



ARMS Commission
 Jerome Fainer, *Chairman*
 Peter Danielczuk
 Scott Nihill

REVISED 1/14/2010 – Name correction to Steve Blume
City of Ansonia
Ansonia Rescue Medical Services

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 ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT



ANSONIA RESCUE MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION

January 4, 2010

Regular Meeting

Present: Steve Blume
 Scott Nihill
 Dave Geloso

Absent: James Walsh
 Jerome Fainer

Others Present: Joanne Sjogren, Bob Sjogren, Jared Heon, Doug Coy, Kathy Vagasky, Brian Lombard, Michael Hokanson

The regular meeting of the Ansonia Rescue Medical Services Commission was called to order at 6:25 by Mr. Nihill.

All present rose and Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

The secretary called the roll. There was a quorum present.

Public Session

Mr. Nihill asked three times if there was anyone from the public who wished to address the Commission.

Having heard none Mr. Nihill closed the Public Session.

Minutes

Mr. Blume made a motion to accept as written and place on file the minutes of December 7, 2009 regular meeting. Mr. Geloso seconded. All in favor, so carried.



Charter Member Of:
Valley Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

Bills

Airgas	Oxygen	\$189.91
Reimburse D. Geloso	Kerosene	\$ 35.75
Advantage Business Systems	2 toners	\$420.00
Auto Repairs	Car 9 stabilizer bar	\$921.51
Auto Repairs	Car 8 boot	\$264.61
Auto Repairs	Car 9 batteries and coolant check	\$560.91
Comtronics	Car 7 CMED radio mic	\$213.59
Civitella's Print Source	Perpetual plaque	\$105.00
Auto Repairs	Car 7 tail pipe	\$134.23
Auto Repairs	Car 9 multiple repairs	\$426.52
Auto Repairs	Car 7 no heat issue	\$ 81.60
CAG	monthly fee	\$4,171.76

Mr. Nihill read the bills as presented.

Mr. Geloso explained the Kerosene was used at the MCI incident. Mr. Nihill thanked ACD for continuing the monthly awards and paying half for the plaques.

Mr. Blume made a motion to pay all bills as presented if found correct. Seconded by Mr. Geloso. All in favor, so carried

Purchase requests

Mr. Blume made a motion to table the purchase requests for later in this meeting. Second by Mr. Geloso. All in favor, so carried

Communications

Mr. Nihill read the date and time of the upcoming budget workshop, January 20, 2010 at 6 P.M.

Mr. Nihill read a donation from Valley Community Foundation for \$1000. Mrs. Sjogren stated this is an annual donation from the Frey-Hershey Foundation and the money has already been deposited into the stretcher fundraising account.

Mr. Nihill read a thank you letter from Christ Episcopal Church for the food drive held in December and thanked the membership.

Mr. Blume made a motion to accept the communications and put them on file. Seconded by Mr. Geloso. All in favor, so carried.

New Business

Mr. Blume stated he has concerns with stipends positions, particularly the Chief Driver and Asst. Chief Driver.

Mr. Blume asked Mr. Geloso if Asst Chief Walsh is allowed to no show for 2 weeks without filling his shift.

Mr. Geloso stated he called Mr. Walsh on the first week and he claimed he was on his way to ARMS. The second week Mr. Walsh claimed he notified CMED to put in a tone on Saturday evening about 7PM when he was called into work. Mr. Geloso stated he does not know if this was ever done.

Mr. Blume stated he has looked into this and CMED was not notified and the shift was left uncovered. Mr. Blume asked Mrs. Sjogren the particulars of the call that was passed. Mrs. Sjogren stated this was a priority one pediatric seizure. It took 22 minutes to get an ambulance to the patient for a priority one transport to Yale, due to the weather.

Mr. Blume asked what action was taken. Mr. Geloso stated he spoke to Mr. Michael Bessette and Mr. Walsh and told them they need to notify CMED if they are not going to make a shift and notify Mr. Hokanson or Mrs. Sjogren.

Mr. Blume stated it is the responsibility of the duty crew to get coverage and notify an officer if they are not available. Leaving a shift uncovered is unacceptable.

Mr. Nihill asked Mr. Geloso why the commission has not received a report from the Chief Driver over the past 2 months.

Mr. Geloso stated Mr. Jack Scanlon's work schedule has been changed and he has been very busy.

Mr. Blume stated both of these people, Mr. Walsh and Mr. Scanlon are paid officers and this is unacceptable.

