

North Township - LaPaz Fire Protection Territory, Public Meeting
Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 6:00pm
LaPaz-North Township Fire Station

Present:

Roger Ecker, Town of LaPaz (virtually by Zoom)
Cathy Welch, Town of LaPaz
Lisa Knepp, appointed by Town of LaPaz
Steven Davenport, North Township
Stephen Barber, appointed by Ms. Haskins, Trustee (virtually by Zoom)

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 January 29 minutes. Barber moved to accept with er added to “long” under 2.a. Ecker seconded. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye.
3. The questionnaire from EMS/MC was reviewed and answered to the best of our ability.
 - a. Mr. Haskins clarifies that this company is for billing. Separate data is obtained through another reporting pathway, which can identify number of calls from different locations, zip codes, and where they took the patient.
 - b. Legal and Estates
 - i. If a patient dies after transport, would you like to pursue the estate or write off the remaining balance after filing to insurance. Mr. Barber moves **not** to pursue payment from the estate for the remaining balance after filing to the insurance company. Ms. Welch seconds the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Nay; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Nay. Motion passes 3-2.
 - ii. Will EMS/MC handle records requests from attorneys? Mr. Davenport moves to have Mr. Haskins handle these requests. Mr. Ecker seconds the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0.
 - iii. Will you accept a balance reduction by the attorney on behalf of the patient? Mr. Davenport moves to allow a balance reduction by the attorney on behalf of the patient. Mr. Barber seconds the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0.

- iv. How much of a balance reduction is allowed? Mr. Barber moves to allow Mr. Haskins to review this on a case-by-case basis, and to allow a balance reduction of up to 50%. Mr. Ecker seconds the motion. Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0.

c. Billing Rates

- i. EMS/MC recommends that our charges be set at least 150% of Medicare allowable. Ms. Haskins explains that the board needs to decide if we want to do this. If we only accept what Medicare allows, she will need to sign a letter indicating this. She indicates that 50% “extra charges” can be billed and collected, if she does not sign the letter. Ms. Knepp moves to have Ms. Haskins sign the letter, indicating that we will agree to accept and only collect what Medicare pays. Mr. Barber seconds the motion. Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0.
- ii. Current mileage rates (during a run) are \$16 per mile for in township patients and \$19 per mile for out of township patients. Mr. Davenport moves to continue the current rates. Mr. Ecker seconds this motion. Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0.
- iii. Rates for calls. Mr. Ecker moves to adopt the rates currently being utilized. Mr. Barber seconds this motion. It was noted that any of these items can be reviewed and changed at any time. Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0.
- iv. Ms. Haskins asks if we will bill for dead on arrivals? She clarifies that for DOAs, there may be a bill for “treat, no transport” which bills at \$75.00. The consensus was not to bill for dead on arrivals.
- v. Regarding ALS intercepts, Mr. Haskins recommends, and Mr. Davenport moves to bill \$300 in order to cover these costs. Mr. Ecker seconds the motion. Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0.
- vi. Within the topic of “treat, no transport,” the question is about billing for those who require assistance (such as a lift assist) more than once per month. Mr. Davenport moves to bill for events such as lift assists occurring more than once per month. Mr. Ecker seconds the motion. Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0.

d. Collections

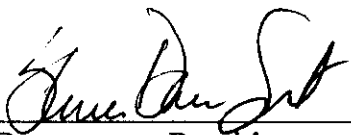
- i. Mr. Barber moves to set the minimum amount sent to collections at \$100.00. Mr. Davenport seconds the motion. Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0.

- e. Questions (from us)
 - i. How often can we make changes to this and is there a fee to make changes?
 - ii. What is the difference between ALS and ALS II?
- 4. Ms. Haskins reports that the Workmen's Comp Insurance, Malpractice Insurance quote from Eby Specialty Insurance Company is for \$10,762.50. This is for \$1M per claim and \$3M aggregate. Mr. Davenport moves to support this. Mr. Barber seconded the motion. Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0.
- 5. Next meeting changed from Wednesday, March 19 to Monday, March 17 at 6:00pm.
- 6. Trustee Update:
 - a. Ms. Haskins has been going through the process of getting everything online with EMS/MC, Medicaid, and Medicare.
 - b. Financials:
 - i. Spending: 8% of budget (\$35,247.40) has been spent as of today. It was noted that today is 15.6% through the calendar year. [This does not include billing income which may be expected. Nor does it include accrued expenses.]
 - ii. Mr. Haskins reports that there is still the possibility of grants from the county for special projects. He is concerned about having funds available for any "matches" which the county may require. Ms. Haskins adds that the Township will have some funds which are earmarked for the Fire Territory and could be available for matches if the Township board is so inclined. Mr. Grolich is hopeful that a) matches won't be required and b) the grants will be provided in multiple years.
 - c. All meetings will need to be streamed and recorded as of July 1, 2025. Options are being researched.
- 7. Good of the Order
 - a. Mr. Haskins indicated that work continues on the build-out upstairs. He is hopeful that they will be able to have an inspection (wiring, CO, etc.) within the next couple of weeks. This would conclude this build-out and allow for occupancy.
 - i. A bill is anticipated from Banner Electric
 - b. 2 EMTs have attended Advanced EMT classes.
 - c. 4 firefighters have passed Firefighter II.
 - d. They have responded to 89 calls so far this year, which is quite a few.
- 8. Public Comments
 - a. Nothing noted
- 9. Mr. Ecker moved to adjourn. Ms. Knepp seconded the motion. Mr. Barber, Aye; Mr. Ecker, Aye; Mr. Davenport, Aye; Ms. Welch, Aye; Ms. Knepp, Aye. Motion passes 5-0. Meeting adjourned at about 7:56pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Stephen Barber, Secretary

Approved: ☐ As written ☒ As Amended ☐ As Corrected



Steven Davenport, President

3-17-25
Date



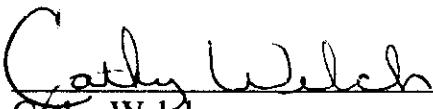
Roger Ecker, Vice President

3-17-25
Date



Stephen Barber, Secretary

3-17-25
Date



Cathy Welch

2/17/25
Date

Lisa Knepp

Date

LaPaz-North Township Fire Protection Territory Public Meeting
Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 6:00pm
LaPaz-North Township Fire Station

- 1. Approval of 1/29/25 Meeting Minutes**
- 2. Billing (services, rates, company) / EMS|MC Questionnaire**
- 3. Malpractice policy**
- 4. Trustee update**
- 5. Meeting Conflict**
- 6. Good of the order announcements or updates as necessary**
- 7. Public comment (Limited to 2 minutes)**

Sign-In Sheet

1. Chad Robertson
2. Jenn Gilmer
3. Thomas Youdrulis
4. C D Robertson
5. Doris Barden
6. John Grolich
7. Lisa Huff
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