



*Newtown Volunteer Ambulance
Association, Inc.*

**Newtown Volunteer Ambulance Association, Inc.
Newtown, CT 06470**

THESE MEETING MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2021

The Board of Trustees of the Newtown Volunteer Ambulance Association held its regular meeting on Tuesday, December 14, 2021.

Present: Malcolm McLachlan (President), Harry Waterbury (Treasurer, via speakerphone), John Kortze (Vice President), Nancy McLachlan and Chief Ryan Horn, via speakerphone)

Absent: Dana Demand, E. Patricia Llodra, Patrick Simms and Dr. Robert Soltis

Staff Present: Susan Miles (NVAA Office Administrator)

Call to Order: The NVAA Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 7:29 p.m. by Mr. McLachlan.

Public Participation: None

Mr. McLachlan called for a brief pause in remembrance of those who were lost at the Sandy Hook Elementary School nine years ago today.

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Waterbury gave an update on the balances of the money market, checking account, mortgage and Stifel accounts. The money market account balance is \$150,000, the checking account totals just under \$29,000 and the mortgage balance stands at \$189,000. Just over \$40,000 was awarded in scholarship awards and holiday recognitions which will appear on the December statement. The Stifel investments are \$1,286,000. A motion was made by Mr. Kortze and seconded by Mrs. McLachlan to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was unanimously approved.

Acceptance of minutes from meeting held on November 9, 2021:

The motion was made by Mr. Kortze to accept the minutes of the November 9, 2021 meeting and was seconded by Mrs. McLachlan. It was unanimously approved.

Chief's Report:

Mr. McLachlan welcomed our new Chief, Ryan Horn. All are looking forward to working with him and are optimistic about the times ahead for NVAC. The Chief has been at the

helm for 14 days. During this time, he had a productive meeting regarding the shortage of back-up medics. Perhaps there needs to be an adjustment in the dispatch criteria so a medic is not added unless necessary. There were 234 calls in November and the running total for the year is presently at a busy 2,800 calls. No first calls were dropped. There were four second calls where a back-up medic was not available. Two EMTs sustained minor injuries while out on calls.

He will begin sexual harassment training for the entire Corps to bring us back into compliance with the State mandate. He is currently developing HIPAA training as well. The fall EMT class will be finishing soon and the winter EMT class will begin in early January. NVAC may need to purchase some updated AED trainers at \$84 each to use in class. Chief Horn is making appointments to his team of compliance officers for infectious disease, HIPAA and sexual harassment.

President's Report:

Mr. McLachlan again welcomed Chief Horn. There is a statewide shortage of backup medics which can perhaps be lessened by adjusting the protocols for medic dispatch. The hospital sets the dispatch criteria.

Collections: A total of \$1,697 was collected last month, \$1,257 from one individual.

Old Business:

Mr. McLachlan has heard good reports about the use of the TangoTango app. Chief Horn is also in favor. The contract period is one year and there is no penalty to cancel at the end of the year. He surveyed users in the trial group of 26 and 85% liked the app and found it helpful especially at the hospital where radio reception is unavailable. There are a couple negative aspects. There is a 1-2 second delay in transmission while the computer processes and transmits to the phone. Second, there is interference with the app and radio if they are in close proximity. The app can be available if we don't have the resources for radios. There is a cost advantage when compared to radios. Many of the younger EMTs and also the medics like TangoTango. It should be noted that a few EMTs are not favorable toward the app. There was a motion to proceed with a one-year contract to use TangoTango at NVAC made by Mr. Kortze and seconded by Mrs. McLachlan. The motion passed. We will proceed with processing the payment next week.

There still remains some confusion regarding the REI proposal. At best perhaps Mr. Jorgensen can visit next month to review with the Board. An issue at NVAC is the computer network and addressing problems and equipment updates for outdated hardware. We have an IT committee of one person. Mr. McLachlan wants Chief Horn to have full access to EMSCHARTS as a backup to Pat Salvo. He would like Chief Horn to have full access to the IT system so we are not totally reliant on one individual. There was a motion to table any decision on going forward with the REI proposal for now.

New Business:

Mr. McLachlan recommends adding one additional \$1,000 scholarship for Shivam Soni, a college senior. His name was inadvertently omitted from the final review of candidates. His grant would bring the total scholarships to \$5,000 this year. The budget is for \$4,000.

Last year we awarded only \$3,000. There was a motion by Mr. Kortze to authorize an additional \$1,000 scholarship. The motion was seconded by Mrs. McLachlan and was approved.

Mr. McLachlan asked for a motion to accept the 2022 meeting dates. Mr. Kortze made a motion to approve the 2022 calendar of meeting dates. Mrs. McLachlan seconded and the motion passed.

Our signatories for the checking accounts need to be approved because we are replacing former Chief Elizabeth Cain with Chief Ryan Horn. There was a motion by Mr. Kortze to appoint the following individuals to be signatories for the checking accounts at Newtown Savings Bank. Chief Ryan Horn; Malcolm McLachlan, president; Harrison Waterbury, treasurer; John Kortze, vice president; Dana Demand, vice president. It was seconded by Mrs. McLachlan and then passed unanimously.

Communications/Announcements:

Mr. McLachlan hopes to see everyone on Saturday evening at Marygold's. Thank you for coming. Good Luck on exams tomorrow, Ryan.

There was a motion to adjourn by Mr. Kortze at 8:08 p.m. which was seconded by Mrs. McLachlan. It was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Miles for E. Patricia Llodra, Secretary
Newtown Volunteer Ambulance Association, Inc.