

TRINIDAD AMBULANCE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MONTHLY MEETING

April 22, 2026

Attendance: Zachary Shapiro, Tom Murphy, Audra Garrett, Lynette Bates, Chief Moreno, Deputy Chief DeTray, Barbara Fisk, Lts. Romero and Bacharach

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION
Call to Order/Pledge	Meeting was called to order at 4:33pm by Zachary Shapiro.
Roll Call/Proof of Quorum	There was a quorum with four (4) board members in attendance.
Adoption of Agenda	<p>MOTION adopt the agenda as presented was made by Audra Garrett. SECOND: Tom Murphy YEA: Zachary Shapiro, Tom Murphy, Audra Garrett, Lynette Bates NAY: ABSTAIN: The agenda adopted as amended.</p>
Review Minutes	<p>MOTION to approve the March, 2026 meeting minutes as presented was made by Audra Garrett. SECOND: Tom Murphy YEA: Zachary Shapiro, Tom Murphy, Audra Garrett, Lynette Bates NAY: ABSTAIN: Zachary Shapiro The March 25, 2026 minutes were approved as amended.</p>
Director & Operations Report	<p>Chief Moreno reviewed Colorado and National headlines relating to ambulance crashes, service closures, assaults on service providers, staffing shortages and overall funding challenges.</p>

Financial Overview

General Fund \$2,061,884.17
 Enterprise Fund \$1,810,411.80
 Total Cash on Hand \$3,872,295.97
 YTD Net Income \$428,262

2026 February Billing Performance

Total EMS Trips (not calls for svc)	163
Gross Charges	\$534,739
Average Charge/Trip	\$3,281
Collections	\$47,355
Cash/Trip	\$290.52
Net Collections Rate	12.3%

Medical Direction. Dr. Becker was here Friday providing education to staff.

939 Robinson. Tenant has switched utilities into their name and setup ACH payment for rent. They are current on both accounts.

Grants. AFG is still pending. **EMTS (CDPHE) Grants** FY2026 is pending reimbursement; all purchases complete. Documents have been submitted to the state. FY2027 RETAC review went well; SEMTAC review on April 1st went well. **OeHI Grant** is in progress. The second payment in the amount of \$115,000 has been received. The final payment of \$115,000 will be received the end of June or first part of July. **Naxolone Project** is still pending. **Rural Health Initiative Funds (RHIF)** is still pending.

Whole Blood. AMR, a Colorado ambulance service provider was able to provide whole blood to patients during the recent I70 pile up.

Legislative Updates. The Treatment-In-Place Bill, HB26-1096 passed the House and the Senate but unrealized amendments were added. Governor Polis isn't inclined to sign but may veto the bill. There are three weeks left of this legislative session. As a side note, in 2025, the governor vetoed the Balanced Billing bill even though it unanimously passed both the House and the Senate. Bill HB26-1238 Designating Emergency Medical Services as Essential passed the House and Senate and is also awaiting the governor's signature.

Deputy Chief DeTray narrated a Power Point Presentation with graphs to share data and information on the Operations Report.

Transport statistics on services provided for the month of March 2026.

Calls for Service	203 (up 54)
On Call	1 w/transport
Chief	0
Deputy Chief	0
Inter-Facility Transfers	36 (up 16)
Transports Delayed	2
IFT Not Transported	4 (1-POV, 3 ALS on BLS shift)
IFT Miles	7,148
YTD IFT Miles	13,095
YTD IFT Transports	91
Secure Transports	7 (up 3)

Non-Transport Details. Audra Garret asked for clarification about the non-transported and delayed Inter-Facility Transfers (IFT).

Definitions

- *Advanced Life Support (ALS) = Paramedic or EMT I*
- *EMTI (ALS) = Emergency Medical Technician Intermediate, step above EMT, step below Paramedic*
- *Basic Life Support (BLS) = Emergency Medical Technician*
- *Inter-Facility Transport (IFT)*
- *POV = Personally Owned Vehicle*

It was explained how extremely rural services are limited for both critical access hospitals and ambulance services. While TAD tries to always have, at minimum, one paramedic (ALS provider) on shift, it is not always possible. In those circumstances an EMTI (Intermediate BLS provider) is on shift. There are multiple scenarios wherein TAD may not be able to immediately respond to an IFT. Here are a few examples.

