

**TRINIDAD AMBULANCE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MONTHLY MEETING  
August 27, 2025**

Attendance: Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Zachary Shapiro, Audra Garrett, Lynette Bates, Executive Director Gabe Moreno, Deputy Chief David DeTray, Barbara Fisk, Counsel Les Downs, Lt. Liz Romero, Ben Gladden

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
Call to Order/Pledge	Meeting was called to order at 4:48pm by Zakk Shapiro.
Roll Call/Proof of Quorum	There was a quorum with five (5) board members in attendance.
Adoption of Agenda	<b>MOTION</b> adopt the agenda as presented was made by Joe Richards. <b>SECOND:</b> Audra Garrett <b>YEA:</b> Zakk Shapiro, Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Audra Garrett, Lynette Bates <b>NAY:</b> <b>ABSTAIN:</b> The agenda adopted as presented.
Review Minutes	<b>MOTION</b> to approve the July 23, 2025 meeting minutes as presented was made by Audra Garrett. <b>SECOND:</b> Joe Richards <b>YEA:</b> Zakk Shapiro, Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Audra Garrett <b>NAY:</b> <b>ABSTAIN:</b> Lynette Bates The July 23, 2025 minutes were approved as presented.
Budget Hearing	The Board reviewed the amended 2024 budget based on results of the 2024 Audit with few questions. It was requested that the auditor, at the September meeting, further explain the reasoning behind moving \$4million from the Enterprise to the Operational budget. The Board did not submit and corrections, nor amendments, to the Resolution to Amend the 2024 Budget presented. <b>MOTION</b> to adopt the Resolution to Amend the 2024 as presented was made by Audra Garrett <b>SECOND:</b> Tom Murphy <b>YEA:</b> Zakk Shapiro, Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Audra Garrett, Lynette Bates <b>NAY:</b> <b>ABSTAIN:</b> The Resolution to Amend the 2024 Budget was approved as presented.
Director & Operations Reports	Chief Moreno presented many interesting facts about EMS locally, statewide and nationwide. He also presented the following financial information.

## Financial Statement for July 2025.

### Financial Overview

- Deferred Property Tax Receivable: \$138,680.38
- General Fund Bank Accounts \$1,746,413.53
- Enterprise Fund Bank Accounts \$2,010,585.15
- Total Cash on Hand \$3,756,998.68

### YTD Income and Expenses

- Net Income TAD \$517,336.09
- Net Income TADE \$393,964.92
- YTD Net Income \$911,301.01
- Medicaid Supplemental Payment \$202,073.82

### YTD Billing Performance

- EMS Transports January – July 2025: 1,802
- Gross Charges \$5,472,663.90
- Contractual Allowances \$2,329,584.67
- Payments Collected \$1,002,306.69
- Net Collections Rate ~31.8%

### July Collections Summary

- Total Transports 144
- Gross Charges \$454,994.98
- Average Gross Charge/Trip \$3,036.99
- Collections July Trips \$9,659.10
- Cash per Trip \$67.08
- July Collection Rate 2.3%

The Board will need to submit a draft 2026 budget at the next board meeting. We are also looking for a new accountant.

Medical Director, Dr. Becker obtained approval for TAD to use Tranexamic Acid (TXA) for nosebleeds. Chief Moreno explained that TXA is used to stabilize blood clots that have already formed. TAD has been using a Safety/Fatigue Awareness Risk Assessment tool and the State may be adopting an even more stringent assessment for statewide use. The Whole Blood Initiative is still in the works.

The Lease Agreement for the 939 Robinson Ave property has been finalized. There is very high potential for the future purchase of the property. The realtor received 6% commission on the lease. If the property sells, they will get 6% of the sales price **minus** the 6% received for the lease. The District has been awarded an EMTS Grant, just waiting on the Statement of Work and the AFG grant is still pending. Chief Moreno explained Capitated Payments wherein TAD might contract with local primary commercial payers, e.g. Rocky Mountain Health, BlueCross

BlueShield, to receive lump sum payments for specific patients regardless of how many times TAD responds to those individuals. It's something new with very preliminary knowledge. He will continue investigating the process.

