

SELECTBOARD MEETING  
*Approved Minutes*

January 16, 2014

7:00pm East Montpelier Municipal Building

**JOINT MEETING OF THE CALAIS SELECTBOARD, EAST MONTPELIER SELECTBOARD and  
EMFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Attending:** Calais Selectboard Members: Denise Wheeler, Scott Bassage, Toby Talbot and Rose Pelchuck (arrived late); East Montpelier Selectboard Members: Seth Gardner, Carl Etiner, Steve Sparrow and Casey Northrup; EMFD Board Members: Ty Rolland, Chief, Greg Pelchuck, and Rick Barstow; Jim Carrien, Treasurer, and Bruce Johnson, East Montpelier Town Administrator.

Financial Reports - Jim Carrien, EMFD Treasurer, presented the FY 2014 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter report. Income and expenses were reviewed on both the fire side and ambulance side of EMFD operations. Net ambulance revenue deposited for the second quarter totaled \$24,523.14 and the total net ambulance revenue deposited through the second quarter of FY2014 was \$42,710.04. EMFD has spent 61% of the fire budget largely due to the Worker's Comp Insurance bill and 47% of the ambulance budget so far this fiscal year.

Checking and Savings Account balances were reviewed.

Ambulance Billing Historic Collection Rates were reviewed. So far this year, EMFD has collected 59% of the projected revenue from ambulance billing. Overall EMFD collection rate is 72% for ambulance revenue.

Chief's Report:

- Christmas food baskets were provided to 12 local families along with gifts for 28 children. EMFD received very generous donations from the community of food items, cash donations and children's gifts.
- Annual Rabies Shot Clinic will be held March 13, 2014 from 6pm to 8pm at EMFD. Cost per shot is \$12.00. Town Clerks from Calais and East Montpelier will be here to register dogs as well.
- East Montpelier Elementary School has asked to use the EMFD kitchen space for lunch and snack preparation from March through June during construction at the school. The EMFD Board will discuss this at the next board meeting.
- Generator issues – the generator needs a new fuel pump with the estimated cost to be \$3,000.00. Ty Rolland reported it only has 86 hours on it and he is pursuing getting this covered under the manufacturer warranty.
- Hutch Crane legal issue – Contractor Crane Service, represented by Vince Illuzzi, Esq., continues legal action against Hutch Crane and EMFD for the crane rollover accident in August 2011.
- Call breakdown for the calendar year 2013 was reported as follows: Calais 107 and East Montpelier 284, excluding burn permits, ambulance calls to Plainfield and mutual aid to other towns/cities. Toby Talbot did a review of the call volumes over the past five years and reported the 33% Calais / 66% East Montpelier split is right on. Part of the issue is that Calais has a 38% population, which is part of the cost allocation formula.
- EMT transition classes are now required as part of state and federal regulatory changes and new standards. EMFD is committed to this extra level of training as required by law. These changes are not related to the new healthcare reform law. There are also new mandates for medical equipment ambulances are required to carry as part of the new healthcare exchange and are not reimbursed by insurance.
- EMFD has a new ambulance on the fleet, a 2009 International Ambulance and the old Ford ambulance has been sold for \$10,800.00. The total cost of the new ambulance, including new tires, two-way radio, lettering and transporting the vehicle to Vermont was \$58,349.00, of which the Selectboards approved spending \$55,000.00 from the EMFD Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectboards each will approve the additional

\$3,349.00 expenditure from the EMFD Capital Reserve Fund at their respective regular meetings. Ty Rolland and Jim Carrien did not think this was necessary since the total costs minus the \$10,800.00 from the sale of the old ambulance comes to \$47,549.00, clearly under the \$55,000.00 approved amount.

- Town Meeting presentation / EM Town Forum – Ty Rolland asked both Selectboards to stand behind the budget as presented for FY 2015 when voters have questions at town meeting. The budget has been thoroughly reviewed and EMFD operational questions have been answered during the December budget meeting and these quarterly review meetings. Denise Wheeler asked for someone from EMFD, other than Toby and Rose, to be at the Calais Town Meeting to answer questions.
- Clear access to homes – Ty Rolland reminded the Selectboards to publicize the need for homeowners to be sure their driveways are clear of snow and ice, properly sanded, and do not have tree branches or tree limbs obstructing access in the event of an emergency. Fire trucks and ambulances are large vehicles and need room to maneuver in a dooryard.

Scott Bassage made a motion to continue the meeting until January 20, 2014. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Pelchuck  
Calais Selectboard Member and Administrative Assistant  
EMFD Administrative Assistant