

TOWN OF BETHLEHEM
DISTRICT BOARD OF AMBULANCE COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
July 31, 2014
Bethlehem Town Hall
Delmar, NY 12054

Call to Order at 7:04PM

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Michael Dailey MD (MWD),
Terry Hannigan (TSH)
John Lutz (JAL)

Others present: Town of Bethlehem Deputy Comptroller Richard Webster, Brian Wood ACSD, Steve Kroll DBAS, Eric Kerr.

OLD BUSINESS

1. TSH Motion to approve of Meeting Minutes from June 28, 2014 as corrected.
Seconded by MWD

Chairman	Dailey	AYE
Commissioner	Hannigan	AYE
Commissioner	Lutz	.

2. The procedure for the CON conversion was discussed in detail by TSH. ACSD has provided a list of a County agencies and the plan is for the Supervisor's Office to send out solicitation of support letters for return in September. TSH believes US Mail and not email is appropriate mode of solicitation. advance of Contract delivery.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Brian Wood reported that things are good. Changes in staffing to provide for paramedic ambulance yielded a net result of one less paid EMT.
2. ACSD received recognition by NYS EMS Council as the 2014 Agency of the Year. This is a very prestigious honor. Congratulations to ACSD, Sheriff Craig Apple, Brian Wood and the outstanding staff of EMS professionals for being recognized for the outstanding service they provide our town and the surrounding communities.

3. Brian Wood advised that paramedic staffing is down and there appears to be a broad-based decline in interest in persons becoming paramedics. This is a regional not an ACSD problem.
4. Budget presentation will be made shortly. Brian doesn't foresee any capital expenditures. Pay increase being discussed. Current paramedic hourly rate is \$ 20.46. This is less than Guilderland and Colonie.
- 5.
6. Steve Kroll addressed the Board and advised that the BVAS-DVAS merger into DBAS is now complete. It was a long, difficult, and expensive procedure but it is over and the transition into the new agency is going well thanks to the support of the dedication of the Members and the Board of Directors. Audit of BVAS still ongoing.
7. South Station needs serious improvements. Parking lot and generator just to name a few. MWD suggests that since the TOB Police use the facility rent free that TOB Highway might be able to provide paving and striping.
8. Steve presented detailed reports regarding financial and operational status of DBAS. Reports are appended hereto and incorporated herein. Outlook is that last year's budget of 425K is light. Revenues have decreased 15% due to ACA.
9. Waiver of deductibles is going to be a problem. Formerly deductibles were \$50 to \$100 and this money is absorbed by the Town in the form of payments to DBAS pursuant to Town Board-approved resolution to waive co-pays and deductibles implemented in 2009 when Town DVAS contracts first implemented. Steve suggests wait and see how deductible waiver plays out after year of data compiled. Some deductibles and co-pays now (as a result of ACA) exceed \$1000. TSH suggests that waiver of co-pay and deductible reimbursement be capped at Medicare B level and that it change be made immediately. This would require new resolution by Town Board.

Next meeting was scheduled for September 11, 2014 at Town Hall Commencing at 8:00PM.

JAL excused from meeting.

MOTION to Adjourn by MWD , seconded by TSH

Chairman Dailey AYE
Commr. Hannigan AYE

ADJOURN 9:40 PM