



Valley Emergency Medical Services

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Board of Directors

President: Scott Andrews **Vice President:** Dr. Fred Browne **Treasurer:** William Scollin

Secretary: Robert Pettinella

Regular Meeting Minutes:

January 16, 2025; 7:00 PM

Attended: Scott Andrews, Dr. Fred Browne, William Scollin, Robert Pettinella, Joseph Burnett, Seth Poston, Bryan Ryan, Jared Heon, Dawn Macharelli

Absent: Michael Worhola, Thomas Lenart

NOTE: Jared Heon on Phone while driving and arrived to the meeting prior to Executive Session

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance
 - a. Meeting began at 7:09 pmPhone call to add Jared Heon to meeting

Motion to add to the agenda: Appointment of Seth Poston to the Board as Oxford Ambulance Rep. B. Pettinella 1st, B. Scollin 2nd. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Motion to appoint Seth Poston as Oxford Ambulance Representative to the Board. S. Andrews states he has the letter signed by Oxford Ambulance Chairman in hand. B. Pettinella 1st, Dr. Brown 2nd. All in Favor. Motion passed

2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Minutes did not go out in email with the agenda. S. Andrews asks board to review before voting

Motion to accept the minutes from 11/25

B. Ryan 1st, B. Scollin 2nd. S. Andrews asks for any addition or connections. All in favor 8-9. Abstain: J. Heon abstains as he is in the car and cannot read the minutes.

3. Public Comment
 - a. No public Comment
4. Director of Operations Report
 - a. Dawn Macharelli review. Municipal subsidy letters have gone out. Have asked for \$46,900. Letter to Monroe to extend contract went out as well.

- b. Operations: Life Pak 35 programmed and training has begun. Should be completed by 2/7/25
- c. Vehicle: volunteer backed into a parked car while driving. No damage to our car but damage to the other car. Claim in process/ no injuries. Car 5 having a power/ battery issue. Car 6 needs bearings – waiting on parts
- d. Response is still 96% and we are meeting all our first calls. Still some issues where services are calling for us- then cancel- we go on another call and then they call us back- which ends up being mutual aid and they are calling certain services for MA- bypassing the mutual aid call order. Discussion. B. Ryan admits to doing this, “AMR car usually never available. Just calls for Shelton medic first”. D. Macharelli said she is noticing a trend that chiefs are circumventing the process. D. Macharelli is asking for data from CMED on specific calls.
- e. Reached out to Woodbury for BB agreement since we have been dispatched to Southbury frequently. Woodbury is transporting unit and they did sign. Reaching out to Southbury for a BB agreement as well. Spoke to Woodbury Chief and she is interested in further discussion on a regional paramedic in that area to include Woodbury/Middlebury/ Bethlehem and hopefully a M.A. to Southbury. Looking for something like Monroe setup for paramedic. Waiting for further discussions.
- f. Community Para medicine group- still working on some processes before approval from state.
- g. 3.5% increase for the state rate starting January 1. Our long form application was approved.
- h. Questions about changes the Life Pak 35 has vs Life Pak 15. D. Macharelli goes thru the new features.
- i. Financials: comparison of Fiscal year to date 2023 vs Fiscal year to date 2024 for Board to review. Patient care has increased which is the new Billing Company. Reviewed by all.

5. Old Business

- a. Quote for new server- D. Macharelli will follow up
- b. B. Pettinella- asked about Derby not paying \$5000. D. Macharelli said when speaking to Derby: “Derby felt what they gave was fair and there was no more money in the budget.” B. Scollin states that Derby paid \$40,000 and that originally Derby Mayor had \$45,000 in the budget but Tom Lenart told him to cut it. B. Pettinella states that he doesn’t understand why board members that have a financial obligation to this board and then tell mayors to cut funding to this company. This is a business that is important/vital. B. Pettinella thinks we take a stand with Derby again. B. Ryan discusses his reasoning for his decision for Seymour, but pledges going forward to be “110% in support VEMS in its future endeavors financially with my first selectwoman”. D. Macharelli has sent out the letters for January 1- S. Andrews states that it is now the town representative to follow up. J. Heon says this should coincide with towns signing the EMS contract. And this puts the pressure on the towns to sign contracts. B. Pettinella agrees with J. Heon. Discussion on contracts and expiration dates. D. Macharelli states she has sent contracts to towns.
- c. Seymour/VEMS Discussion- moved from Executive Session
 - Nothing has come up since last meeting. Waiting for Seymour’s John Lovisolo to set new date. Looking to meet hopefully Monday 20th. B. Ryan stated he has emailed Judy Reynolds.

6. Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive Session @ 7:54 pm to discuss Monroe contract update

B. Scollin 1st. Dr. Browne 2nd All in Favor. Motion carried

Motion to come out of executive session @ 8:01 and no votes or actions were taken.

B. Ryan 1st. B. Pettinella 2nd. All in Favor. Motion carried.

7. New Business

- a. Bylaws: S. Andrews asked everyone to look at By-Laws- we need to be proactive as we move forward with Seymour with regards to By-Laws there may be changes that may be need to be completed. Asked D. Macharelli to send copies to all i.e.: makeup of the board- specifically-service chiefs on this Board. Discussion

Motion to put discussion of ED position onto New Business

Bryan 1st, J. Heon 2nd. All in favor, motion carried

- b. J Heon comments: What we thought originally the position was then to what is going on now is apple to oranges. The original position description/title was a starting point. We need to make a new job description change to what the position has now changed. As well as compensation. Discussion. S. Andrews states, Executive committee (S. Andrews, B. Scollin, B. Pettinella. Dr. Browne) will meet with Dawn and negotiate an updated contract.
- c. J. Heon asks about going for a transporting contract. Discussion

Motion to empower the Director of Operations to apply for an expansion of service for transporting capabilities.

J. Heon 1st B. Pettinella 2nd. All in Favor, motion passed.

- d. B. Ryan asks about the AMR car at Griffin. What is the contract. Discussion.

8. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm

9.

Motion to Adjourn

Dr. Browne, B. Scollin. All in favor. Motion passed.