

Great Divide Ambulance

Great Divide Ambulance
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, July 29, 2025 Minutes
4:30pm at the Namakagon Town Hall
23845 County Hwy M, Cable, WI 54821

Roy Bloom called the meeting to order at 4:29pm. In attendance were Roy Bloom, Jack McGregor, Dale Ahlvin, Jamie Holly, Monica Bigo and Laura Bjork.

Service update – Monica Bigo stated that last year to July the service had 598 calls. This year there have been 723 calls. There is an average in July of 3.9 calls a day. These are mostly transfers, but a few traumas. As far as staffing is concerned, the new EMTs are doing awesome. There are 5 full-time EMTs, and some part time casuals, so filling the schedule is going well. Paramedic employees are now short again. There are only 4 full-time paramedics. Bayfield County is offering a staffing grant (\$20,000) to supplement recruitment and retention above the regular budget. The board was supportive of applying for the grant. An update was given on vehicles. The new box truck has a problem with graphics, and it will be fixed locally. Dale Ahlvin is working on the gutters at the station. There is a problem with bugs in the garbage. Currently the employees take the garbage to the dump transferred in one of the ambulance vehicles. Service with Republic would cost \$80/month. The board asked to get a quote from Republic. The LaPointe to LaPointe event is scheduled for August 17th and there is also upcoming events for Ashland County Fair and Fat Tire. There is a Triathlon coming up, and the service is listed on their website as medical, but no one has contacted the service. There was discussion on life flight. There was discussion on county-wide ALS service.

Financial Update – The financial report was presented. Payroll expenses have decreased due to less overtime being paid out with more employees available. There is significant patient income increase, which will set us over the budgeted amount if it continues. Vehicle repairs are over budget already, and there is a lot more expenses coming. Overall, the budget is holding.

GDAS sign – The signs were presented for the front of the ambulance station. The board supported pursuing the purchase.

Billing Rates – A rate survey was presented that was submitted by EMSMC. There was discussion on resident/non-resident billing rates. Great Divide is so low in billing rates that the billing company advised to make two raises in rates over the course of two years. The rates and suggested raises were as follows:

Call:	Current Rate:	Proposed Increase:	Increase next year:
BLS Transport	\$550	\$900	\$1,250

ALS Transport	\$900	\$1,125	\$1,350
ALS2 Transport	\$1,000	\$1,275	\$1,550
SCT Transport	\$1,600	\$1,725	\$1,850
BLS On Scene Care	\$150	\$250	\$350
ALS On Scene Care	\$250	\$475	\$700
Mileage	\$21	\$23	As needed

MOTION made by Jamie Holly to approve the proposed rate increase as presented. MOTION seconded by Dale Ahlvin and carried.

Update Resolution – Jack McGregor noted that the board needed to consider an Exit Clause and the requirements to be considered a representative of the township (whether it be a board member or someone else). Jamie Holly stated that it should remain a board member because the member is responsible with huge responsibility. Tabled.

Review By-Laws – Tabled.

Review Job Descriptions – Tabled.

MOTION made by Jamie Holly @ 5:54pm to adjourn to Closed Session according to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(1)(C) considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. MOTION seconded by Jack McGregor and carried.

MOTION made by Jamie Holly to table Closed Session and reconvene to open session @ 6:30pm pursuant to State Statute 19.85(2) to take any necessary action(s) as required and resume regular business. MOTION seconded by Dale Ahlvin and carried.

Roy Bloom adjourned the meeting at 6:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Bjork
Great Divide Ambulance Business Manager