



**Marion County
Board of County Commissioners**

Fire Rescue

2631 SE Third St.
Ocala, FL 34471
Phone: 352-291-8000
Fax: 352-291-8098

**Marion County Fire Rescue Emergency Services
Advisory Board Meeting
April 10th, 2012**

- I. Call To Order- 4:04 by Chairperson Pat Gabriel

- II. Members Present:
Dr. Frank Fraunfelter, Medical Director, MCFR EMS
Paul Clark, C.O.O., Munroe Regional Medical Center
Lance Hill
Adam Woods
Butch Verrando
Pat Gabriel, Chairperson
Randy McVay, C.E.O., Ocala Regional Medical Center
Chief Bradd Clark, Ocala Fire Rescue, Fire Chief
Others in Attendance:
Chief Stuart McElhaney, Chief Hall, Chief David Cooper, Dr. Lee Niblock,
Carl Crabtree, Chief Nevels, John Schaefer, Jessica Greene, Peveeta
Seeraj, Ryan O'Reilly, Larry Haney, Cindy Marihugh
Attendance taken by: Felicia Grasty

- III. Minutes
January 10th, 2012 adopted

- IV. Board Items
 - A. Advisory Board Recommendation on Department Budget
 - Handouts were provided to board members and Chief McElhaney discussed updated pie charts and information that was provided to Adam Woods.
 - Adam Woods questioned the total amount of the reserve and Chief McElhaney explained that there were three areas that consisted of reserve funds: \$9.5 million in Cash Carry Forward, \$1.5 million in Building/Construction and \$4.16 million in Contingency. Paul Clark questioned if the reserve could be used for operating expenses and Chief McElhaney responded that there is no restriction. Adam Woods asked

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about the County Commissioner's plan for the reserve. Chief McElhaney explained that it's a policy decision and the Commissioners expressed concern about the size of the reserve.

- Chief McElhaney explained the difference of the \$8.5 million to \$8.0 million in recurring revenue is the 6% decrease in property values. Adam Woods noted that upcoming foreclosures will also impact property values. Chief McElhaney stated that there is some growth even with the foreclosures, not very much, but there is some growth.
- Chief McElhaney explained there are two parts to the retirement funding issue that will be impacted by the Supreme Court decision in September if the court upholds the lower court decision on appeal: 1. a one-time liability for the refund to the employee. 2. The recurring number in personal services.
- Adam Woods asked if there is a schedule for the assessment and Chief McElhaney shared that MSTU maintains this sheet.
- Chief McElhaney shared these numbers from the proposed FY 12/13 Fire Rescue Budget: Recurring Expenditures Adopted FY 11/12 - \$32 million, Proposed 12/13 -\$33 million; Recurring Revenues Adopted FY 11/13 - \$33.9 million; Proposed 12/13 - \$33.6 million.
- Future Consideration of the pending Florida Supreme Court decision regarding the 3% employee contribution to FRS is approximately \$523,000.
- After reviewing the budget with distributed materials, the board unanimously approves the department budget with a motion from Paul Clark and a second by Randy McVay.

B. Ambulance Fee Discussion

- Chief Hall distributed handouts depicting county comparison rates, ambulance service billing and ambulance fee increase scenarios.
- Marion County's ALS charge is \$61.00 lower than the Florida average.

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- The Ambulance Fee Increase Scenario does not represent Medicare, Self-Pay, Facilities or Standby charges.
- Randy McVay questioned how 100% of the increase can be collectable and Chiefs Hall and McElhaney explained that the percentage is the amount collected by the Commercial Payor Class.
- Chief Hall handed out a generic bill to illustrate how a patient is billed for services.
- Butch Verrando asked MCFR books receivables and Chief explained that we operate on a cash basis. Butch then asked if MCFR calculates receivables against collections, which Adam Woods referred to as an aging report. Chief and the Advisory Board explained that this aging graph was presented in previous meetings. Butch asked when accounts are written off and Chiefs McElhaney and Hall explained they are written off one year after they have gone to collections.
- Paul Clark asked about the BCC's position on policy of prices comparing with the Florida average. Dr. Niblock explained that some increases will fall in line with the average since the numbers aren't unreasonable. He proposed that this would be a great topic for discussion at a workshop. This issue is about the user fees, not raising taxes, and that makes a big difference. Pat Gabriel shared that in Parks they had to reevaluate user fees as well since they had not been raised in years.
- The mileage rate for ambulance service has not increased in eight years.
- The Board unanimously approved a recommendation to the BCC to increase the mileage rate to the Florida average due to the fact that there has been no increase for 8 years with a motion from Paul Clark and a second from Lance Hill.

C. Quarterly Report

- 1st Quarter FY11/12, 2nd Quarter FY 11/12 Handouts provided
- Chief McElhaney wanted to point out that on page 4 of the 1st Quarter Report that, both quarters were combined.
- Chief McElhaney talks about the STEMI Alert Trends, door to balloon time which means, time from EMS patient contact on scene to balloon time at the hospital.

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- Dr. Fraunfelter shares that we do not "Extract" patients. Trauma alerts are accounted for separately from trauma transports.
- Dr. Fraunfelter shares that there is a criteria called the USTEIN Criteria that is used in ROSC.
- Chief McElhaney explains that the net receivables are based on bills sent versus net charge.

D. Board Items

- Carl Crabtree commented that he was very, very proud of Fire Rescue. He said that Marion County Fire Rescue is managing their business and he is very pleased as a taxpayer.

V. Adjournment-5:35

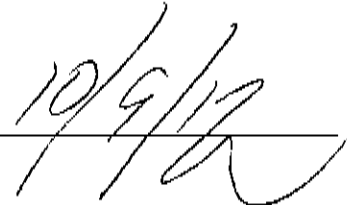
Next Meeting will be held July 10th, 2012 at 4:00 p.m., Fire Rescue Headquarters

Minutes submitted by Felicia Grasty

Approved:

Date:


Pat Gabriel, Chairperson


10/9/12

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