

**Regional Selectmen's Meeting  
Ossipee Town Hall Conference Room  
Thursday, December 4, 2014**

The Regional Selectmen's Meeting took place on Thursday, December 4, 2014 in the Conference Room at the Ossipee Town Hall. The following were in attendance:

Town of Ossipee: Selectmen Richard Morgan, Robert Freeman and Franklin Riley

Town of Effingham: Selectmen Harry Spencer and Lawrence Edwards

Town of Freedom: Selectmen Ernie Day, Les Babb and Neal Boyle

Town of Madison: Selectmen Michael Brooks and John Arruda

Town of Eaton: Selectmen Rick Young and Dick Fortin and Town Administrator Lianne Boelzner

Town of Tamworth: Selectmen John Roberts, James Hidden and Steve Gray and Town Administrator Cassandra Pearce

CarePlus Ambulance: Eric Damon, Scott Quilty and Mitchell Gove

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Selectman Morgan. Selectman Brooks explained that it is currently the consensus to pursue Option B with an upgrade of ambulance level from Basic to Intermediate and questioned whether the proposed cost of \$16,091 will fluctuate each year. Eric Damon indicated that the cost will increase by 2% each year.

Selectman Morgan stated that in an effort to have the four Towns break the current contract, the question was asked about keeping rates at the 2015 costs of that contract. Eric Damon explained that the break down between Towns does not matter as long as the total subsidy is met. Selectman Brooks noted that it would be easier to gain approval at Town Meeting if the increase comes a year later.

Selectman Babb stated that the method of determining the subsidy needs to be explained so that Selectmen can explain to voters at Town Meetings. Selectman Edwards noted that subsidy based on populations puts the costs too high and questioned why all Towns are not paying the same rate when the coverage is the same. Selectman Morgan noted that Ossipee requires additional services, so that cost needs to come out of the bottom line before determining the subsidies.

Eric Damon noted that he used history to split the costs between Towns. Selectman Morgan noted that the method of funding can be further discussed to find an equitable solution. Selectman Young noted that costs based on population does not work because of the fluctuation in some Towns and noted that the contract costs appear to be from the current contract with a 120% increase across the board.

Scott Quilty noted that the 120% increase was discussed with each Town and that Ossipee and Effingham make up the difference to meet the bottom line. Selectman Boyle stated that the formula for determining the subsidy needs to be settled so that it can be passed on to the voters. Eric Damon stated that the how the collective Boards determine to prorate the cost is up to the

Boards. The Boards discussed optional methods of setting the subsidy for each Town. Selectman Brooks noted that the level of service and number of locations needs to be established in order to get an accurate bottom line, at which time the six Boards can discuss how to set the subsidies. Selectman Brooks explained that the population, number of calls and demand on services all needs to be taken into consideration in order to fairly establish the cost to each Town.

Rick Morgan expressed his surprise at the cost of providing a second location. Eric Damon explained how the cost is calculated and noted that the requirement of a new ambulance at the second location every five years also drives up the cost but noted that the contingency amount could be reduced as the proposed second location is already established. Selectman Gray questioned whether required response times can be met from the current location. Mitch Goves noted that it would be a stretch for the outlying areas of Ossipee and Tamworth.

It was the consensus of the Boards of Selectmen that the requirement of a new ambulance every five years for the second location be changed to require that no ambulance be more than 10 years of age. Eric Damon noted that he will send out new numbers for the second station. It was the consensus to pursue Option B and to increase the third ambulance to an Intermediate level and that the option of a second location will be further discussed at the next meeting. Selectman Morgan also requested that call volume be submitted for review.

Selectman Babb suggested using a formula based on both number of calls and population. Selectman Morgan noted that the additional services required for Ossipee adds approximately \$158,000 to the bottom line.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 6 pm at the Ossipee Town Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lianne Boelzner*

Lianne Boelzner  
Eaton Town Administrator

