

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
EMS Commission

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
September 19, 2005

Chairman McGorty called the Regular meeting of the EMS Commission to order at 7:35 p.m. All those present rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present
Noreen McGorty, Chairman
Marty Coughlin
Jay Francino-Quinn
Karynn Krill-Weinstein

ABSENT

Jason Perillo, Chief EHAC

Public Portion - None

Minutes for Approval

MOTION made by Commissioner Coughlin to approve the Minutes of June 20, 2005 as prepared and distributed, seconded by Commissioner Francino-Quinn and passed unanimously.

Correspondence

Hazardous Waste Collection Day flyer and an updated list of Departments and phone numbers. Also a copy of a page from the minutes from the Board of Alderman Regular Meeting noting Chairman McGorty has been reappointed for 2 more years, and the appointment of Jim Higgins as the 5th EMS Commissioner.

Chairman McGorty read a letter from Cynthia Lomack dated June 26, 2005 to Mayor Lauretti regarding an incident on June 25, 2005 at a carnival held at the old BF Goodrich site. Please see letter attached to the minutes in the Town Clerks office.

Chairman McGorty also read a response from Chief Jason Perillo to Mayor Lauretti dated August 17, 2005. Please see letter attached to the minutes in the Town Clerks office.

Commissioner Coughlin questioned who the carnival was sponsored by.

Chairman McGorty stated she believes it was the Boy Scouts.

Commissioner Francino-Quinn stated he is satisfied with the investigation done by Chief Perillo. He also stated that maybe in the future these types of situations can be reviewed by the EMS Commissioners.

Chairman McGorty agreed and said that a review is something that the commission can do. Chairman McGorty stated that she would have liked to have contacted Ms. Lomack herself, as she has contacted every person who has sent in a comment, whether good or bad. This was not possible due to the fact that Ms. Lomack left no contact information.

Commissioner Coughlin asked if a report would need to be filed by the AMR person who helped at the scene.

Commissioner Francino-Quinn stated that wouldn't be necessary because they were helping as a bystander and not as an employee of AMR.

Chairman McGorty stated that an attempt would be made to contact the sponsor of the carnival to see if a complaint had been filed by the injured party and would report back to the Commissioners at the next meeting.

Update from EHAC and VEMS

Chairman McGorty stated that Chief Perillo was unable to attend tonight's meeting, but had prepared a written update of what has transpired over the summer. Please see report attached to the minutes on file in the Town Clerks office for details. Chairman McGorty opened the floor for comments.

Chairman McGorty stated that the contract with Pitney Bowes is a great thing. It will increase the coverage and has been a long time coming. She also stated that she has seen the new van ambulance and it is very impressive. Chairman McGorty stated that in regards to the bundle billing, the delay will be temporary, with an anticipated start date of November not that far off.

Commissioner Coughlin asked what Chief Perillo's status at the meetings will be in the future.

Chairman McGorty stated that until December, Chief Perillo will probably be unable to attend the meetings personally. In the future, he will participate either by conference call or have someone else attend in his absence; perhaps Joe Laucella who is the daytime supervisor.

Commissioner Francino-Quinn explained why there is one van ambulance and one box style ambulance. The van ambulances are more efficient on gas and therefore more cost effective. He also stated that he felt the new ambulance is incredible.

Commissioner Quinn also questioned if there was any chance the high school would ever offer a paramedic course.

Chairman McGorty stated that there were no plans for the immediate future. Right now, the focus for the high school students is to introduce them to the EMS field.

Old Business

Chairman McGorty stated that the encumbrance issue has been rectified and is on track.

New Business - None

Approval of Payment of Bills

SBC

Chairman McGorty stated that we received 3 invoices from SBC for June, \$428.64, July, \$402.81 and August, \$393.55. All are routine and normal.

CMED

Chairman McGorty stated that with the boards approval, the CMED bills were paid for June, July and August, in the amounts of \$5,055.85, \$5,695.75 and \$5,291.58 respectively. Chairman McGorty had questioned the differing amounts and an explanation was forwarded By John Gustafson at CMED. Please see response attached to the minutes on file in the Town Clerks office.

Chairman McGorty stated that the September 2005 billing will be going out sometime this week and will be in the amount of \$4,887.39.

MOTION made by Commissioner Coughlin to approved the Chair to approve the September CMED bill in the amount of \$4,887.39, seconded by Commissioner Francino-Quinn and passed unanimously.

EHAC

Chairman McGorty stated that the bills for July and August for the First Responder program, each in the amount of \$5,000 have been paid with the approval of the Commission.

Chairman McGorty stated that we owe \$5,000 for the month of September for the First Responder program.

