

FITCH-RONA EMS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

**Fitch-Rona EMS District
101 Lincoln St., Verona, WI
Thursday, January 18, 2024**

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 7 PM. Roll Call Present: James Roberts, Derek Johnson, Kate Cronin, Jim Wheeler, Sue Luginbuhl. Absent: Connie Hilla, Dave Lonsdorf, Brent Kyzer-McHenry. Also present: Chief Patrick Anderson, Deputy Chief Jeff Dostalek, Michelle Wachter, EMS Office Manager, and Scott Yarbrough, Fitchburg FACTv.

Public Comments: None

Swearing in and pinning of Paramedic Hayden Latsch

Review and approval of meeting minutes from November 16, 2023

Motion by Roberts, Wheeler second. *Motion carried.*

Chief's Report

Chief Anderson noted that the district was up 14% in call volume in 2023. In addition, commented that the district was out of resources and neighboring districts had to come into the district to assist 42 times in 2023. This is due to all ambulances being in service when additional calls came in. This information is significant for future planning. Chief noted calls mainly were for sick people and falls.

Chief discussed the new billing company, EMS/MC who is now handling the billing for ambulance calls. 3 Rivers Billing will continue to work on getting payment for outstanding accounts for which they billed prior to the change. Due to the outstanding balances, we will continue to see both companies on the financial report.

The Chief noted that he moved funds into a CD to get a better interest rate. The district has not received any FAP funds yet. He mentioned the WISC accounts for post-retirement health care and the interest deposited from that fund.

The Chief mentioned milestones for employees with Dale Dow at 26 years, Chief Anderson at 23 years, Molly Jesberger at 19 years and Kristy Schnabel at 14 years. He also noted the "shout outs" for staff noted on the Chief's report and those involved.

The Chief discussed the recent and on-going hiring in the district. Hayden Latsch took the position vacated by Henry Gore. Hayden started January 7th. Lane Mathson was hired to the position that will be vacated by Greg Bailey who will be going to part-time work in February. In addition, the district will be hiring additional LTE's to refill the LTE pool. The Chief noted that the Deputy Chief vacancy interviews were held on January 10th. He noted that there were 8 applicants and 6 individuals were interviewed. From that pool, 4 applicants are moving to the next step in the process. The district is hoping to have that position filled in early March.

The Chief went on to discuss the budget. He noted that will expenses were slightly higher than anticipated (101.9%), the run income was also higher (105.9%). He also noted that the funds from external contracted events took up a significant number of hours. With that the wages paid out for overtime were mostly covered by funds received from those events.

There was a little discussion on the aging report income which Chief Anderson explained the process of collecting funds.

Subcommittee Reports

a. **Personnel:** No meetings were held

b. **Finance:** No meetings were held

It was noted that the next meetings will likely be held in March

Review and approval of accounts payable checks authorized by Chief Anderson

Motion to approve by Luginbuhl, Roberts second, *Motion carried.*

Consideration of approval of an amendment to the contract for billing services with Emergency Management & Consultants, Inc – amendment to contract with LifeLine Billing (an EMS/MC) company for Collection Services

The Chief explained how the new billing company can provide collection service through their affiliated company at a lower rate than we pay now. Currently, Stark takes 33% and if the money owed is over 5 years, they take 50%. EMS/MC would take 20%.

The question came up as to whether there was a contract/service term. The Chief will follow-up on this.

Motion to approve the new collection company made by Wheeler, Roberts second. *Motion carried.*

Other Business: None

Adjournment: Motion Wheeler, Second by Roberts to adjourn at 7:24 PM. *Motion carried.*

The next meeting will be held on February 15, 2024, at 7 pm.

Approved:



David Lonsdorf
EMS Commissioner