



**EMS Advisory Board  
Minutes of Meeting  
September 15, 2015**

**Members Present:** Chairman Peter McCracken, Marian Brownlie, Dr. Charles Ihlenfeld, Kathleen Renault, Town Liaison Councilwoman Chris Lewis, Town Liaison Councilman Ed Brown

**Members Excused:** Doug Matz

**Staff Present:** Director Jack Thilberg

**Others Present:** Mark Kanarvogel

Meeting was called to order by Chairman McCracken at 4:35 PM in the Town Hall Board Room.

Minutes from the April 21, 2015 meeting were approved.

**Management Report:**

Director Jack Thilberg reported:

- In July, we had a very busy month with 47 calls.
- **New Ambulance:** The shell of vehicle has been constructed. We are looking at a November date for the ambulance to be completed. It will be done ahead of schedule. Very good news.
- **New Flooring:** Only one bid was received by the deadline. The bid came in slightly under. The bid went out to several newspapers and we only received one response. Thilberg has asked for recommendations from the bidding company, for reputability. Chairman McCracken suggested using Yelp to get reviews on the company. Thilberg stated that the epoxy flooring will go up 12 inches along the wall so they can wax the whole bay without worrying about the sheet rock getting wet. They are trying to get the floor installed before winter. Thilberg also stated that Jay Card said the prep work becomes fragile when the temperature goes below freezing. Councilmen Lewis and Brown suggested trying to get the work completed before they run into another budget year. There may be an extension that can be applied for, but it cannot run on too long into the next year.
- **Membership:** We have a newly formed committee. Some EMS members went to Supervisor Dougherty to express a concern that their membership was at crisis levels and does not currently meet the needs of the community. The rest of the EMS officers met and they do not have that same opinion. With this new committee, we will develop a long term plan with volunteerism within the organization. We are looking ahead to a one, three and five year plan/strategy. We feel that we are delivering the level of care that is sufficient. Some members expressed that maybe the concern came from the high level of calls in July. Thilberg maintained that we were able to make all calls without calling to Greenport for back up. Situations do occur when you have more members on at different times. Overall, we believe that with the two new paramedics on board, there is no crisis. Thilberg said the Foundation had been very supportive. We are looking to recruit young people. Councilwoman Lewis suggested going through the Chamber and Lions to help businesses embrace the idea of being ok with letting employees leave to go out on calls during work hours to benefit the community. Thilberg ended by suggesting having an EMS Advisory Board member on this new committee as well.

**Old Business:** no old business.

**New Business:**

- Councilmen Lewis and Brown asked about the EMS budget. Thilberg's proposed budget will be 9% less over last year. Thilberg said it is a modest budget and is confident that it will not show more of an increase the following year.
- Chairman McCracken thanked Member Brownlie for putting together the annual ambulance volunteer dinner. Marian Brownlie reported that they had 62 people this year. The night was lovely and everyone seemed to have a good time.
- Thilberg mentioned to Marian Brownlie if she could help with putting together some social events to help recruitment.
- Thilberg would like to recruit high school students who are pursuing a medical career. We are in talks with the insurance company to see if we can recruit minors. He believes it would be a good resume builder. Thilberg mention there maybe concerns with liability. McCracken stated that they need to be 18 years old to take the test. Thilberg said they could be a good extra set of hands until then. McCracken also suggested having an open house with seniors. Chief Karnarvogel agreed with Thilberg and mentioned that Mary Kanarvogel is teaching a CPR class at the SI High School.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 4:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 5 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette Flynn  
Clerk to the EMS Advisory Board