



violations. That might be part of the reason. However, this board is very proactive and we only spent a portion of the seatbelt funds and have been able to carry-over the balance. We also raised 87% of the projected EMS funds that we raise on our own. For fiscal year 2015 we have expended 44% of our State funds and 4% of our Seatbelt funds. We try to spend the State funds as soon as we can, as it cannot be carried over year to year like the Seatbelt funds. Marcia Ward wondered if there is a difference in tickets if it is the driver vs. a passenger. Don shared an example of someone he knows who both the driver and passenger received seatbelt tickets. The fines were \$125.00 each. The board was advised that the true fine is \$25.00 and the regional programs receive 90% of the \$25.00.

Motion: Harms

Seconded: Belshan

“To approve the financials reports” **MOTION CARRIED**

B. Approve the June, July and August warrants.

Motion: Gabrielson

Seconded: Walter

“To approve the June, July and August warrants.” **MOTION CARRIED**

C. Approval of check reissue.

Don asked the board from approval to reissue two checks that were never cashed. Both people have requested that the checks be reissued. Our checks have a 180 day validity and should not be able to be cashed after that. One check was written on December 3, 2013 for \$93.08 and the other, which has not quite reached the 180 day mark, was March 25, 2014 \$96.72.

Motion: Bauer

Seconded: Ward

“To approve the reissue of the missing, uncashed checks in the amount of \$93.08 and \$96.72.” **MOTION CARRIED**

Commissioner Belshan asked a question regarding two checks written, both to the Canadian Honker. Hauge explained it was a 2 hour meeting that was held to update our instructors with the new materials and to show our appreciation to our instructors. Commissioner Belshan shared his thoughts regarding government employees paying for their own meals. Ryan Throckmorton asked if we were paying them a wage and mileage, too. Don answered we did not. Ryan believes the cost of the meal was far less per person than if we were to pay them a wage and mileage. Chairman Johnson reminded the group we are working largely with volunteers and felt it would be a great disservice to quibble over a \$15.00 meal and that he is in favor of a recognition dinner every two years for these instructor update meetings. Commissioner Belshan stated that he is in favor of them receiving mileage reimbursement, but still believes the meal should not be paid for.

D. MCIT 2013 Dividend Notice

Don drew the board’s attention to the MCIT Dividend notice. Our contribution for FY 2015 will be \$3898.00 payable at the end of January. It is \$115.00 less than

what was paid this year. We will also be receiving a dividend check for \$1065.00 in November. This will be a \$1000.00 less than the dividend check we received last year.

E. FY 2014 Audit Update

The State Auditor's office has begun the auditing process again. Carrie, who has done our audit for the last several years, is performing our audit again. She has done her routine interview with Cindy and Don, and still needs to interview Cathy. Cindy was very proactive in preparing the documents and having them ready as Carrie needed them. Doug Johnson commended Don and Cindy for the work they have done to make the audit process better. Don shared that he did speak to the auditor about why the fees for the auditor were higher than last year and unfortunately, she didn't have a good answer. Carrie does the audit, Karla checks Carrie's work and someone checks Karla's. It's a 3 tiered system, but Don believes we require just a simple basic audit. Don has shared he has checked with others and found an entire county that was audited for slightly more than we were charged. Chairman Johnson had added this came as a surprise in light of the auditors opening statements indicated that since we have had the same auditor for the past two or three years, the fee for the audit should be less. We were told it would go down, when in fact it went up by almost 15%. The board suggested we look at getting estimates from independent auditors, just to compare fees.

f. 3Echo Training Fund Request

Don shared he received a verbal request from Ron Robinson who is the Regional Director in the Metro. He is doing some training with police, fire and EMS members in our region. The 3 e's are entry, evaluate and evacuate. This is training for hostile events. Don referenced the Sandy Hook, Columbine, and theater shooting situations. This training is being put on to help these agencies remove viable victims in a safe and quick manor to hopefully save more lives. Tom Beniak has been through the training and believes it is a valuable program. Don shared there will be two of these trainings in our region; one is Byron this weekend and one in Faribault in October. Ron has secured some federal funding for this. But the training consists of 60 people for two days with approximately 40 instructors who will have food, travel and lodging expenses. He has requested from us and the other regional programs that we would help pay for the food and water for this class. Don recommended that the board approve this request. He advised the board he has funds budgeted for such training. The requested amount is \$1500.00 per class, a total of \$3000.00.

MOTION: Gabrielson

SECONDED: Harms

"To approve sending \$3,000.00 for the 3Echo training in Byron and Faribault"

**MOTION CARRIED**

## V. **Regional Program Update**

### A. 2015 Conference Update

The conference committee will be meeting again next week. We are working on getting our speakers and topics filled. Mayo Civic Center did get their funding and so for the next 3 years we will be working with them during their construction to reduce the impact it may have on our conference. Don will have more the next time this board meets as we will have more items finalized.

