



# STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY AMBULANCE DISTRICT

## **Regular Open - Board Meeting Minutes**

Place: Ste. Genevieve County Ambulance District House 1

3 Basler Dr, Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670

October 21, 2024

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Ernie Weiler called the regular meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL:**

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairperson, Ernie Weiler, Sub-District 1

Secretary, Nick Werner, Sub-District 3

Treasurer, Carl "CJ" Okenfuss, Sub-District 5

Member, Dennis Jokerst, Sub-District 2

Member, Bill Everett, Sub-District 4

#### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Vice Chairperson, Don Kuehn, Sub-District 6

#### **EMPLOYEES PRESENT:**

Kendall Shrum, EMT-P, Administrator

Dawn Sevier, EMT-P, Operations Supervisor

Jessica Ochs, EMT-P, Captain

Mary Grieshaber, Office Manager

#### **RECOGNIZE VISITORS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

#### **EMPLOYEES TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** None

#### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

A motion was made and the September 16th Regular Board Meeting minutes were approved:

#### **APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

Made the motion: Dennis Jokerst

Seconded the motion: CJ Okenfuss

In favor: All

Opposed: None

A motion was made and the September 30th Work Session Meeting minutes were approved:

#### **APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES:**

Made the motion: CJ Okenfuss

Seconded the motion: Bill Everett

In favor: All

Opposed: None

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

There has been an issue with the billing company sending out multiple signature forms. They are stating it was due to a computer glitch and has been fixed.

Jones & Bartlett check is for the books for the EMT class being taught at the high school. Planit expense is the once a year fee for our scheduling program. The SSM Health is for pharmacy supplies. Community Asset is for the grant writers. LAGERS is the retirement payment.

A motion was made to approve the bills and checks for payment as presented:

**APPROVAL OF BILL PAYMENTS AS PRESENTED:**

Made the motion: Nick Werner  
Seconded the motion: CJ Okenfuss  
In favor: All  
Opposed: None

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented:

**APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Made the motion: CJ Okenfuss  
Seconded the motion: Nick Werner  
In favor: All  
Opposed: None

Write-offs were presented in the amount of \$9,041.17.

**APPROVAL OF \$9,041.17 IN WRITE-OFFS:**

Made the motion: Dennis Jokerst  
Seconded the motion: Bill Everett  
In favor: All  
Opposed: None

**DIRECTOR ‘S REPORT:**

Total Calls	224
Emergency	159
House 1	86
House 2	38
House 3	35
Transfers	55
House 1	15
House 2	17
House 3	23
PR/Standbys	10
House 1	0
House 2	5
House 3	5
September 2023 Total Calls	245
Emergency	155
Transfers	79

PR/Standbys	11
September 2022 Total Calls	216
Emergency	162
Transfers	45
PR/Standbys	0

### **Equipment**

We got in new Nextivity mega WIFIs. They have boosters with external antennas. These will be using the First Net AT&T towers which will give us priority and our signal should be stronger and faster.

### **Staff**

Dale Whitener has been selected as the new captain. He will begin on A crew next week. Mackenzie Bryant left employment a few months back and will be returning to us in December.

Another PRN employee has an offer made for full-time but we are still waiting for an answer.

### **Training**

All is going well with the EMT Class in the high school. PALS and ACLS classes are scheduled. The driver training is scheduled.

### **911**

911 is still is working on the towers.

### **General Business**

We are wrapping up the GEMT (Ground Emergency Medical Transportation) reimbursement questions for this year.

There is a meeting tomorrow with the hospital along with some grant writers for the possibility of developing a community paramedicine program. We will also be talking with the Health & Sheriff's departments to hopefully obtain a grant for a drug rehabilitation program. The grant will be for an injection that drug users can use monthly to block the overdose effects of certain drugs.

A motion was made to approve the Director's Report

#### **APPROVAL OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Made the motion:	Bill Everett
Seconded the motion:	CJ Okenfuss
In favor:	All
Opposed:	None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **House 3**

There was some discussion to move the location of the house closer to Highway 32 and turn it facing the old House 3 which would eliminate a lot a concrete. Part of the drive would also be

used for the turn around. This could also allow us to bring the electric in by pole instead of underground saving even more.

A motion was made to contact the architect, Tim Hollerbach, with no financial commitment to get the cost to make changes and to redraw the civil plans for the house.

**APPROVAL OF CONTACTING HOLLERBACH FOR PRICING:**

Made the motion:	Bill Everett
Seconded the motion:	CJ Okenfuss
In favor:	All
Opposed:	None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Budget 24-25**

Sales & county tax are both down. Patient revenue is very solid. Reimbursements from Medicare & Medicaid should both be increases due to increases in the reimbursement rates with the cost reporting we did last year. Interest rates is a guessing game. Hopefully, the grant writers will bring in some additional income. There are no ambulance leases. The IV pumps as well as the vents need to be replaced. We will also be getting new bags to make things more universal. We also need to purchase 3 more ultrasounds to be able to put them into service.

IT support and services need to be put into place to add security for the District. Feather Shark has quoted \$1100 per month for a maintenance contract for the District. We do have Norton and cyber insurance but we need to get more secure. Feather Shark is known for their IT services in Fire and EMS departments.

Liability insurance took a large increase. The health insurance rate is too early to know what it will cost for 2025. We did recently do a health survey for Coalter Financial to shop the insurance. Kendall has increased the monthly allowance for health insurance from \$475 to \$510 for the budget. Worker compensation claims were higher this past year so those rates may be increasing.

The Zoll monitor lease payments are in the budget. The monitors have a 10-year expectancy. We do have the salary and the books expense for the EMT class.

Base raises of 665.60 for the staff for the year are included in the budget. The minimum retirement age currently is 60. Actuaries have been obtained from LAGERS. 80 and out which is the years of service plus age equals 80 which would cost an additional 4.5% per year for 20 years. Age 55 retirement would be an increase of 3.8% per year for 20 years. Currently the employees pay 4% of their salary towards their LAGERS retirement. It is a possibility to have them pay in another 2% to a maximum 6% of their salary to help fund it.

A survey was sent out this weekend to employees for retirement and wages. 12 people voted for age 55 retirement, 4 people voted for 80 & out, and 3 people voted for a wage increase. The age 55 retirement seems most attractive to the employees. It was discussed that everyone would like for a full board to be present for the final vote on a retirement change.

A motion was made to increase salaries 5% on top of the step raise and to address the retirement next month.

**APPROVAL OF A 5% SALARY INCREASE ON TOP OF STEP RAISES:**

Made the motion: Bill Everett  
Seconded the motion: CJ Okenfuss  
In favor: All  
Opposed: None

A motion was made to approve the 2024-25 Budget as presented:

**APPROVAL OF 2024-25 BUDGET:**

Made the motion: CJ Okenfuss  
Seconded the motion: Bill Everett  
In favor: All  
Opposed: None

The regular meeting adjourned.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting ended: 6:58 p.m.  
Made the motion: Bill Everett  
Seconded the motion: CJ Okenfuss  
In favor: All  
Opposed: None

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next regular meeting is on Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. at House 1.