- 1) The hospital may require an ALS transfer when TAD has a BLS/BLS and BLS/ALS shift. The ALS provider must stay within the county in order to respond to any 911 ALS calls so the hospital must find other means of transport.
- 2) The hospital may require a transfer when TAD already has an ambulance conducting an IFT out of the county. The in-county crew must remain in the county to respond to any 911 calls.
- 3) The hospital may request an IFT for a patient receiving certain medications that a TAD provider is not allowed to oversee. Sometimes the patient can stay at the hospital until the medication dosage is completed prior to transport. At other times, the hospital may have a nurse transport with the patient.

The hospital can also use other means to transport patients in case of extreme need e.g. other ambulance services, helicopter or fixed wing airplane. There are also instances when the patient elects to transport via personally owned vehicle (POV).

Staffing. The District currently has two ALS providers out on Workers Comp and both are scheduled for second surgeries. Burn Out is a constant concern for administration who is always searching for relief options. The District currently employs six ALS and seven BLS providers. The state is working on a new Advanced EMT (AEMT) option but the path and requirements is not yet clear. We have hired one new BLS provider and interviewed 2 ALS providers. Chief Moreno has opened up one ALS full-time position in hopes of relieving crews and, in the future, allowing for the position to be absorbed into the Mobile Integrated Health program. He noted his strong desire to hire someone but not have to lay them off later. Tom Murphy inquired if TAD “grows its own” employees. Deputy Chief DeTray responded, “yes”. Until last year, the District offered Emergency Medical Responder classes in various local high schools. Enrollment numbers

diminished recently. The District participates in local career fairs and has a ride-along program for anyone interested. The volunteer Quick Response Team members are required to conduct a certain number of hours in a ride-along capacity. Advancement is not a requirement but highly encouraged. The District has and is paying for EMT personnel to go through paramedic education programs. The District has already put six employees through paramedic education and one is currently enrolled. A typical EMT course is one semester costing approximately \$8,000 while a Paramedic course is two semesters plus one year of clinicals with an approximate cost of \$23,000.

Mobile Integrated Health/Community Paramedic Program. Contract negotiations with Health Solutions to assist with Crisis response continue.

Events. Chief and Deputy Chief attended the National Financial Symposium and the Northwest RETAC Leadership Conference. At the RETAC Conference, Deputy Chief DeTray presented TAD's story of being sued by our local critical access hospital along with crew and patient safety.

Fleet. Six of six vehicles are in service.

Response Review. Lt. Romero informed the board about response and outcome to a residential fire on March 22, 2026. All emergency response entities working the scene collaborated well. Three individuals with critical injuries were extricated from the burning building, two of whom survived. Cyano Kits have been standard stock items on TAD ambulances for several years. No other ambulance services from Raton to Pueblo have them as standard equipment. Cyano Kits are antidote for cyanide poisoning. They have a 2 to 3-year shelf life and are a one-time use item costing approximately \$1,400 each. The District used one during a March 9, 2026 fire response and two during the structure fire on March 22nd.

Unfinished Business

Public Perception Campaign. Zakk Shapiro requested this item remain on the agenda as a constant reminder of the ongoing work TAD is doing to educate the public on its operations and services. It was also noted that the public does watch videos that are posted of TAD board meetings which also provides explanations and ideas. Lt. Bacharach is attending a Career Fair at Trinidad State College tomorrow. She has created a tri-fold pamphlet describing TAD's Mobile Integrated Health Programs for distribution.

45 Day Notice for Mobile Integrated Health and Community

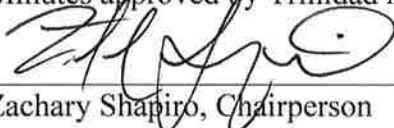
Paramedicine. The District has not received any communications regarding the noticed posted in The Chronicle News on April 3, 2026 but will forward any correspondence to the board.

Public Comments None.

New Business Chief Moreno invited the board to participate in EMS Week, May 17-23, 2026. A night of bowling is planned for crews and their families. Information will be forwarded to the board.

Adjourn **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Audra Garrett.
SECOND: Tom Murphy
YEA: Zachary Shapiro, Tom Murphy, Audra Garrett, Lynette Bates
NAY:
ABSTAIN:
The meeting adjourned at 5:24pm.

Minutes approved by Trinidad Ambulance District Board of Directors May 27, 2026.



Zachary Shapiro, Chairperson

