

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**TRINIDAD AMBULANCE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**December 11, 2024**

Attendance Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Zachary Shapiro, Nick Mattorano, Andres DeLeon  
Executive Director Gabe Moreno, Deputy Chief David DeTray  
Zoom Meghan Berglind, Appellate Attorney Wheeler, Trigg, O'Donnell

<b><u>SUBJECT</u></b>	<b><u>DISCUSSION</u></b>
Call to Order/Pledge	Meeting was called to order at 4:01pm by Zakk Shapiro.
Roll Call/Proof of Quorum	There was a quorum with five (5) board members in attendance.
Proof of Notice	Notice was posted on Trinidad Ambulance District's website (tadems.com) and business office at 13840 Hwy 350. The notice included invitation information for attendance via ZOOM and asked the public to register on Zoom if they were interested in attending the meeting.
Adoption of Agenda	<b>MOTION</b> to amend the agenda by moving item 9, Executive Session, to item 11 was made by Joe Richards. <b>SECOND:</b> Tom Murphy <b>YEA:</b> Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Zakk Shapiro, Andres DeLeon, Nick Mattorano <b>NAY:</b> <b>ABSTAIN:</b> The agenda has been approved as amended.
Public Comments	None
Review Minutes	<b>MOTION</b> to approve the October 23, 2024 meeting minutes as presented was made by Joe Richards. <b>SECOND:</b> Tom Murphy <b>YEA:</b> Nick Mattorano, Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Zakk Shapiro, Andres DeLeon <b>NAY:</b> <b>ABSTAIN:</b> The October 23, 2024 minutes were approved as presented.
Financial Statement	The October financial statement was prepared by Sue Gonzales of WSDM and presented by Chief Moreno who pointed out the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Total Cash On Hand as of October 31, 2024 \$4,027,492 (TAD \$1,605,923 and TAD Enterprise \$2,421,569) which is up \$130,422 from September 2024.</li><li>• October Net Income – TAD -\$70,485 and TAD Enterprise -\$9,915.98</li><li>• October Revenue Collected - \$83,245 with average collection per call</li></ul>

being \$414 when \$1,300 is needed to break even thus a \$900 shortfall is created.

- Grants/Funding Opportunities
  - 2025 Assistance to Firefighters Grant for radios
  - State EMTS grant (\$75k set aside for 50/50 match)
  - National Safety Council opens in April for mental health and community paramedic initiatives
  - Rural Healthcare Services Outreach Program for mental health and community paramedic projects.
- Legislative Efforts
  - Working to get EMS recognized as an essential service.
  - Legislation pending for Medicaid to pay 80% of Medicare fees.
  - Federal legislation for treatment in place for Medicare. Supported by Senator Bennett.

Overall, Chief Moreno is comfortable with the financial standing of TAD.

- Overall, Chief Moreno is optimistic about TAD's funding.  
**MOTION** to accept the October 2024 financial statements as presented was made by Joe Richards.

**SECOND:** Tom Murphy

**YEA:** Nick Mattorano, Tom Murphy, Zakk Shapiro, Joe Richards, Andres DeLeon

**NAY:**

**ABSTAIN:**

The October 2024 financial statements were approved as presented.

#### Old Business

**939 Robinson Avenue Sale.** The buyers backed out after an inspection revealed minor issues such as an easily fixed dryer hose. Les Downs discussed ongoing water pressure issues in the area, noting the need for pressure reducers and the challenges faced by residents. It was questioned whether or not contract verbiage possibly influencing their decision. Options considered included lowering the price, leasing, or renovating for a Community Paramedic station. Deputy Chief DeTray raised concern about maintenance of vacant property. Zakk Shapiro suggested leasing could provide a steady income for a year or two, but acknowledged the downside of losing quick access to the property. Chief Moreno suggested retaining use of certain spaces, like the garage, even if leased. Tom Murphy recommended keeping all options open until a solid opportunity arises, especially given the slow winter season. Collaborative programs with local police and local health services were discussed. Ultimately, it was decided that Chief Moreno would inform the broker to keep the property up for sale but also consider leasing options.

#### New Business

None.

#### Director's Report

**Medical Direction.** EMS Guidelines review and updates in Pueblo West, tomorrow December 12, 2024.

**EMS/MC.** Year to Date Net Collections through November \$1,276,757 plus \$10,891 (no change from previous report) on old accounts receivable.

**TAHA vs. TAD Appeal.** TAHA/Mt. San Rafael Hospital did not submit action to the Court of Appeals decision so the Court should be issuing its mandate soon.

**EMS & Community Paramedicine.** Four Paramedics are ready to schedule testing for their Community Paramedic license. Drafts of Telehealth and Tele behavior health contracts are being prepared. Looking at the possibility of working with Trinidad Police Department as a Co-Responder in the interim. All full-time staff has passed state background checks for PACT/MIH care.

