

January 5, 2012

The January 5, 2012 meeting of the NIESA Board was called to order at 7:02 pm by the chairperson Charles Galbreath.

Voting Members Present: R. Pollok, R. Lillywhite, C. Galbreath, E. Griffes, R. Cole
R. Hayes. City of Williamston Representative excused.

Non Voting Members Present: R. Hanna

EMS/Fire Personnel Present: M. Flynn, R. Oesterle, B. Siegel, S Davis, M. House.

Other : F. Wilbrink

Guests: None

Consent Agenda (Agenda I):

- Minutes to the December 1, 2011 Regular Meeting
- Checking Account Summary December 2011
- 2011 Operational Budget through December 2011
- 2012 Building & Equipment Budget through December 2011

Motion by Mr. Pollok to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Cole.
Motion carried.

Public Comment (Agenda II):

Nothing at this time.

City of Williamston- Backflow Prevention device (Agenda III-A):

Mr. Galbreath advised Ms. Curtis received 3 quotes for the installation of a single backflow device where the city water enters the building. Mr. Cole asked who quoted the work. Ms. Curtis advised H2O Compliance for \$2,175, Meridian Plumbing for \$2,585.00, and Steve Hulliberger for \$2,180.

Mr. Galbreath stated Ms. Curtis wanted to compare the bids to make sure they were for the same work, but if everything checks out they would like to give the job to Mr. Hulliberger. Discussion followed.

Motion by Mr. Cole, to award the bid to Steve Hulliberger, pending review of the of the bids to make sure it's for the same services, seconded by Mr. Hayes. Motion carried.

Fire Service Billing Review (Agenda III-B):

Mr. Galbreath advised the Finance Committee had met and they have some questions to take back to the Attorney with regard to the language in the Billing Ordinance. One of the questions is the wording regarding the provisions for placing a lien for the outstanding charges. Not sure if NIESA can place a lien.

They are also recommending the mileage fee for the ambulance be increased from \$9.00 to \$11.00. Currently other agencies in the area are charging between \$10.00 and \$11.50.

Mr. E. Griffes asked if they were going to recommend charging for fire calls on residences. Mr. Galbreath advised no.

Mr. Galbreath hopes to provide proposed changes to the Board at their next meeting.

Leroy Township Station- Meeting Room Furnishing (Agenda III-C):

Mr. House advised the furnishing have been ordered and they are awaiting delivery.

Senate Bill 7 (Agenda IV-A):

Mr. Galbreath advised we had received information about Senate Bill 7 from our health insurance agent. They were not sure if it would apply to NIESA. It is titled the "Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act." The bill was passed and is effective January 1, 2012.

It states that public funded governmental entities can not pay 100 percent of their employee's health insurance premiums. They provided three options. One was to have a hard cap of \$5,500. Which NIESA could pay up to \$5,500 for their employee, but the employee had to pay the remaining premium. The second option was an 80/20 split. NIESA would pay 80% and the employee was required to pay 20%. The third option was the organization could opt out.

Mr. Galbreath discussed the matter with Attorney Adams, and in his opinion the Senate Bill applies to NIESA, however NIESA was not eligible to use the "Opt out" option.

Mr. Hanna questioned Mr. Adams determination. He felt that NIESA was not subject to the Bill because we were formed under a different Public Act than was indicated in the Bill. Mr. Hanna also wondered if NIESA could "grandfather" the current employees receiving health insurance benefits and not requiring them to pay any portion of their health insurance, but any employees that request insurance benefits after January 1, 2012 would be subject to paying a portion of their insurance. Mr. Galbreath advised, per Attorney Adams, that was not allowed.

Discussion followed regarding NIESA's options, how participation was going to be monitored and enforced, and the penalties for non-compliance.

Mr. Galbreath indicated he will meet with Attorney Adams again, and express Mr. Hanna's questions and concerns. Our new insurance policy period takes effect March 1st, so the Board will have to make a decision on how this will be addressed at the next Board meeting.

Consensus of the Board members was they did not want to pass any portion of the cost of the health insurance to the employees currently receiving benefits, and wanted to research all of their options to keep the employees from paying a portion of the premium. This is not something NIESA wants to do, but is something the State of Michigan is mandating.

Escheating Checks to the State of Michigan (Agenda IV-B):

Mr. Hanna advised we were also notified by the State of Michigan that outstanding checks issued by NIESA which are over 2 years old are suppose to be escheated to the State. Which means we are suppose to send the money to the State for those outstanding checks. Discussion followed.

Election of Officers: Mr. Lillywhite asked if the Board should be electing officers at this meeting. Ms. Curtis advised she checked the minutes from last year, and the elections were done at the February meeting. She planned on putting it on next months agenda.

Treasurers Report (Agenda V):

Mr. Hanna advised with the purchase of the office and meeting room furnishings for the Leroy Township station the Capital Projects account had been closed. Ms. Curtis transferred the funds to the Operations account to cover the check issued. Cost of the furnishings is \$11,861.68, and it was purchased from Kentwood Office Furniture. It was a little more than what was left in the Capital Projects fund, however the balance was taken from the Operations fund.

Mr. Hanna advised there were several late bills in December. One of the items was a new cot for \$4,350. There was also \$4,600 for 3 sets of turn out gear for Leroy Township, and \$3,700 for two sets for Williamston.

