

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
HIGHLAND RESCUE TEAM AMBULANCE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Electronic Meeting via Zoom platform
March 31, 2020, 4:00pm

Chairman Robert Keating called the meeting to order at 4:03

Other Directors present: Wendy Henke, Roxanne Lenny, John Zima. Steve Carpenter tried to call into the meeting but was unable to connect.

Others present: Chief Alan Feldman, Assistant Chief Jan Keating, Barbara DeBoer, and Christina Shea

New Business:

Board Discussion and Ratification of Declaration of Local Disaster Emergency

Chief Feldman had our lawyer prepare/review a Declaration of Local Disaster Emergency which he signed on March 25th to help cover extra expenses that Highland would incur because of Covid-19. By state law that declaration is only good for 7 days. This special board meeting was called to extend the declaration. Our attorney suggested we meet monthly to add, amend, extend, or terminate the declaration. We can do that at our normal monthly meeting.

Chief Feldman shared that six members from Highland have been affected by covid-19. So far, they are either sick, taking care of a spouse or quarantined. They are getting better, but this will continue. The declaration gives us the ability to purchase PPE and add personnel if needed. We will need to respond to all calls in full PPE as this becomes more widespread.

The Chief asked if any of the board members had any questions about the Resolution 2020-03 The Continuation of the Declaration of Local Disaster Emergency that they were given prior to the meeting to review.

All Board members answered they were comfortable with it.

Item (e) was discussed. It suspends purchasing and procurement policy and allows leadership to enter into contracts and expend funds in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 per month if necessary, to deal with fallout from the Covid-19 crisis. Chief Feldman pointed out that the N95 masks we use went from costing less than \$1 each to costing \$7 each. So, 100 masks just cost us an extra \$600. The price has now gone to \$15 each.

Rob Keating asked if some of these extra expenses would be reimbursed because of the declaration. Alan confirmed that was correct. All expenses and related admin costs are eligible for reimbursement from the state or federal government.

Christina Shea asked if volunteer members would be paid if they were performing certain tasks. She brought up the concept of “hazard pay”.

Chief Feldman felt that wasn't necessary at this time and wasn't clear on how it would be done. He has already reached out to several former members who are still certified and who are interested in coming back as drivers. The amount of treatment we can do is decreasing so EMT's may be able to provide the correct level of care to most patients.

Rob Keating asked if any more discussion was needed. The board responded they were ready to vote.

John Zima made a motion to adopt HRTAD resolution no. 2020-03 Continuation of Declaration of Local Disaster Emergency. Wendy Henke seconded the motion and all board members voted in favor of the motion.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:25