New cardiac monitors will be ordered, with a preference to Striker's LifePak due to positive feedback and cost-effectiveness.

Body cameras have been successfully implemented, with positive reception from staff and community members.

A new alert system for emergency vehicles is being considered, which would notify drivers through their stereo systems about approaching emergency vehicles.

The Halloween Open House was successful. TAD participated in EOC training which has enhanced inter-agency collaboration. Also participated in a national meeting to address unique challenges faced by non-profit, non-fire-based EMS services.

Progress is being made at the state level in setting initiatives to manage whole blood supplies, focusing on rural areas.

- October 28<sup>th</sup> BWCs rollout
- October 31<sup>st</sup> Station Open house
- November 7<sup>th</sup> State Conference – stayed back due to snow
- November 11<sup>th</sup> Pulsara patient tracking pilot ended
- November 18<sup>th</sup> HAAS Alert Meeting
- November 19<sup>th</sup> SECRETAC Meeting
- December 4<sup>th</sup> G0191:EOC Training
- December 5<sup>th</sup> SEMTAC Safety Committee
- December 7<sup>th</sup> TAD Christmas Party
- December 10<sup>th</sup> HSD Check-in, CO Whole Blood Coalition
- December 11<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Service Group Meeting, Tele911 Meeting, E911 Meeting

**2023 Audit.** Due to Dixon-Waller notified TAD of their closing due to retirement, a CPA in La Junta was found to process the 2023 audit. Century Financial submitted one extension which was approved but the audit was still not completed within the specified timeframe. Because of this, the state has frozen our account causing us not to have received property taxes from the county since October 9, 2024 when the September

taxes were received. Chief Moreno reiterated the Year-to-date net collections through November totaled \$1,276,77, indicating a strong financial position.

### Operations Report

Deputy Chief DeTray provided the following call statistics for the month of November 2024.

Calls for Service	195 down 11 from October, 2024
Snow Plow	2 calls during winter storm
On Call	1 (1 transported)
EMS1	1
EMS2	1
Inter-Facility Transfers (IFT)	October=29 + November=34 + Dec. 1-10=7 Majority to Parkview
IFT NOT TAKEN	2 Staff fatigue and ALS on BLS day (was flown out due to severity)
IFT Home	5
YTD IFT	345
IFT Mileage-Oct + Nov	10,881
IFT Mileage YTD 2024	68,903

- Five out of six ambulances are in service;
- One employee continues to be out on Workers Compensation with surgery scheduled for December 31<sup>st</sup> followed by physical therapy;
- Concern for full-time staff and burnout due to open shifts, hoping to fill an EMT position;
- Considered using a chase car system for paramedics to respond to calls when full staffing is not available or dropping a car or on-call shifts to prevent burnout;
- Deputy Chief DeTray noted he spent 3 days at the station during the snow storm helping crews, plowing snow, responding to calls including plowing a path for crews to respond to a call in the county;
- TAD participated in a school shooting drill in Springfield, Colorado;
- Attended two ER Trauma meetings;
- New ER medical director is pushing for closer IFT's;
- Along with Lt. Velasquez, will be attending the Regional Guideline update December 12, 2024;

### Executive Session

Nick Mattorano made a motion to exit Regular Session and enter into Executive Session per C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b) for the purpose of conferencing with attorney to receive legal advice regarding Health Service District process.

**SECOND:** Joe Richards

**YEA:** Nick Mattorano, Tom Murphy, Zakk Shapiro, Joe Richards, Andres DeLeon

**NAY:**  
**ABSTAIN:**  
**The Board retired into Executive Session at 5:10pm**

Regular Session      **The Board returned to Regular Session at 5:23pm with not having voted on any measures while in Executive Session. In attendance during Executive Session was Attorney Les Downs, Chief Moreno, Deputy Chief DeTray, Zachary Shapiro, Joe Richards, Nick Mattorano, Andres DeLeon and Tom Murphy who left midway through the session.**

Miscellaneous      Zakk Shapiro inquired of Chief Moreno the status of the complaints that had been sent to CDPHE of which Chief Moreno has not received any information admitting that it might take some time.

Next Meeting      The next monthly meeting will be January 22, 2025 at 4:00pm.

Adjourn      **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Nick Mattorano  
**SECOND:** Joe Richards  
**YEA:** Nick Mattorano, Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Zakk Shapiro, Andres DeLeon  
**NAY:**  
**ABSTAIN:**  
Adjourned at 5:25pm

Minutes approved by Trinidad Ambulance District Board of Directors January 22, 2025.

  
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Zachary Shapiro, Chairperson

