

**Thomas Jefferson EMS Council, Inc.
Board of Directors – September 13, 2006**

Members Present (per signature sheet at meeting):

M. K. Allen	G. Nuckols	D. Burns	W. Thompson
S. Mullinax	N. Armstrong	B. Wood	W. Crigler
M. McAllister	C. Jordan	T. Johnson	D. Racette
S. Elliott	D. Bickley	T. Reid	S. Braithwaite
L. Pfaff	B. Meadowcroft		

Others:

J. Churnick	D. Conrad	D. Banks	D. Evatt
R. Bickley	W. Evatt	M. Sidebottom	G. Brown
D. Molnar	R. Brown	S. Winston	H. Bosman

Recognition of Guests and Proxies:

Jill Churnick held proxy for Audrey Snyder. LaVeta Pfaff was accepted to membership through a unanimous vote in favor.

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm by President Donna Burns. A quorum was established and the meeting continued in formal session.

Emergency Preparedness Presentation:

Marge Sidebottom was introduced and gave a presentation on Emergency Preparedness. Marge covered such topics as emergency communications, equipment and supplies, staffing, surge beds, evacuation drills and Pandemic Planning both local and regional. Anyone wishing to receive additional information on the Preparedness presentation should contact Marge.

OEMS:

President Burns explained that we have some budget issues and that several guests from OEMS were present to address any concerns and answer any questions board members might have.

Scott Winston explained that the Office of EMS is under no obligation to provide funding to the Regional Councils as such funding is not mandated.

Rohn Brown said that all the Regional Executive Director's had met in February and discussed budget expectations.

Dennis Molnar feels that hopefully the budget process will be easier and better next year.

Scott explained that a large portion of our budget has been allocated "up front" this year versus payout after completion of each project. Both personnel and operational funds are paid half up front and the remaining funds to be dispersed quarterly. He and others in the office became concerned when they heard "rumblings" about a letter that the TJEMS Board of Directors were going send to legislators. They would like to be able to fully fund all requests from all the councils but the money is just not there. Last year's budget cannot be compared to this year's because of funding shortfalls state wide. Scott

said that he and his colleagues were more than willing to listen to our concerns but that they could not guarantee anything.

Sabina said that she appreciated them coming out. She expressed that she was concerned that TJEMS was next to the last funded in 2002 and at the bottom of the list in the 2007 budget appropriations. She explained that TJEMS localities provide approximately 50 percent of our funding and asked what the other councils get percentage wise from locality funding.

Scott said that some councils receive very little from local sources and those councils get funded by OEMS at 80 to 90 percent.

Donna Burns explained that training is a TJEMS priority and that she gets the impression that OEMS doesn't consider training a priority.

Scott responded that things important to one council may not be to another and that training is important at a local level and so the localities should fund it.

Mike McAllister said that there is a national shortage of EMT's and so training should be a top priority on both the local and state level.

Junior said that it appears that OEMS doesn't care if there are trained people on the trucks and that may be why TJEMS is at the bottom of the list. He heard that the General Assembly appropriated OEMS funding as requested and asked if that is the case or was funding cut.

Garland noted that personnel positions were fully funded for some councils but not for TJEMS. He feels that the budget process does not adequately compare requests. Garland feels that OEMS should not be penalize our council for the support we receive from our localities.

Mike McAllister feels that the focus is on MCI plans that need to be written and maintained by council personnel but that the plans are no good if there are no trained providers to administer them.

Gary Brown said that Medical Direction and training are the backbone of OEMS but the problem is that the TJEMS budget request did not provide a clear justification as was required in the budget process. Gary recommended that we consider RSAF grants for additional funding this year and try to submit a better budget package next year.

President Burns thanked our guests from OEMS for attending.

Minutes:

Motion by Garland, seconded by Bob Meadowcroft, the minutes of the August 23rd Special Meeting were approved as presented.

Staff Reports:

Executive Director:

The Finance Committee will meet to finalize the FY 06-07 budget and prepare a draft FY 07-08 budget. The Finance Committee would like to have another Special Board Meeting since we can't discuss budget matters at the October RSAF meeting.

The RSAF Grant requests are due on September 15th by 5:00 pm at OEMS in Richmond. Mary Kathryn will drive grants to Richmond if they are received in our office prior to 9:00 am on September 15th. Donna will put together a grant request for the CE program that is already in place and get it to Mary Kathryn before the deadline. We will request funding for personnel to support the CE program but the money if awarded will not be available until January.

The Finance Committee has recommended that Mary Kathryn file a state reimbursement for mileage. Motion by Junior, seconded by Mike McAllister to raise mileage reimbursement for council employees to \$0.45/mile, all in favor.

Mary Kathryn presented the portable exhibit unit purchased by the council. All council agencies are encouraged to borrow the exhibit for presentations.

Upcoming Training:

Cookie informed everyone that there are still 4 openings in the Combitude Class. Tammy Johnson advised us that there are 8 to 10 providers enrolled in the upcoming EMT-J class and that the Combitude class will be held on November 30th at Earlysville Fire Department.

New Business:

Mary Kathryn announced that she is resigning as Executive Director to take effect on October 11th. She has accepted a position that is closer to her home. She feels that she has done the best job that she could have done. She feels that there are problems within the council structure and that she would not have left a month ago but she now feels that she cannot find a remedy for the problems. Mary Kathryn thanked her staff members Donna Evatt and Cookie Conrad for all their hard work and support. She has worked very well with Donna Burns and appreciates all Donna's help.

Motion was made by Garland, seconded by Mike McAllister, to hold the letter to our legislators until we see if we can get any RSAF funding, all in favor.

Closing:

There being no additional business to be conducted, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna S. Evatt
Administrative Assistant
TJEMS