returned.

Union Business-Shop Steward, Ashley Denman – Ms. Denman thanked the Board for renewing the health insurance plan.

OLD BUSINESS:

Part-Time Pay Scale – Chief Appleton expressed the necessity of having and retaining part-time Paramedics on our staff. He is suggesting raising the starting hourly pay to \$18.00 per hour, topping out at \$20.00 per hour after years of service to the District. This will enable the District to staff a 12-hour truck during peak times. A group discussion ensued.

Vice-Chairman Paul made a motion to approve the new part-time Paramedic pay scale as presented. Director Sleet seconded. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Capital 2021 – Stair Chair – Chief Appleton reported that procuring new stair chairs is the last big medical equipment purchase that is scheduled. He then explained what a stair chair is and its purpose. One of the District's current stair chairs was demonstrated for the members of the Board.

The District obtained two (2) bids for stair chairs (there are only two models that are correct for use in EMS): the Ferno Model 59-T EZ-Glide was bid by Feld Fire for \$3,683.44 each; and the Stryker Model 6252 Stair-PRO was bid through the Savvik Buying Group for \$3,361.60 each. The District is recommending purchasing ten (10) Stryker stair chairs for \$33,616.00, which includes a preventative maintenance plan. Discussion occurred.

Vice-Chairman Paul made a motion authorizing Chief Appleton to enter into an agreement with Stryker to purchase 10 Stryker stair chairs for \$33,616.00. Director Mueller seconded. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Acknowledgement of employee promotion and service – Chief Appleton announced the promotion of Mr. Corey Golec, Paramedic, to Chief Training Officer. The group congratulated Mr. Golec.

He also reported the reclassification, from part-time to full-time, of Mr. T.J. Nichols, Paramedic, Mr. Rich Parks, Paramedic, and Ms. Alison Holke, Paramedic.

Chief Appleton then announced the following service anniversaries for October:

Full-Time: Mr. Milton Cook, EMT, thirty-eight (38) years; and Ms. Lara Eppel, Paramedic, thirty-three (33) years.

There were no Part-Time anniversaries in October.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

Director Sleet thanked everyone for all they do.

Vice-Chairman Paul echoed Director Sleet's comment.

Ms. Lara Eppel thanked the Directors for giving her Covid sick pay back.

Director Gay wished the District good luck at the Apple Butter Festival.

NEXT MEETING:

The Board discussed changing the date and the time of the next regular monthly meeting. The Board set the next monthly meeting for Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 5:30 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, 5 to 0, at 7:13 p.m.



Jeremy Day - Secretary of the Board



Board approved, signed, and sealed on: 12-1-21