

**MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
NORTH FORK AMBULANCE HEALTH SERVICE DISTRICT**

The Regular Monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the North Fork Ambulance Health Service District located in the Counties of Delta, Montrose and Gunnison, Colorado, was held at 110 E. Hotchkiss Ave, Hotchkiss, Colorado, on Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 11:01 am.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Marcus Roeder requested that two items be added to the agenda under new business - Adding an HAS for FTE and adding a third ALS shift supervisor position

ROLL CALL: Board members present – Dan Miller, Marcus Roeder, Bonnie Eisenberg, Peter Pruet and Larry Hughes.

Others present include: Kathy Steckel, Diane Perry, Tanya Applegate and Dave Kreutz.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE: No conflict of interest.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Tanya wanted the board to know that she was very much in favor of creating the additional ALS position. She does not feel that the current 3 on 3 off schedule she has is sustainable.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the August 11, 2022 Regular Monthly Meeting were reviewed. Marcus Roeder made a motion that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded. All were in favor.

REPORTS:

FINANCE REPORT: Financials for August were presented and reviewed. Marcus Roeder made a motion that the financials for August be approved as presented. The motion was seconded. All were in favor.

APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS: Peter Pruet made a motion to approve the appropriations for August as presented. The motion was seconded. All were in favor.

DISTRICT CHIEF REPORT: Kathy Steckel presented an overview of her report (see attached).

Colorado Grand has pretty much guaranteed grants for CP and Senior Connections next year. The vintage race cars will be in Hotchkiss next Tuesday and Paonia next Friday. NF EMS will be serving lunch to the drivers both days to thank them for the grants.

Colorado Grand has promised \$15,000 for the CP program next year and the Auxiliary has agreed to match it. This will allow us to double the program next year.

Crew Appreciation Picnic is scheduled for Sunday September 11 at 5 pm. Kathy hopes that all of the board members can attend.

Met with Hope West to discuss how the CP program might be able to do to help with hospice patients. The board urged Kathy to proceed slowly as there might be issues with medical directors and administering the high doses of narcotics that are often used in hospice care.

Kathy and Tanya are going to EMS World in Orlando this October, mostly for CP. It will be nice to find out what other agencies in the country are doing.

The Community Paramedicine program is going well. Seeing 6-10 patients regularly. Kathy and Tanya are the only providers and are about maxed out.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: - No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: - FAMLI Medical leave. After some discussion about the program, Bonnie Eisenberg made a motion that the district opt in to the program with the employer paying the full amount (0.9%) for its employees. The motion was seconded. All were in favor.

CARES Program – Community Assistance Referral and Education Service. As Kathy sees this, CP is the medical side of patient care and CARES is the referral, resource side of care. Finding a patient, the services they need. She is seeking permission from the board to let the state know that we would like a CARES program. We can have a CARES program under our current CP license.

Marcus believes that this compliments our mission and made a motion to allow Kathy to put together a CARES program. The motion was seconded. All were in favor.

Hiring Policy – The In-house hiring policy was reviewed. Larry Hughes believes that such a policy is good for moral and made a motion to adopt the policy as written. The motion was seconded. All were in favor.

New agenda items: HSA Benefit for FTE – The proposal is for \$3,250/year for each FTE to help bridge the gap to the \$7,000 deductible in the current health insurance plan. This would help current employees and would be another benefit when hiring. At the moment it affects three people, possible four, if the ALS position were to be added. The board thinks this is a good idea, but has questions about whether an HAS program must be offered to all employees, including part-time. We will re-visit the issue at the next meeting after Kathy checks on the legal issues.

ALS Shift Supervisor position – Kathy would like to add another ALS shift supervisor position. Larry and Marcus talked to the people involved and believe the pros far out way the cons.

Peter is in favor of adding the position as long as it fits into the budget. Dan is worried about the budget and burn-out of the current ALS providers.

Larry Hughes made a motion to authorize the hiring of a ALS Shift Supervisor as soon as possible. The motion was seconded. All were in favor.

The board took a short break and then entered executive session pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S. to discuss District Manager contract. Executive session began at 12:15 pm

The board returned to the general meeting at 12:45 pm having offered Kathy Steckel a 2-year contract renewal.

Kathy read Larry Hughes letter of resignation. He is resigning effective the end of this meeting.

Next month we will swear Dave Kreutz in to take Larry's place on the board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Employee Appreciation BBQ is on Sunday. Please come!

Colorado Grand Car tour will be in Hotchkiss Tuesday the 13th and Paonia on Friday the 16th. NF EMS will be serving lunch as a thank you for the grant monies. Come check out the cars.

Next Regular Meeting is Thursday, October 13 8, 2022 at 11 am.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further matters before the board, Dan Miller made a motion to adjourn. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 12:49 pm.