



Valley Emergency Medical Services

764 Derby Avenue, Seymour CT 06483
(P) 203-308-2332 (W) www.valleyems.org

Board of Directors

President: Jared Heon **Vice President:** David Geloso **Vice President:** Noreen McGorty
Treasurer: William Scollin **Secretary:** Madalene Taggart

VIRTUAL ZOOM REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

*VEMS Board of Directors
January 21st, 2021 at 7:00 pm*

Attended: Jared Heon, David Geloso, Brian Mezzapelle, Joseph Burnett, Joseph Laucella, Noreen McGorty, Dr. Fredrick Browne, Jason Perillo

Absent: Madalene Taggart, Kyle Kelley, Jon Lovisollo, George Temple

Guest: Chris Brown

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance
 - a. Meeting called to order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a.
3. Public Comment
4. Executive Director & Finance Report(s)
 - a. J. Perillo reports. Cash is still strong. Loan has not been forgiven but we expect it soon. Decline in revenue with Covid. Cash flow is off the last two months. Revenue has been down. Keeping an eye on. Bundle Billing packages have been sent to Derby, Seymour and Oxford. Submitted to Derby but have not heard back. Spoken to Seymour and Oxford first elect persons. They are aware of the numbers that will need to work.
 - b. Law firm has been handling nonpayment issues. Has surfaces in the last few days. Did not realize that Law firm was taken lengths to take liens on homes. We are a Non-profit in the Valley, this is not something we should be doing. We did not catch this. This has been with the firm we no longer use. We switched in 2018. The current firm does not have any initiated liens. We have confirmed. Recommend to board that that is something we address in New business. About 15 liens in Shelton, but this should not be in any town at any time.
 - c. Need for service application to add 5 ambulances to the fleet was submitted to DPH. DPH replied with some questions. We resubmitted those completed answers last week. Expectation there should be a hearing. Note: The initial thought was that J. Perillo could not be on the hearing as a representative of VEMS (J. Heon cannot be at the hearing) but I reached out to Office of State Ethics and it is not a conflict of interest or ethics violation and I will be representing VEMS. J. Perillo has a written opinion regarding this.
 - d. Received a letter from Echo Hose Ambulance related to Ansonia RFP. Ansonia went out to bid for service. We have submitted an application that was handed in last week. In the letter Echo Hose has stated they do not intend to interfere with our pursuit of the contract proposal to the City of Ansonia. J. Perillo states his interpretation is that also includes they will not challenge the need for service application as well. J. Perillo asks J. Laucella to clarify if J. Perillo interpretation is accurate. J. Laucella states 'We understand that VEMS services other towns, just like Shelton services the city of Shelton, we respect that VEMS go after servicing other communities and we hope that VEMS will allow us to continuing to service our community as we have requested as well' J. Perillo asks again if that means the needs for service proposal. "Does echo hose intend to interfere with the Needs for service application. J. Laucella states they will not be intervening for the proposal for the City of Ansonia. J. Perillo restates the question: "Does that that also

includes our needs for service application for 5 ambulances which is linked to the city of Ansonia proposal. Does the Echo Hose plan to support the application, not comment or oppose it?" J. Laucella states "to be honest we did not speak about that and I cannot speak to it but our intent is to allow VEMS to help Ansonia and the rest of the valley communities. We understand that and appreciate that VEMS has to help those communities. J. Perillo says he appreciates that and suspects the board does as well and we respect what Echo is trying to do. We are trying to get to a place where that makes sense for not just Echo and the residents of Shelton but also the surrounding towns and those residents. I am confident we can do that."

- e. No questions on Jason's report. J. Heon states the recording came thru midway so please send notes for first half of meeting minutes.
 - f. J. Heon asks about the municipal contributions. Only outstanding is the City of Shelton. Derby still owes for the old settlement. Will speak to Brian offline. Administration of Derby has been very good to work with.
5. Supervisor Report(s)
- a. C. Brown reviews cars: car 3 with coil pack. Car 2 with some body damage.
 - b. Review als %. Down from year before: impact from covid.
 - c. J. Perillo states vaccinations have been sent out to all and anyone who wants it are set up to get them.

6. Executive Session (if needed)

Motion to go into executive session to include Jason Perillo to review Pending Legal Matter- City of Shelton/Echo Hose Ambulance PSAR Update

B. Scollin 1st, D. Geloso 2nd. All in favor. Motion Passed

Motion to come out of Executive session

D. Geloso 1st, B. Scollin 2nd, All in favor, Motion passed

7. Old Business

- a. No Old Business

8. New Business

- a. D. Geloso would like to discuss Jason's release of the liens on the properties
- b. J. Heon would like to see an updated collections policy for the March meeting.
- c. J. Perillo states for the record that nowhere does it state in any VEMS policy that liens should be pursued, it states certain bills should be turned over to the collection agency. Never authorized to have the collection agencies pursue liens.
- d. N. McGorty states that she would think any past board members and current board would have come to the same conclusion that we do not want to do this.
- e. J. Heon states if anyone ever comes across any to this please come to Jason. Having been on the board for 10 years, have never clue that clue than anyone ever had a lien to their property.

Motion to direct VEMS council to release all liens on properties related to patient non-payment and further to cease any efforts to impose liens in the future. And have the updated collection policy for the next regular meeting.

D. Geloso 1st, N. McGorty 2nd, All in favor, motion passed.

Motion to empower the Executive Committee to work with corporate council to work with a bundle billing or settlement agreement with the City of Shelton and Echo Hose Ambulance with regards to current negotiations and to report back at the next regular meeting.

B. Mezzapelle 1st, D. Geloso 2nd, 7 in favor, J. Laucella abstains, motion passed

9. Other Business

- a. D. Geloso asks B. Scollin if all is set at the building. B Scollin states it was completed 2 months ago. Supervisors just ordered furniture for room that was renovated. All

renovations are complete.

- b. J. Heon said springtime it is due for a new roof and some outside work to be needed.
- c. J. Heon states he forgot to ask for Griffin update: Dr. Browne states it's been good. Agrees weekly call with Chiefs is good. Will continue. J. Heon extends his thanks for all the support

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

J. Burnett 1st, N. McGorty 2nd, all in favor. Motion passed.