



GT METRO EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY

FIRE OFFICE 897 Parsons Road – Traverse City, MI 49686

Phone: (231) 947-3000 Fax: (231) 947-8728 – Website: www.gtmetrofire.org Email: info@gtmetrofire.org

October 26, 2010

The regular meeting of the Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chairman Wayne Kladder at 3848 Veterans Drive, Traverse City, MI 49684.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Could not be done due to no visible flag.

Roll call – 6 members, a quorum

Wayne Kladder, Acme
Glen Lile, East Bay
Chuck Korn, Garfield

Frankie Zarafonitis, Acme
Butch Strait, East Bay
Bob Featherstone, Garfield

ATTENDANCE:

Pat Parker, Chief
Terry Flynn, Asst. Chief/Ops
Robin Ehardt, Accountant

Tony Posey, Sta1& 9 Capt.
Bill Sedlacek Jr., Spencer Mfg.
Cory Hammond/Tim Morrison, E-One

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Motion** by Strait, supported by Featherstone, to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Parker reported on the retiree health care motion of the last meeting. It did not pass because there was not an affirmative vote from each township. He talked with Atty Judson and it is Judson's opinion that an affirmative vote from each township is only an issue when dealing with the budget. Therefore, it is the attorney's opinion that the vote was proper and the retiree health care policy (Section 110.5) was passed. **Motion** by Korn, supported by Zarafonitis, to approve the regular minutes of August 24, 2010, and the special minutes of October 7, 2010, as presented. All ayes. Motion carried. The issue of the retiree health care will be discussed under Old Business.

FINANCIAL REPORT: See financial report as presented.

Approve Change in Health Care Deductible Payments: Ehardt reported that the Board approved the change in the health care plan from BC/BS to a Priority HSA for the full-time employees at the last board meeting. Since a few families have high monthly medical expenses, she proposed paying the deductible for the first year on Dec 1, 2010, and again on Feb 1, 2011, and then quarterly every year thereafter. Discussion on having employees pay the deductible back if they left early. The Board said to check with our attorney. **Motion** by Korn, supported by Lile, to approve the proposed change (paying the deductible on Dec 1st and Feb 1st for the first year and then quarterly thereafter) subject to the attorney's approval. Roll call: Zarafonitis, yes; Lile, yes; Strait, yes; Korn, yes; Featherstone, yes; Kladder, yes. Motion carried.



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CLAIMS: **Motion** by Korn, supported by Lile, to approve the prepays in the amount of \$416,146.21 (check #6039-6076 with no voided checks) and the regular claims in the amount of \$50,103.35 (check #6077-6125 with no voided checks); and prepays for Station 12 in the amount of \$386,320.09 (check #1021-1023 with no voided checks) and the regular claims for Station 12 in the amount of \$25,641.34 (check #1024-1028 with no voided checks). Roll call: Lile, yes; Strait, yes; Korn, yes; Featherstone, yes; Zarafonitis, yes; Kladder, yes. All ayes. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: See memo from Ben Bifoss, Traverse City Manager, dated 10/7/10, regarding evaluating the possible scenarios for combination of efforts between City Fire and Metro Fire. Kladder has had several discussions with Bifoss and Bizdok on moving forward. Discussion. Flynn and Parker created a list of items that they needed information back from the City before they can put together anything for Bifoss. Metro does not want to merge with the City, but will pursue under consideration of a contract.

See Station 12 draw from Advantage Design dated October 12, 2010. This issue will be discussed under Old Business - Station 12 Update.

See memo from Atty Rachel Roe dated 10/6/10. Parker reported this letter was in response to the expectation of potential picketers during Station 11's Open House on October 9th. He discussed implementing the Disruptive Activity Protocol that was accompanied with Rachel Roe's letter.

REPORTS

CHIEF: See Chief Report. Parker reported they made a presentation to the County Ways and Means committee for the funding of the Fire and Life Safety Educator program. They were successful in getting the \$88,000 for one more year. The RFP for counsel has been sent out. Parker reported that they were waiting for Jim Young on the fire ordinance issue. The Board said if Atty Rachel Roe can get it done in 30 days, they need to get together and discuss moving forward. Kladder said to put this on the November agenda. Parker reported that Station 11's roof needs to be repaired. Money was put in the budget for next year for roof replacement but it is starting to leak now. He had two bids for \$50,000 each. Discussion. The Board said to get three written bids and to advertise the project. They also said to have Jack Knol write the specs and to go through a formal bid process.

ASST. CHIEF/FIRE PREVENTION: See Assistant Chief-FPB Monthly Report.

ASST. CHIEF/OPS-TRAINING: See Assistant Chief-OPS Report and November Training Schedule. Flynn reported there are 12 new applicants in fire school this Fall. There were a couple of meth labs this month. It hasn't been too busy this month, but Metro had the most medical calls ever this month. Discussed the status of the 911 box alarms – Metro's are all done and they are waiting for Rural.



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PUBLIC EDUCATOR: See Fire & Life Safety Public Education Monthly Report. Parker reported that we had a successful open house at Station 11 for Fire Prevention Week. Metro will be offering a class to the firefighters on sign language. Metro firefighters will be passing out candy and reflective stickers for Halloween.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sation 12 Update: Strait reported on the status of Station 12. Parker reported there is a change order pending on the landscaping, but nothing to bring to the Board yet. Metro has received some money from the Feds.

Award Bid for Tanker: Parker reported he rebid the tanker and four bids were received on time and one came in late. They did not open the bid that came in late. Parker and Strait went over the bids (see October 25, 2010 Tanker 12 Bid Opening sheet). Discussion. **Motion** by Kladder, supported by Lile, to purchase the Spencer for \$374,949. Roll call: Strait, yes; Korn, yes; Featherstone, yes; Zarafonitis, yes; Lile, yes; Kladder, yes. Motion carried.

Enforcement of Fire Prevention Ordinance: Discussed earlier in the meeting under Reports.

Health Care Opt Out Program: Parker reported this program was discussed in the July meeting, but was put on hold due to changing the fulltime employees' health care plan. See Opt Out of Health Care Proposal memo dated October 21, 2010 from Pat Parker. The proposal is to offer \$1,700 for a single employee and \$3,400 for two person & family. Discussion. **Motion** by Lile, supported by Zarafonitis, to adopt a single amount of \$2,000 per year in lieu of taking the health care plan. Roll call: Featherstone, yes; Korn, yes; Strait, no; Lile, yes; Zarafonitis, yes; Kladder, yes. Motion carried. Kladder said he would have preferred the recommended amount because of the greater savings.

Health Care Retiree: Parker reported that a retiree health care proposal was brought to the Board at the last meeting for the nine employees hired before January 1, 2007. At the last meeting there was a motion by Korn, supported by Dunville to approve the Retiree Health Care Policy as presented. 4 yes; 1 no. Due to not getting an affirmative vote from each township the motion failed. It was the opinion of Atty Chuck Judson that the vote was proper and that the motion had indeed passed. **Motion** by Kladder, supported by Strait, to adopt the Retiree Health Care as presented at the Special Metro Board meeting on October 7, 2010, as recommended by the health care committee which included Kladder and Korn. Roll call: Korn, yes; Strait, yes; Featherstone, left early, Lile, no; Zarafonitis, yes, Kladder, yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

Parker introduced Captain Brian Bloom of Station 11.



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No other business.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bill Sedlacek from Spencer thanked Parker and the committee for their work on the tanker bids.

Meeting adjourned 10:50 a.m.

Chairman Wayne J. Kladder

Assistant Secretary Marcia Schwind