

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF THE
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY
OF LANCASTER COUNTY
March 13, 2024**

A meeting of the Board of the MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY OF LANCASTER COUNTY (MESA) was held on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the Elizabethtown Borough Council Chambers, 600 South Hanover Street, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, 17022.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Debra Dupler.

Roll call: Debra Dupler, Jeffrey Butler, Justin Risser, Jeffrey Hudson, Roger Snyder and Jeffrey McCloud were present. Also present was Jason Sabol, Board Solicitor.

Ms. Dupler opened the meeting for public comment.

Ms. Danielle Lindemuth, Elizabethtown Borough resident, expressed her concern that the fee structure results in “double-dipping” when residents and businesses are required to pay a fee.

Mr. Robert McBride, Elizabethtown Borough resident, stated he will not be paying the fee. His opinion is that the fee is a tax and unconstitutional.

Mr. Keith Reismiller, Conoy Township resident, voiced opposition to the mandatory aspect of the fee when he had donated to Northwest EMS in the past.

Mr. Troy Tshudy, address not given, opposed being forced to pay a fee. He expressed concern regarding those on fixed income and how landlords will handle payment of fee.

Mr. Alan Acrie, Mount Joy Township resident, asked about the financial status of Northwest EMS.

Ms. Donna Coble, Mount Joy Township resident, asked about how the fee was calculated and why a third-party billing agency was used.

Ms. Sue Keith, East Donegal Township resident, stated that her health insurance covers the cost of ambulance service and fee should not be needed. She also expressed concern about the ambulance crews taking lunch breaks while in ambulance.

Ms. Elizabeth Boris, Elizabethtown Borough resident, suggested that the fee be based on number of residents within dwelling units in lieu of a flat per dwelling unit fee.

Board members thanked those in attendance for their comments and civility.

On a motion of Mr. McCloud, seconded by Mr. Hudson, the Board unanimously approved adding the consideration of the February 21, 2024 meeting minutes to the agenda. On a motion of Mr. McCloud, seconded by Mr. Risser, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the February 21, 2024 meeting of the Board.

MESA Financial Manager Mr. Hershey provided a report of fees collected as of March 13, 2024. The report indicated that 46% of the budgeted fee revenue has been collected. The report also provided a breakdown of fees collected by municipality.

Authority Manager Report – MESA Operation Manager Wade Amick presented the following report to the Board.

- Station construction is in final week.
- Four units still need graphics change.
- Current opening as a result of Supervisor resignation.
- Platoons are working well but still need a few more staff members for shifts. Opening are advertised on Indeed and message sign in front of station.
- Unit #7 in crash but looks like it can be repaired. Still waiting for final determination.
- Signed one more insurance company contract for par (Geisinger Insurance).
- The first meeting of the NWEMS Foundation was held March 6, 2024. Foundation officers are: Bob Enck, Chairman; Dale Ressler, Vice-Chairman; Bill Prazenica, Treasurer; and Greg Gobrecht, Secretary.

Jason Kirsch provided a written report of potential public relation activities.

The Board discussed extending the date late fees would be imposed on outstanding fees mailed to residents and businesses. On a motion of Mr. Risser, seconded by Mr. Snyder, the Board unanimously approved establishing April 15, 2024 as the deadline for payment of fees before imposition of late fees.

Ms. Dupler asked the Board members to begin thinking about the potential of forming a community-based advisory board to MESA and what role such a board would serve.

On a motion of Mr. McCloud, seconded by Mr. Risser, the Board unanimously approved the financial report as presented, along with the payment of bills totaling \$521,191.15, as presented on Bill List 2024-04GF and payment of bills totaling \$10,441.31, as presented on ARPA Bill List 2024-07.

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, beginning at 6:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Mr. Snyder and seconded by Mr. Hudson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 P.M. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey L. Butler (Secretary)