

Chief's Report – August 14, 2012

Scott, Ronnie and I are still working with the District on the next fiscal year's budget. The commissioners asked that we keep the budget at a level of ten percent over last year's budget since many items were put off last year to this year's budget. I cannot keep cutting without affecting the operational abilities of the department. I had to remove the generator for the crew quarters and asked that to apply for a grant again this year. The District applied for a grant with the understanding that it would be put in the new budget if we did not get the grant. During last year's budget process, it was also understood that we would have the building pressure cleaned this year and painted next year. I was asked at the July District Budget meeting to "find money" in this year's budget to paint the exterior of the ambulance building rather than put it in next year's budget. I was only able to come up with half the funding needed for painting from this year's budget, thus I had to put the other half in next year's budget. Painting should start in September with partial payment from money in this year's budget and finish after October (new fiscal year) with the balance being paid out of next year's budget. I am fighting to keep the 3% raise for the paid Paramedics since they have not received a raise in the last two years, thus yielding a 1% raise per year for them if the 3% raise is approved. The next District Budget meeting is on August 27th.

Commissioner Wheaton called me last week to advise that the Homestead Ford Dealer was finally able to locate a hose to fix the ambulance they have had for the last three months. We sent information to the District's legal staff so they could compose a letter to Ford demanding assistance with obtaining the heater hose needed to put the truck back in service. Fortunately they did not have to send the letter. It should have been finished last Wednesday and as of 5pm Monday, the new date is "tomorrow". Today we have two trucks; one at the Ford Dealer and one at the front end alignment shop. It will certainly be nice to have all four trucks back in service again.

I was asked at the Key Largo EMS Board meeting in July to modify the policy regarding personnel that requested a leave of absence and did not return or reply by the date they specified. There was no "policy" on how to handle the member that did not return on the date they specified in their leave of absence request. As it turns out, it is part of the Bylaws and not in policy which covers "leave of absence", thus it will require a Bylaw modification. Hence, the new business agenda item entitled "Bylaw Review Committee".

I do not want to "curse myself" but I made some significant progress last week on the patient care reporting software. We are now able to fax the patient care report automatically to the hospital and "download" the vitals and ECG directly from the LifePak ECG monitor to the patient care report. Once I finalize a few more details (required field entries such as the patient's name and address), we can begin the process of implementing the electronic patient care reports. This is a huge step forward.

We had a great turn out at the "National Night Out" last Tuesday night. The EMS and Fire personnel made a good showing during the event. Brenda and Tess packed up handouts and brought the spare truck - the prime unit was there also. Lots of blue Key Largo EMS tee shirts were there so we were well represented at the event.

Just finished with the Monday night District meeting and fortunately there no budget discussion; only approval and discussion regarding the fire department's truck purchase and pre-construction travel.



KEY LARGO VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS, INC.

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Business Meeting Minutes July 10, 2012

Board members in attendance were Brenda Beckmann, Ronnie Fell, Jackie Harder, Edwin Linares, Tess Marra and Scott Robinson. A quorum was present. Chief Don Bock and KLVAC attorney Jack Bridges were also present. Membership attendance is reflected in the monthly attendance roster.

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by President Ronnie Fell.

2. Announcements

- The only birthday in July was America's.
- Jack Bridges announced the Coast Guard was sponsoring a Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response training on July 21.
- Jackie Harder announced that Ken Sorenson's memorial will be held on July 14. There will be a viewing and service at St. Justin's followed by a gathering at the Upper Keys Sailing Club. The Corps will station a truck at St. Justin's.

3. Approval of Minutes

Tess Marra motioned to approve the June 12, 2012 minutes. Scott Robinson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report

Tess Marra reported a balance of \$275,427.21 in all the accounts. Jackie Harder motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Edwin Linares seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Committee Reports

Brenda Beckmann reported that four AED batteries have been replaced at the Key Largo Fire Department and one at the Jacob's Aquatic Center. Batteries are scheduled to be replaced at the Murray Nelson Government Center and FWC in the near future.

6. Legal Report

No legal report.

7. Membership Review

Ronnie Fell reported Kay Cullen has requested a leave of absence for July and August.

Michael Summers is attending Monroe County's Firefighter I course and has requested a leave of absence from August 14 thru October 9.

Scott Robinson motioned to grant the leave requests for Kay Cullen and Michael Summers. Edwin Linares seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Scott Robinson motioned to send Armando Soutullo the notice of suspension of membership letter as he has been absent from the organization more than ninety (90) days. Jackie Harder seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jackie Harder asked Chief Bock to look into the leave of absence policy.

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8. Old Business

A. Other Old Business

Jackie Harder asked if there was any further information reference the lighting at Publix. Ronnie Fell reported that he had spoken with Publix's manager, Paul Bean who indicated that Publix may pursue the issue and push for a pedestrian crossing.

9. New Business

A. Election Committee

Tess Marra explained that three (3) people are needed for the committee. Nominations are accepted in August; the list is reviewed for eligibility and willingness to run; the list is published in September; election is held in October and new board members seated in November. The members of the Election Committee will be Tess Marra, Michael Blondin, and Brandon Leslie.

B. FKCC Banner

FKCC has requested that a banner be hung from the building during the registration period for the EMT class. The banner will be no larger than 4' by 8'. Tess Marra motioned to accept the request. Brenda seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Other New Business

Brenda Beckmann asked that members put on fresh gloves before entering the hospital. She explained that insurance companies are balking at paying for patients who contract communicable diseases, implying that it may be coming from EMS personnel. She asked that gloves be disposed of in the hospital's bio-waste room in the red containers. OSHA is pushing for immunizations. If you decline a flu shot, you must sign a form.

10. Membership Discussion

Tess Marra requested that members not fill oxygen bottles on their own. She and Ken Edge are trained to fill them.

Chief Bock reported that two new paramedics, Mark Cuesta and Todd Lessard, have been hired after completing the testing process.

Med 74 is still at Armstrong Ford. Ford has to custom make the heater hose that was defective as Ford no long makes this hose.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Ronnie Fell and seconded by Scott Robinson to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

Pamela Johnson
Recording Secretary