



# 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

April 21, 2025

### **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

Vice Chairperson, Don Kuehn, Sub-District 6

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:**

#### **EMPLOYEES PRESENT:**

Kendall Shrum, EMT-P, Administrator

Dawn Sevier, EMT-P, Operations Supervisor

Elizabeth Ryan, EMT-P, Education Supervisor

Mary Grieshaber, Office Manager

Jessica Ochs, EMT-P, Captain

Aaron Ernst, EMT-P, Captain

John Meinhardt, EMT-P

Shane Toney, EMT-B

Ken Nichols, EMT-P

Sten Barber, EMT-B

Emily Berg, EMT-P

Emily Boyer, EMT-P

Carissa Petero, EMT-P

Chad Kiefer, EMT-P

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

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

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

A motion was made and the March 17<sup>th</sup> 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 April 7<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting minutes were approved:

**APPROVAL OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

County taxes are slightly up for the fiscal year. Sales tax is \$14,000 short but is rebounding slightly. All other revenue is looking good. Expenses are up due to the three payrolls in January. Feathershark redid the network routers and is getting internet changed to Spectrum from Big River. They also installed a new voice over IP phone system. We are being billed a monthly contract. We are using them when we have issues. A few days ago, one of our employees had ads that were popping up and they were able to take care of the issue.

Community Asset Builders has not answered as to why they have been unable to find us grants. Other agencies have had good luck with this company finding grants but so far nothing for us. We will stop paying until they are able to generate us some revenue.

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

**APPROVAL OF BILL PAYMENTS AS PRESENTED:**

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

A motion was made to approve the write-offs in the amount of \$14,249.64 as presented:

**APPROVAL OF WRITE-OFFS OF \$14,249.64 :**

Made the motion: Don Kuehn  
Seconded the motion: CJ Okenfuss  
In favor: All  
Opposed: None

**DIRECTOR 'S REPORT:**

Total Calls 247  
Emergency 186

House 1	102
House 2	58
House 3	26
Transfers	56
House 1	14
House 2	17
House 3	25
PR/Standbys	5
House 1	1
House 2	1
House 3	3
March 2024 Total Calls	205
Emergency	153
Transfers	52
PR/Standbys	0
March 2023 Total Calls	224
Emergency	171
Transfers	50
PR/Standbys	3

## **Equipment**

We are still working with Ford on shifting problems with 8987. A leak is being repaired on 8977. It is waiting on a gasket set. There is an air compressor leak on the tire chains of 8937.

## **House Updates**

### House 1

Fascia was blown off the far side of the building in some of the heavy winds. We had this area repaired and had other areas tightened up as well.

### House 2

One of the shutters blew off of House 2 and is cracked. We put it back up and will try to get one to match.

### House 3

New internet is run at House 3. We are waiting on Feathershark to hook up the internet as well as install the phones at House 2 and 3.

## **Training**

### EMT Class

There are 8 or 9 days of class left. EMT testing will be early May.

### Monthly CEUs

Beth is keeping everyone doing the CEUs every month.

## **General Business**

### Legacy Files

Our older patient record files have been moved over to our system. These files were not in our system for a bit of time with the changes of billing companies making it difficult to access the files. We now have access to get these records for attorney medical record requests.

### Complaint

There was a complaint that our staff members were suggesting that a patient be transported directly to a St. Louis hospital. Per the patient request, she was transported to Ste. Genevieve Hospital, but she was transferred out to a St. Louis hospital within three hours. We opt to do what is in the best interest of our patients.

There is a meeting being scheduled with administration and the ER staff about what is the appropriate protocol of patients to be brought to our local hospital Children need to be taken directly to a pediatric hospital. Any serious illness needs to be taken directly to the most appropriate facility so care is not delayed for the patient. State protocols dictate that we cannot pass up the most appropriate facility. Any complaints should be directed to Kendall.

A motion was made to approve the Director's Report

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

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

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **House 3**

The building plans for House 3 are out for bid. Thus far, six businesses have contacted for bid packages. The bids will be opened in a meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup> and a possible award of the bid may be made at the May 19<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

#### **LAGERS**

The employees are still looking at the age 55 retirement eligibility to be lowered from age 60. This is a 3.8% increase which would be about a \$1,000 increase per employee per year. Quality employees need to be retained to keep a quality service.

We started out with LAGERS in 2011 with a 1.5% modifier. In 2016, we increased to a 1.75% and in 2020 went to 2%. The percentages can fluctuate as the stock market fluctuates to fund the plan. The rates based on current payroll. As payroll increases, the cost will increase. The employees invest 4% of their salary towards the LAGERS plan.

The Board wishes for a survey to be done to see how our LAGERS plan compares to other districts of comparable size. There are concerns that inflation keeps going up. There are a few concerns with the tax revenues and the House 3 building project. The county voters just approved a senior citizen tax freeze and it is uncertain how that may affect tax revenue as well as issues with tax appeals of some companies as well as the sales tax.

Kendall feels it can be funded due to the fact that we are remounting the next six ambulances. The billing company is doing well with collecting as patient revenues are up. As long as we keep the run volume up, we should be okay. The House 3 building cost could affect the budget but financing options can be adjusted over a longer timeframe and financing a larger portion of the project

It was requested to gather more information on the budget for the house 3 build with the current financing rates to see what the mortgage payment could be. Also, to gather comparable retirement plans from other Districts of comparable size. We will also obtain the actual cost increase per year from LAGERS with the averages over the past 10 years.

A motion was made to table the LAGERS until next month with more available information.

**MOTION TO TABLE LAGERS DISCUSSION UNTIL NEXT MONTH:**

Made the motion:	Bill Everett
Seconded the motion:	Nick Werner
In favor:	All
Opposed:	None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Election of Officers**

Don Kuehn announced his plans to resign at the next regular meeting as he has been on the Board for 20 years. He will contact his potential replacement and invite him to next month's meeting. Ernie Weiler expressed he has been on the Board for 30 years and will be looking to resign after the House 3 building project is completed.

A motion was made to re-elect Ernie Weiler as Chairperson, to elect Bill Everett as Vice Chairperson, re-elect CJ Okenfuss as Treasurer, and to re-elect Nick Werner as Secretary. Dennis Jokerst and Don Kuehn will be members.

**MOTION OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS AS STATED ABOVE:**

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

The regular meeting adjourned.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting ended:	6:24 p.m.
Made the motion:	Bill Everett
Seconded the motion:	Don Kuehn
In favor:	All
Opposed:	None

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:**

Special meeting for bid opening is Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at House 1.

The next regular meeting is Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. at House 1.