Mr. Hanna reported Ms. Curtis did meet with Mr. Haddrill in December . He was suppose to contact Ms. Curtis to schedule a meeting for January, however Ms. Curtis had not heard from him. She will follow up next week.

Committee Reports (Agenda VI):

Nothing further from the Committees.

Comments from the Director (Agenda VII):

Mr. Galbreath advised he met with Attorney Adams regarding the Senate Bill and other issues. He advised Mr. Hanna is working on purging the Williamston Community Fire Board records, and older NIESA records. Mr. Galbreath was concerned about the pile of records in the hallway, and they fact we may be violating HIPPA by having medical records in the pile. Ms. Curtis advised there are no medical records in hallway. Any medical records to be purged will remain in the file room. Discussion followed.

Comments from the Department Chief's, Supervisors, Biller (Agenda VIII):

Chief Siegel: Reported Williamston responded to 12 calls in December. A couple of house fires, and a pole barn fire. Total calls for 2011 was 176, which was 10 more calls than 2010. He advised the fire loss costs for the year was \$269,000 on structures and vehicles, and \$107,000 on contents.

As for January, the Williamston station will be doing annual paperwork and fit testing.

Mr. Lillywhite asked if the SCBA compressor was installed and running. Chief Siegel advised it was delivered, but when they started to install it they did not have all the parts. They expected him to accept it without all the parts, and he refused. They are do out next Monday to complete the installation.

Chief Flynn: Reported Leroy Township responded to 12 calls in December. He printed off an annual report with a breakdown of the responses for the year, and gave it to Ms. Curtis. If anyone would like a copy they can contact Ms. Curtis. There loss ratio was \$465,000.

The vehicles have been serviced, and he met with Chris Martin from Laux Construction and went over some issues they have with the building. Mr. Martin advised he would take care of their concerns. Mr. Galbreath advised Chief Flynn not to give them too much time to complete the repairs before we go to the next step.

The Leroy Station will also be doing annual paperwork and fit testing this month.

Sherry Davis, EMS Supervisor: EMS responded to 58 calls in December. 13 of the calls were refusals and they gave one call to Meridian.

Ms. Davis advised that one of the full time personnel had resigned his full time position and stepped down to per diem. He gave them a letter dated December 12, 2011, advising he was stepping down as of December 29, 2011, however they did not receive the letter until December 20, 2011 which was only a weeks notice. There were two candidates for the position, and they feel they hired the individual that best fits NIESA's needs.

Mr. Cole asked if Ms. Davis had the total number of calls for 2011. Ms. Davis did not have that information.

Charlie Galbreath, Biller: Mr. Galbreath advised he could not provide the number of EMS call either because his computer was not working this evening. He estimated the year end ambulance revenue was \$240,000. Money was received from Medicare for the November ambulance calls on December 30th.

Chief Siegel asked what percentage of the charges are collected. Mr. Galbreath indicated NIESA is averaging 45-50%. Discussion followed.

Comments from the Office Manager (Agenda IX):

Backflow Device Inspection: Ms. Curtis advised DeLau was in on December 2, 2011 to perform the necessary testing. Once they completed their reports they forwarded a copy to the City of Williamston, and a copy to their subcontractor. Ms. Curtis forwarded a copy of Leroy Townships

inspection to the Village of Webberville for their records.

Auditor Meeting: Mr. Haddrill did keep the appointment on December 12th to start getting some of the information he needed to prepare the audit. He was supposed to call to schedule an appointment date in January, but Ms. Curtis has not heard from him. She left a message for him to call her. She will try to contact him again the first of next week.

Leak in the Attic of 1296: Ms. Curtis discovered water damage to the ceiling in the attic area above the storage shelves. It was in the same area that leaked 2 years ago. She contacted Briggs Mechanical, and they discovered that the vent pipe has rusted out, and the condensation is leaking out. Discussion followed on how it was designed. Ms. Curtis asked them to redesign the vent run to eliminate the problem. She is waiting to hear from Briggs.

Comments from Board Members (Agenda X):

Mr. Hayes advised that per Supervisor Martin, the Township had received some complaints about the fire department. They were complaining the fire personnel were driving too fast through the subdivisions. They also complained about an incident that happened during the light parade.

Chief Siegel advised Mr. Hayes that if the Township receives complaints about the fire department they need to direct the individuals to contact the station. Ms. Curtis has a citizen complaint form that she completes and gives to the supervisor so the issues can be addressed. He advised he needs to hear about the problem when they happen, not a month after the fact.

Chief Siegel advised Mr. Hayes that Ms. Curtis had received two complaints regarding the incident at the light parade. He contacted the Chief Young of the police department and discussed the situation, and Chief Young felt the fire personnel did a good job getting through the parade to respond to the fire call.

Mr. Hanna spoke with the individual that announced the parade, and she also felt the fire personnel were very cautious when they went through the parade route. Discussion followed.

Comments from Association Members (Agenda XI)

Nothing at this time.

Public Comment (Agenda XII):

Ms. Curtis advised that Mrs. Whelton had contacted the office and wanted to remind the personnel that St. Mary's Church will be holding their annual "Blue Mass" on Sunday January 29th at 0900. She was hoping some personnel would attend.

Adjournment (Agenda XIII):

Motion by Mr. E. Griffes to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm, seconded by Mr. Pollok. Motion carried.

Paula M. Curtis, Secretary

Date