TAD is contracted with Health Solutions to provide mental health secure transports. Spanish Peaks Regional Medical Center has also approached TAD to provide the same service. A contract has been provided for their approval. TAD currently has a contract with Mt. Rose Palliative/Hospice Care to transport their patients when necessary. Sangre de Cristo Hospice contacted TAD for a contract to perform the same service.

The State issued Community Integrated Health Care Service (CIHCS) license is due to expire in October 8<sup>th</sup> but the renewal process has begun. The appeal of the Board of County Commissioner's (BOCC) decision for not allowing TAD to convert to a Health Service District continues. The County Attorney filed the record with the District Court on August 7, 2025 which triggers the briefing schedule by which we have until September 18, 2025, to file our Opening Brief.

The Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado (EMSAC) Legislative Advocacy are working toward 1) federal recognition of EMS as an essential service and 2) sustainable, equitable reimbursement models, especially for rural/frontier providers. A Colorado State Representative is putting together a Treatment In Place (TIP) Bill which would provide payment to EMS providers for treating patients without transporting them to the hospital thus creating sustainable funding, opportunity for local insurance agreements (see Capitated Payment). Private insurances, in some cases, are already paying for this service but not Medicare nor Medicaid.

Chief and Deputy Chief will be attending a financial symposium at which Chief Moreno has been asked to present. He has also become and Advocacy Assistant with the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT).

Chief provided dates for different trainings and meetings he attended, Safety Cloud report summary, state and national EMS Headlines as well as legislative propositions. He also provided two more links to informative videos.

- The Ones Who Stayed: New Orleans EMS During Hurricane Katrina | Official Trailer [https://youtu.be/JYbKpCeVst4?si=1\\_dOPRb5HvMsDZ6](https://youtu.be/JYbKpCeVst4?si=1_dOPRb5HvMsDZ6)
- The Best Care Anywhere - Episode 1 - Pittsburgh EMS Past To Present – <https://youtu.be/TE7dfmTzitQ?si=LRJiW8Kfot1rglj8>

Deputy Chief DeTray presented the Operations Report including statistics on services provided for the month of July, 2025.

Calls for Service	189(down 16 from June)
On Call	1 w/transport
Chief	0
Deputy Chief	1
Inter-Facility Transfers	35 (up 2 from June) 1 home, 1 a double
IFT Not Transported	0
IFT Mileage – July	6,325
YTD IFT Transports	208
YTD IFT Mileage	40,719

One, out of six, ambulance is out of service.

#### Crew's Corner

- One employee set to begin Paramedic school. A CREATE grant, \$7,418, has been awarded to offset costs.
- Crews participated in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and other festivities,
- assisted ER with multiple critical patients, and
- continue attending the Farmer's Market and Senior Citizen Center.

#### Unfinished Business

**Public Perception Campaign.** The Board further discussed the potential for meeting with the Trinidad Area Hospital Association (TAHA) Board to further amending relations. Several attendees noted conversations and situations wherein the overall consensus was that relations are fine right now and public feedback is very positive. Crews are helping ER staff, communicating directly to hospital patients if a transfer must be delayed and solidifying working relationships with hospital staff. Going forward, this topic will remain on the agenda as a point of importance.

#### Public Comments

None

#### New Business

Tom Murphy extended an apology to the Board for his tardiness.

#### Executive Session

Audra Garrett made a motion to exit regular session and enter into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e) for developing strategies for negotiations and instructing negotiators related to contracting with District's general counsel.

**SECOND:** Joe Richards

**YEA:** Zakk Shapiro, Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Audra Garrett, Lynette Bates

**NAY:**

**ABSTAIN:**

Trinidad Ambulance District  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
August 27, 2025

**Those attending the executive session were Zachary Shapiro, Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Lynette Bates, Audra Garrett, Gabe Moreno, Les Downs, David DeTray.**

Adjourned at 6:01pm to enter into executive session

Reentered Regular Session 6:27pm

Adjourn

**MOTION** to adjourn was made by Joe Richards

**SECOND:** Audra Garrett


**YEA:** Zakk Shapiro, Joe Richards, Tom Murphy, Audra Garrett, Lynette Bates

**NAY:**

**ABSTAIN:**

Adjourned at 6:30pm

Minutes approved by Trinidad Ambulance District Board of Directors September 24, 2025.

  
Zachary Shapiro, Chairperson