Mr. Blume made a motion to send a letter to Asst. Chief James Walsh and Chief Driver Jack Scanlon to appear for a special meeting on January 13, 2010 at 6 P.M. Mr. Walsh to answer why no crew was on duty December 13, 2009. Mr. Scanlon to answer where is the past 2 months of reports. Seconded by Mr. Geloso. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Nihill asked if the other stipend positions are working out. Mrs. Sjogren stated Asst. Chief Driver Mazako is also missing while collecting a stipend and the Chief's Secretary does not follow thru with the requests of the Acting Chief.

Mr. Blume stated to Mr. Geloso discipline has to take place for both paid and volunteer.

Mr. Blume stated this has been a volunteer organization, when area services are all going paid. We are going to have a payroll shortfall of \$80,000 due to only 7 volunteer shifts. This year's payroll will cost \$208,000. To have 2 paid crews we are looking at \$460,000.

The City is in a major financial crunch and can't afford this. ARMS needs to have a change of structure. We will hold off on stipend positions at this time.

Mrs. Sjogren stated the current stipend positions get paid until ARMS rescinds. Mr. Blume stated we will address this very soon.

Mr. Blume stated we have a responsibility to the citizens and are open to suggestions. ARMS is in a very bad situation at this time, its no ones fault, times are tough.

Mr. Geloso asked about paid per call as Seymour does, this would benefit all members when the tax abatement only benefits residents.

Mr. Nihill asked Mr. Geloso if he has discussed pay per call or getting volunteers back at the monthly meeting. Mr. Nihill stated we don't want to lose the volunteers.

Mr. Geloso stated he will try.

Mr. Nihill suggested sending a survey to the volunteers asking them why they don't volunteer.

Mr. Geloso stated we will try.

Mr. Blume referenced the ARMS organizational flow chart from the ARMS SOG's section 2 page 1. Mr. Blume read from the City of Ansonia Code/Charter stating the responsibility of the ARMS Commission over administrative policy, finance & control of property. He stated the Commission is not on this flow chart and must be added.

Mr. Blume stated the Director(aka Chief) and Asst Chief's are appointed by the Mayor and shall oversee Operations.

Mr. Blume made a motion to have this flow chart revised to reflect the Code/Charter. Seconded by Mr. Geloso. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Blume again stated the budget shortfalls of ARMS and advised Mr. Geloso do not purchase any rescue supplies these line items may be used toward payroll. We have spent a lot of time working on the numbers and we are falling very short.

Mr. Blume stated he will be contacting Derby, Seymour and Shelton to see how they are doing it.

Mr. Heon stated other services give large incentives to volunteers (i.e. conferences, getaways, jackets, sweatshirts) they are not municipal and have the money to do this.

Mr. Nihill asked Mrs. Sjogren if the issues with VEMS has have been resolved. Mrs. Sjogren stated everything has been working fine.

Mrs. Sjogren asked the commission to disregard her new business on the agenda (power cot & click fax) at this time due to budget constraints.

Purchase requests

Working Fire Training DVD's	1 year subscription	\$387.00
Firehouse magazine	2 year subscription	\$49.95
Respiratory Safety Program	DVD	\$99.00
Savelives.com	Oxygen supplies	\$260.00
Boundtree	BVM's	\$254.64
Arrow Printing	5000 Decon & rig check sheets	\$112.00
Arrow Printing	HIPAA pamphlets	\$116.00
Telerepco	replacement power cord	\$ 65.00
Graingers	cleaning supplies	\$172.30
Boundtree	medical supplies	\$622.67

Discussion on the above purchase requests.

Mr. Geloso stated we can do without the Working Fire Video's.

Mr. Nihill stated he thinks continuing the magazine subscription is a good idea and purchasing the Respiratory Safety DVD for training is also a very good idea.

Mr. Nihill stated the remaining requests are all necessary items as well.

Motion by Mr. Blume to purchase all items requested excluding the Working Fire DVD's. Second by Mr. Geloso. All in favor, so carried

Other business

Mr. Blume asked Mr. Nihill the status of cancelling the antenna ordered from Gardella's in Seymour. Mr. Nihill stated they are sending back the antenna and working on the license issue but it is looking good to get the new license soon.

Adjourn

Mr. Blume made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:100 p.m. Mr. Geloso seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Respectfully Submitted,


Joanne Sjogren
Acting Secretary