### B. Fall Workshop Update

We started doing these Fall workshops last year as a one day, one topic workshop. Last year we did pediatrics and this year we will be doing Farm Accidents. Participants have asked for this type of training. There will be both classroom and hands on components. It will cover tractor roll-overs, auger entanglement, corn-head entrapment. There will also be a combine present to show where some of its most dangerous points are. Don was able to find the equipment needed at Hammell Equipment in Chatfield. They will donate the equipment, but we will pay them a small fee to deliver and pick up the equipment. Don shared he also applied for a grant to help cover the costs, but has not yet heard if the monies will be awarded. Don invited the board to attend or stop by and see the activities if they would like.

### C. Minnesota Mission: Lifeline Update

Don directed the board to a hand out in their packets listing the services in our region that received the Mission Lifeline grant. We had 18 services in our region apply for the grant which puts a 12-lead EKG monitors into our BLS services. They will be taught to put on the 12 lead patches, they will be taught about STEMI recognition and care. This is a statewide program to help reduce morbidity and mortality from heart attacks. We have 5 instructors who have gone through a train the trainer program and will begin the education with these services soon. We hope to have all the training completed by the end of the year. The transmission piece is still in the works. The hospitals each received grant monies as well to install the software that receives the information being transmitted by these new EKGs. The hospitals should be ready by the end of the year as well.

### D. Helmsley Grand for Lucas 2 Device

Don shared that the same foundation will now be providing funds to give a Lucas II mechanical CPR device into each service as well. This will start the beginning of January.

### E. Legislative Funding Activity

The regional directors will be attending a meeting tomorrow. Part of the agenda will be to decide if the MAA will support the regional programs grant contract which is currently held by the EMSRB, being moved to the Minnesota Department of Health's office of Rural Health and Primary care. We have talked about this in former meetings. Don feels that our payments have been getting better lately. The EMSRB still states they

are grossly understaffed. It has been decided by their board that they do not have the staff or the time to administer all the grant programs. Don shared that just less than 50% of their budget is some form of grant activity. Don feels that what they do for the regional program doesn't require a lot. Each regional program sends in 2 invoices a month, so that 16 invoices, however they require every receipt, every check, and every piece of paper relating to the invoice. Now, someone who was hired as an administrative assistant is being tasked with this job at the EMSRB. Don shared that the executive director of the EMSRB handed out a flyer on FAQ. One of the questions was; *If the EMS regions continue to receive funding through the EMSRB what are the possible ways to cover associated expenses?* Through statute we pay 5% of the state funds. They get about \$30,000.00 to administer our grants. One of their suggestions is to raise the fee to 10% – 20%. Every time they raise the fees it takes it away from the providers. The EMSRB is suggesting other unfunded mandates. The regional programs don't want to be rogue, but they do want to manage the funds according to their region's needs. It is felt the office of Rural Health will be a good fit for us. They are also interested in working with us. The fee to go to Rural Health may be a higher fee. But, they will not just be a fiscal agent for our RFP's, but it sounds like they will take a more proactive approach to working with the regional programs. Don is looking for the board's approval to continuing looking into moving to Rural Health or other options. The other regional programs have their boards support and we are hoping for the same.

Motion: Belshan

Seconded: Ward

"To approve the director to continue to explore the option of moving to Department of Rural Health" **MOTION CARRIED**

#### F. Equipment Grant Update

Don showed the board the results of the equipment grant. We had 44 services apply and we were able to fund 25 of their requests. Each could apply for up to \$2000.00 with each paying 25% of the cost. Don is hoping to provide this same grant again for next year.

#### G. First Responder Training Subsidy

Don told the board this program helps first responder services train new first responders and recertify current ones. As first responders they cannot bill for their services, so they rely on their pancake breakfasts and other fund raisers. We always get a greater request than we have funds

#### G. Training Program/Consortium Update

Cathy gave a brief update on the MDC. The power points have been updated and the response from the instructors and the services is positive. Kasson is a brand new first responder service and has joined the consortium. Spring Grove ambulance is also a part of the Consortium and they are very pleased with the process and the training they have

received. Cathy shared how she is working to make the consortium a program that others want to join, rather than have to join.

**VI. Other Business / Open Discussion**

**VII. Next meeting will be November 13, 2014.**

**VIII. Meeting Adjourned**

Motion: Bauer

Seconded: Harms

“Motion to adjourn” **MOTION CARRIED**

Approved by:

Attested by:

Douglas Johnson, Chair  
EMS Joint Powers Board

Don Hauge  
Executive Director