

North Township - LaPaz Fire Protection Territory, Public Meeting  
Wednesday, March 17, 2025 at 6:00pm  
LaPaz-North Township Fire Station

Present:

Roger Ecker, Town of LaPaz  
Cathy Welch, Town of LaPaz  
Steven Davenport, North Township  
Stephen Barber, appointed by Ms. Haskins, Trustee

Absent:

Lisa Knepp, appointed by Town of LaPaz

Also present:

Emily Haskins, Trustee  
Mathew Haskins, Fire Chief  
Please refer to the sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

The meeting consisted of the following:

1. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Davenport at 6:00pm.
2. Approval of the Minutes. Ms. Haskins reminds those present that a copy of the draft is posted at the back of the room. Mr. Ecker moved to approve the minutes from February 26, 2025. Mr. Barber seconded the motion. Passed 4-0.
3. Billing Service Update
  - a. Ms. Haskins reports that she and EMS/MC continue through the process of onboarding the billing service.
  - b. Ms. Haskins shares EMS/MC rate analysis. Mr. Barber moves to adopt the "Current Charge" schedule (which is for residents of North Township). Mr. Ecker seconds the motion. Passed 4-0.
4. Trustee Update.
  - a. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at 6:00pm.
  - b. She reminds the board that beginning on July 1, 2025 all meetings will need to be streamed, recorded, and available for review for 60 days.
    - i. Background:
      1. Currently, the trustee utilizes the township computer during all township meetings. When meetings are streamed, a second computer is utilized to accomplish this, which happens to be the trustee's personal computer. Furthermore, the trustee is utilizing her Zoom account to accomplish this. While, she says that this can continue for the time being, it is not desirable in the long term.

2. Therefore, there is a hardware and a software problem, which leads to a variety of options moving forward. A discussion ensued about these options.
3. Mr. Haskins reports that the Volunteer Fire Department has authorized \$1,000 toward meeting this requirement. He shares what some other governmental units are doing.
- ii. Ms. Haskins is informing this Committee since it will be presented to the Township Board next week for consideration and it will affect how this committee conducts meetings in the future. She anticipates presenting a recommendation to the Township Board.
- iii. A summary of needs/wants/variables:
  1. Streaming (like Zoom), which needs to be recorded and available for 60 days.
  2. At least one camera
  3. The ability to cast a readable screen for people in the audience to see presentations and all printed materials discussed at meetings.
  4. This may require a review of our Internet Service Provider's ability to provide sufficient bandwidth to meet the needs of these upgrades.
  5. It would be desirable for the new system to meet a variety of anticipated needs in the future, such as training for emergency service staff.
- c. Financial Update/Expenses to Date (20% of the calendar year to date):
 

i.	\$15,554.37	Personnel Services
ii.	3,599.77	Taxes
iii.	1,541.73	Volunteer Officers
iv.	1,253.36	Fuel
v.	800.00	Office Supplies
vi.	4,876.08	Clothing and Gear
vii.	1,736.00	Communication
viii.	3,416.82	Medical Supplies
ix.	2,642.00	Insurance
x.	3,145.09	Utilities/Phone
xi.	5,208.47	Repairs
xii.	3,203.97	Small Equipment
<b>xiii.</b>	<b><u>\$46,977.66</u></b>	<b>Total</b> (Note: this is 10% of the annual operating budget, but does not include accrued liabilities or accounts receivable)
- d. She has set up Direct Deposit with First Source at the cost of \$10/month. This will result in significant savings otherwise spent on triplicate checks.
5. Good of the Order
  - a. Mr. Haskins reports that there have been around 120 runs to date, with an estimate of 80-100 being billable runs.

- b. Ms. Haskins reports that upon the completed onboarding of billable services, etc., a substantial number of previous runs can be billed retroactively.
- c. Mr. Haskins reports that they continue to seek part time EMT's to fill their roster. There was one call that they were not able to respond to, which was not during the daytime hours.

