Regional Selectmen's Meeting Ossipee Town Hall Conference Room Thursday, November 20, 2014

The Regional Selectmen's Meeting took place at 6:00 PM on the evening of Thursday, November 20, 2014 in the Conference Room at the Ossipee Town Hall. The following were in attendance:

From the Town of Ossipee: Selectman Richard Morgan, Selectman Robert Freeman, Selectman Franklin Riley and Ellen White, Town Administrator

From the Town of Effingham: Selectman Henry Spencer, Selectman Lawrence Edwards

From the Town of Madison: Selectman Mike Brooks

From the Town of Eaton: Selectman Rick Young, Selectman Dick Fortin and Lianne Boelzner, Town Administrator

From the Town of Tamworth: Selectman John Roberts, Selectman James Hidden and Selectman Steve Gray, and Cassandra Pearce, Town Administrator

From the Town of Freedom: Selectman Ernie Day and Selectman Neal Boyle

Also in attendance were Carl Huddleston, Michael Brownell, and Adam Riley.

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 PM.

Selectman Spencer made a motion to remove the proposal received from American Ambulance from the review. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Selectman Morgan questioned which option the other towns were looking at stating that Ossipee is the only town with a variable price between the various options. He further stated that Ossipee is hoping for Option B. He briefly discussed the possibility of increasing the basic-level to intermediate-level.

Discussion took place on the cost associated with the second location and how it would be distributed amongst the towns if chosen.

Selectman Spencer voiced his concern with Paramedic availability in choosing an option that does not require one. Morgan stated that Paramedics are now available for intercept from the hospital and also that current Intermediate-level responders have more responsibilities.

Selectman Brooks stated that they know the price was going to increase and the pricing appears stable in the proposal. Selectman Roberts questioned whether Madison is ready to move forward with the new proposal. Brooks stated that he has not had the opportunity to get a quorum vote from his Board members.

Selectman Day stated that he thinks the six-town agreement is the best option adding that the increase will be difficult in the first year but it is inevitable.

Selectman Brooks suggested questioning whether the current tri-town contract holders could maintain the 2015 pricing and spread the difference out over the rest of the contract.

Selectman Edwards questioned how the figures were calculated for each town. Based upon population as stated in the proposal, Effingham is the next smallest to Eaton and their subsidy is higher than Tamworth and Madison.

Selectman Spencer discussed the central location and questioned the billing process. White answered that CarePlus will work with the patient to establish financial assistance or payment arrangements as deemed necessary. Anything over that comes back to the Town for further assistance.

Selectman Morgan stated that the pricing must be equitable for all towns at the end of the contract. Selectman Brooks stated that if 2015 is equitable for Madison, Tamworth and Freedom, Madison is in for the 6-year contract.

Further discussion took place on the options available for presenting at Town Meeting.

Several questions were compiled that will be asked to CarePlus.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 12/4/2014 at 6:00 PM in the Conference Room at Ossipee Town Hall.

White will email the list of questions to each town for further review. The questions will be distributed to CarePlus on Wednesday, 11/26/2014 with a request to attend the 12/4/2014 meeting.

Being no further input, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen White Town Administrator – Town of Ossipee