MOTION made by Commissioner Coughlin to approve payment of the EHAC Invoice for September 2005 for the First Responder program in the amount of \$5,000 , seconded by Commissioner Francino-Quinn and passed unanimously.

Commissioner McGorty stated that we received 2 new invoices dated August 3 and August 6 for reimbursement to Echo Hose Ambulance for member EMT class reimbursement per contract. The following individuals have fulfilled one year of service and are eligible to receive payment from Ech Hose Ambulance: Kevin Kopald, \$400, Danielle DeSantis, \$400 and Dee Roke, \$400, for a total of \$1,200.00.

MOTION made by Commissioner Coughlin to approve payment of \$1,200 for the reimbursement of members eligible for payment for completion of one year's service from Personel Training Account 2100-513.01-03, seconded by Commissioner Francino-Quinn and passed unanimously.

Commissioner McGorty stated that there are several invoices and purchase order copies that she will be going over with Chief Perillo. It is her understanding the items on these invoices are from the encumbered money and we shouldn't owe anything.

VEMS

Chairman McGorty stated that we have received a bill from VEMS for payment of \$20,000 for system expansion and operations enhancement as per City of Shelton budget for FY 2005-2006.

MOTION made by Commissioner Coughlin to pay \$20,000 to VEMS for system expansion And operations enhancement as per City of Shelton Budget for 2005-2006 from account 2100-513.30-45 Paramedic Intercept, seconded by Commissioner Francino-Quinn and passed unanimously.

CMED Dispatch Report

Chairman McGorty stated that we have the months of June, July and August to look at. If anyone has any questions, she will forward them to Chief Perillo for response.

Commissioner Francino-Quinn stated he monitored a call at the convalescent home on Long Hill Avenue. An elderly patient had fallen in the early afternoon. Portable x-ray showed she had a fractured hip and was a stable patient. The fall occurred at around 1 p.m. and 911 was called around 7-8 p.m.

Chairman McGorty questioned if he knew the month this occurred.

Commissioner Francino-Quinn stated he believed it was June. He's questioning why 911 were called for a routine transfer, not AMR. Medicare has issues with making payment on these types of cases.

Chairman McGorty stated she will have Chief Perillo provide some explanation in reference to what the protocol is in using the 911 system vs. a routine transfer.

Commissioner Francino-Quinn said he is concerned Medicare might not pay in this type of situation. He is also concerned that the ambulance crew is being used for a non-emergent situation.

Chairman McGorty stated that she will speak with Chief Perillo to provide some comments on the situation and talk about protocol and who decides to call for a routine transfer or a 911 call.

Commissioner Coughlin wanted to clarify that the abbreviation Enr meant enroute, and what Ptch stood for.

Commissioner Francino-Quinn stated that Enr did stand for enroute and that ptch was for when they picked up the radio in the back of the ambulance and were patched thru to the hospital.

Commissioner Coughlin question what 53/Citizen Assist/Service call was for.

Commissioner Francino-Quinn stated that it was for a lift assist.

Chairman McGorty stated that she's not sure if this is what occurred for that particular call, but that there were some concerns about the lift assists, and the parties agreed that they would call another ambulance or other EHAC staff for help with a lift. If necessary they would call the fire department.

Commissioner Coughlin stated that the response times are very acceptable.

Commissioner Krill-Weinstein stated that she counted and there were 51 calls in June, 48 calls July and 41 in August over 10 minutes.

Commissioner Coughlin stated that with the size of Shelton, depending on where those calls were, they would be acceptable times.

Commissioner Krill-Weinstein questioned that the times are measured from dispatch to scene or Response to scene.

Chairman McGorty said she looks at both.

Commissioner Krill-Weinstein stated that there were a lot of structure fires. Is the protocol to sit at the scene the entire time.

Chairman McGorty stated that the protocol is for them to be on scene until they are released by the Fire Chief or the person in command. This is done for the safety of the firefighters and any victims that may be on the scene.

Chairman McGorty agreed with Commissioner Coughlin that the times look great and are acceptable. Chairman McGorty reminded the Commissioners she has asked CMED when we can have the report in a format that we can manipulate and write programs for to calculate the

minutes and prepare summaries from. It is on the docket for discussion, but there is no date.

Report of Chairman

Chairman McGorty welcomed everyone back from the summer. She has nothing new to report from the Public Safety Council.

Report of Commissioners - None

Adjournment

MOTION made by Commissioner Coughlin the adjourned the meeting at 8:45, seconded by Commissioner Francino-Quinn and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:
Karen Minopoli, Clerk EMS Commission