



TRI-TOWN AMBULANCE

West Tisbury • Chilmark • Aquinnah

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Tri-Town Ambulance Committee November 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes Approved by the Committee December 2, 2020

Committee Chair Warren Doty called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

In attendance

Committee Chair Warren Doty, Committee Member Jim Newman, Committee Member Cindy Mitchell, Chief Ben Retmier, Administrative Assistant Allison Graczykowski

Absent

- **Approval of October 7th, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Committee Member Jim Newman motioned to approve the meeting minutes from October 7th, 2020 as written. Committee member Cindy Mitchell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Old Business**

Committee Chair Warren Doty asked the Chief to speak to continuing practices regarding Covid. Chief Retmier offered that they continue to wear PPE on calls, and additionally, Chief Retmier in conjunction with Deputy Chief Montanile sent out a policy providing clear instruction on wearing masks at the station. Tri-Town continues to follow all policies put forth by the State and hospital.

- **New Business**
- **TTA Chief report**
- **Three Month Review**

Chief Retmier shared that from 8/10/2020 thru 11/10/2020 Tri-Town Ambulance had a total of 81 incidents. Last year for this same period, there were 100 incidents.

The year-to-date total thus far for 2020 is 249 incidents. At the same time last year Tri-Town Ambulance had 346 incidents. Runs are down by about 30%.

- **FY2022 Budget**

Chief Retmier reviewed the budget with the Committee. Chilmark has suggested a 1.4% COLA. Chief ran rough numbers for those receiving step increases and the proposed 1.4% COLA. Due to decreased revenue, Chief Retmier shared that he will not seek the increase for the Night Shift and Off Season EMT's until the FY23 budget. The current pay for a Night Shift is \$165.00 and \$167.50 for the day shift. Salaries are going up 2.92% with the first draft of the budget.

In regards to expenses, Chief Retmier offered that the majority of these line items are level funded with a few exceptions such as computer maintenance which is a contractual obligation, communications which have a slight increase each year and facilities maintenance.

There was a brief conversation regarding medical and ALS supplies and if there is a way to decrease those particular line items as the call volume is down. Chief Retmier responded that the State requires that each ambulance is supplied to treat two patients. Also, many things have expiration dates that they have to pull off the truck and replace.

In the proposed budget, expenses would go up 3.33 % and the total budget would go up 3.06%.

The Assessment for each town as the proposed budget is written would go up 9.29% due to decreased revenue.

If insurance reimbursement was same as last year, the assessment would be a 3.9% increase vs 9.29% increase.

Revenues as of November 9th, 2020 are \$152,000.00. There are still two months to go.

There is a direct relationship of decreased revenue to assessment increase.

Committee Member Jim Newman wondered what the budget would look like if we didn't withhold 25% of revenues for capital improvements this year.

The Committee would like to see the budget applying all revenues collected and also see the budget applying 75% of revenues collected.

Committee Chair Warren Doty requested that this information be sent to them via email within 2 weeks. They'd also like to see what the call volume at the other services is included in that same email.

Committee Chair Warren Doty said they'll vote the budget in December.

- **Financial Assistance**

Chief Retmier shared that the Tribe has provided funds to TTA. Chief asked the Committee if they would be comfortable using those funds to assist folks with the cost of the paramedic program.

Currently, TTA has \$16,000.00 from the Tribe. The three individuals that will be attending the paramedic program are residents of West Tisbury and Chilmark. Historically, TTA has assisted with financial assistance.

Consensus of the TTA committee is to pursue this with Tribes contribution. Committee Chair Warren Doty says this is a good idea.

Chief Retmier will go back to the Tribe to discuss now that the Committee agrees.

Chief Retmier shared that at the recent QAQI meeting with Dr. Casper and the service coordinators, Oak Bluffs is no longer providing transports from hospital to home outside of Oak Bluffs.

TTA will provide this service when possible when requested by the hospital - based on staffing and what is needed.

- **Comstar**

Allison Graczykowski shared that collections continue to go well.

- **Next Meeting Date**

December 2, 2020 12:00 pm

- **Adjournment**

Committee Member Jim motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:44 pm and Committee Chair Warren Doty seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by: _____

Allison Graczykowski Administrative Assistant