



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

August 27, 2019

The regular meeting of the Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Jay Zollinger at Metro Station 9, 110 High Lake Road, Traverse City, MI.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – recited

Roll call – 6 members, a quorum

Beth Friend, East Bay

Jay Zollinger, Acme

Chuck Korn, Garfield (late)

Glen Lile, East Bay

Darryl Nelson, Acme (late)

Steve Duell, Garfield

ATTENDANCE:

Pat Parker, Chief

Steve Apostal, Asst. Chief-OPS

Robin Ehardt, Accountant

Brian Belcher, Asst. Chief/Fire Marshal-FP

Molly Agostinelli, Garfield Alternate

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Motion** by Lile, supported by Duell, to approve the agenda as emailed. All ayes. Motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: – July 23, 2019, minutes stand approved unless there are any changes. Minutes stand approved as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Financial report as presented.

CLAIMS: **Motion** by Duell, supported by Lile, to approve the July 23, 2019 claims as presented. Roll call: Friend, yes; Lile, yes; Duell, yes; Zollinger, yes. All ayes. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

See the Cost Recovery Report for July 2019.

See the letter from the Michigan Township Participating Plan, dated 8/2/19, awarding Metro a grant from the Risk Reduction Grant Program.



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REPORTS

CHIEF: See Chief Report.

Korn arrived 9:13 a.m.; Nelson arrived 9:17 a.m.

ASST. CHIEF/OPS-TRAINING: See Asst. Chief/OPS report.

ASST. CHIEF/FIRE MARSHAL: See Asst. Chief/Fire Marshal- FPB Report and Fire & Life Safety Report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Schedule 5-yr strategic planning session: Parker reported that Linda Racine, retired from NMC, will be the facilitator of the strategic planning session. Schwind to send out a “Doodle” request to the Metro Board and schedule the meeting for late September, early October.

ByLaws Discussion: Zollinger reported that the Supervisors met to discuss the ByLaws. The draft document was prepared and after final feedback from them, it will be sent out to the Metro Board members. All changes from the Board members shall go to Schwind to finalize the document.

NEW BUSINESS:

Part-time Wage Adjustment: (See Wage Increase Part-Time Probationary Firefighters August 2019 Board Meeting, dated 8/22/19). Parker reported that Metro continues to have difficulties filling station duty shifts, especially on the weekends. Our part-time probationary firefighters are currently making \$9.5275 per hour (8 cents higher than minimum wage). Many of them are filling shifts that experienced part-time firefighters normally fill. Discussion on retaining firefighters. A few suggestions were to hire from within, have the new probationary members sign an agreement to stay at Metro for a certain period of time after their training is completed, and/or to escrow a bonus for them to receive after a certain length of time staying here. **Motion** by Friend, supported by Korn, to approve the recommendation to increase the hourly rate for the probationary part-time firefighters to \$13.00 per hour. Roll call: Nelson, yes; Lile, yes; Duell, yes; Korn, yes; Friend, yes; Zollinger, yes. All ayes. Motion carried. Parker reported this increase will be effective September 1, 2019.

Fire Truck Financing Discussion & Direction: Parker reported that a new fire truck is in next year’s budget and they are out looking right now at what is available. They only have half of a year’s payment budgeted for this truck in the 2020 budget. They possibly could take delivery of



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a truck but not make payment for 3 months. We need the truck now, but if we order it today, we won't see it for about a year. By the time they go through the bid processes and get the specs all written up, he hopes to come to the November meeting with a plan to purchase a truck. Ehardt talked with Lori Ryker at Fifth Third Bank in Gaylord and they have some really good rates right now. Ryker recommended locking into a low rate right now and we would have 12 months in which to spend the money. Parker and Ehardt are out looking at trucks and financing and would like to come to the Board at the October or November meeting with more information.

Any Suggested Agenda Items for Future Board Meetings: Leases/terminology.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

EQUIPMENT DEMO: Drewery will do a demo on the HazMat equipment they purchased with a grant from Region 7. The demo will take place after the meeting.

There being no objections, meeting was declared adjourned by Chairman Zollinger at 10:38 a.m.

Chairman Jay Zollinger

Assistant Secretary Marcia Schwind