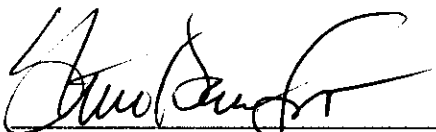
6. Public Comments

- a. Question fielded from patron about being charged on his taxes for a fire. He then wondered why his taxes are going up. There was not resolution to his initial question. Mr. Haskins explained that the fire department does not go after unpaid balances after submitting to insurance and offered to meet with him and discuss this situation. Mr. Davenport explained that we are going from volunteer-based emergency services to paid services during the day. The increased labor costs required a corresponding increase in taxes to pay for it.
- b. Question fielded from patron regarding the area covered by emergency services as well as services provided outside of North Township. Mr. Robertson indicated that emergency services for North Township – LaPaz covers 49 square miles. He also explains Mutual Aid between departments. Mr. Haskins indicates that responding to other departments' requests for mutual aid depends upon assuring that our own residents are covered.
- c. Patron asks about the status of the tanker repair. Mr. Haskins indicates that it has been repaired.
- d. Mr. Ecker expresses his appreciation for the fire department and ambulance service, especially for their response to the fire in town recently.

7. Adjournment. Mr. Ecker moves to adjourn, seconded be Mr. Barber. Passes 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:43pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stephen Barber, Secretary

Approved: ☐ As written ☒ As Amended ☐ As Corrected



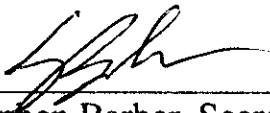
Steven Davenport, President

4-7-25  
Date



Roger Ecker, Vice President

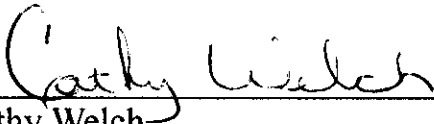
4-7-25  
Date



Stephen Barber, Secretary

4-7-25

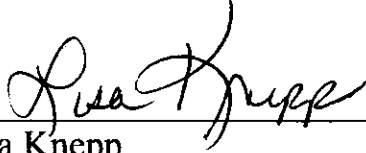
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Cathy Welch

4/7/25

Date





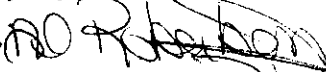
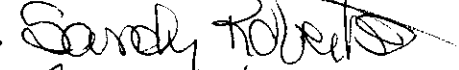
Lisa Knepp

4-7-25

Date

LaPaz-North Township Fire Protection Territory Public Meeting  
Monday, March 17, 2025 at 6:00pm  
LaPaz-North Township Fire Station

## Sign-In Sheet

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. Steve Barber
6. Steve Davenport
7. Cathy Welch
8. Bill Norris
9. DAVID NORMAN
10. Dan Beyer
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.
- 21.

LaPaz-North Township Fire Protection Territory Public Meeting  
Monday, March 17, 2025 at 6:00pm  
LaPaz-North Township Fire Station

- 1. Approval of 2/26/25 Meeting Minutes**
- 2. Billing service update**
- 3. Trustee update**
- 4. Good of the order announcements or updates as necessary**
- 5. Public comment (Limited to 2 minutes)**

## Rate Analysis

From: Claudia Caterino (claudia.caterino@emsmc.com)

To: northtownshiptrustee@yahoo.com

Cc: shena.holliday@emsmc.com

Date: Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 10:40 AM EST

Hi Emily,

Below is the rate analysis that we spoke about on our call. We recommend charges be 150%-200% of the Medicare allowable, and yours are in that range or just under.

Let me know if you have questions or we can discuss this further on our call next week. I can also provide an analysis that includes what neighboring agencies are charging. If you'd like that information as well just let me know.

### **North Township-Lapaz Fire Protection Territory 2025 Medicare Rate Analysis and Recommendations**

<b>Level Of Service</b>	<b>Medicare Allowable (Rural)</b>	<b>Current Charge</b>	<b>Recommended (150% MFS)</b>	<b>Recommended (200% MFS)</b>
ALS NE A0426	\$326.00	\$550.00	\$489.00	\$652.00
ALS E A0427	\$516.15	\$800.00	\$774.23	\$1,032.30
BLS NE A0428	\$271.66	\$450.00	\$407.49	\$543.32
BLS E A0429	\$434.66	\$650.00	\$651.99	\$869.32
ALS 2 A0433	\$747.07	\$1,100.00	\$1,120.61	\$1,494.14
Rural Mileage 18+ A0425	\$9.24	\$16.00	\$13.86	\$18.48
Rural Mileage A0425 1-17	\$13.46	\$16.00	\$20.19	\$26.92

Thanks!

**Claudia Caterino**

Customer Success Executive

Office: 336.701.5075

Cell: 216.235.0549

emsmc.com

**EMS|MC**