

County Service Area 69 (CSA-69) - 2006 Meeting Minutes

[CSA-69 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - February 9, 2006](#)

[CSA-69 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - May 11, 2006](#)

[CSA-69 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - August 10, 2006](#)

[CSA-69 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - November 9, 2006](#)



County of San Diego

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

JEAN M. SHEPARD
DIRECTOR

NANCY L. BOWEN, M.D., M.P.H.
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

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Community Epidemiology
Emergency & Disaster Medical Services
HIV/STD Hepatitis
Immunization
Maternal, Child and Family Health Services
Public Health Laboratory
PH Nursing/Border Health
TB Control & Refugee Health
Vital Records

CSA-69 Advisory Committee
Warren Savage, Chair/Kevin Howe, Vice-Chair
c/o Emergency Medical Services
6255 Mission Gorge Road
San Diego, CA 92120
(619) 285-6429 Fax: 285-6531

CSA-69 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 9, 2006

Members Present

Carlisle, Allen – Santee School District
Chambers, Pat – Santee Chamber of Commerce
Clegg, Robin – Lakeside Comm. Planning Group
Coyle, Ken – Lakeside Fire Protection District
Howe, Kevin – Lakeside Union School District
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Sharp Grossmont
Minto, John – City of Santee
Savage, Warren – City of Santee

Contract Staff Present

Baker, Mark – Lakeside Fire
Pfohl, Chief Bob – Santee Fire

Members Absent

Guidry, Doreen – East Co. Fire Protection District

Guests Present

None

County Staff Present

Lindstrom, Mark
Marcotte, R.N., Anne

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

I. INTRODUCTION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Warren Savage, Chair, brought the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

MOTION made by Robin Clegg, Seconded by Kevin Howe, to thank Leslie Ray, County EMS, for her excellent presentation at the last CSA-69 meeting. MOTION carried.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 10, 2005 and May 12, 2005

MOTION made by Robin Clegg, Seconded by Kevin Howe, to approve the minutes of November 10, 2005 and May 12, 2005 as submitted. MOTION carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

IV. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS

A. Financial Report (Mark Lindstrom, County EMS)

Mr. Lindstrom distributed a form titled "CSA-69 Budget Tracking, FY 2005-06 2nd Quarter Fund Balance. Column B lists the revenue and expenditures year to date and Column D lists end of fiscal year 2004-05 figures for comparison. At this time it appears CSA-69 will be in the black approximately \$183,000. The projection for non-resident revenue is approximately \$600,000.

Mr. Lindstrom stated that the breakdown of user fee revenue received from July through September billings to date is Medicare 18%, Medi-Cal 8.5%, private insurance 32.5% and self-pays 28%. 13% of accounts were non-billable.

Discussion ensued regarding the User Fee billing process. Mr. Lindstrom and Ms. Marcotte emphasized that the County cannot set up a system in which it only bills third party payers. Ms. Clegg expressed concern that the billing process was different than she understood it would be. Chairperson Savage stated it was his understanding that everyone would receive a bill. He suggested that an option that could be considered is indicating on the billing statement that if the patient cannot afford to pay the User Fee, call a number provided and the User Fee waiver process would be initiated.

Mr. Lindstrom stated that the County must make a good faith effort to collect payment on all accounts. ADPI, West, the County's billing company, conducts their normal billing procedures through day 180 of the bill and that's the County's good faith effort. **(Correction: ADPI, West conducts their normal billing procedures through day 150 of the billing process, not through day 180 as was stated).**

Mr. Lindstrom explained the planned waiver process. After 180 (**150**) days, ADPI, West will send the County a list of the accounts on which no payment has been made. The County will mail those accounts a letter offering a waiver of the fee. The letter will ask the patient to sign a statement indicating their inability to pay the fee and return it to the County and the fee will be waived. Ms. Clegg requested a copy of the current billing statement and the proposed waiver letter. **ACTION: Mr. Lindstrom will provide that at the next meeting.**

Ms. Clegg inquired about the benefit tax on FY 2004-05, the \$319,654 figure, where FY 2004-05 revenues are higher than revenues expected for FY 2005-06. **ACTION: Mr. Lindstrom will check into that.**

Ms. Clegg inquired if RV parks could be billed as some of the people live there full time

and wondered if they are billed as non-residents. Mr. Lindstrom responded that they should be billed as non-residents. Since they don't pay any taxes, they don't appear on the tax rolls. A mobile home park is not transient but an RV park is.

ACTION: Ms. Clegg will get the address of a person she's concerned has been billed incorrectly and call Mr. Rupp who will give it to Ms. Marcotte.

Allen Carlisle asked if the percentage of self-pays for which no payment has been received is known. Mr. Lindstrom responded that data is only available from one month (July). 46 accounts or approximately 40% were unpaid. **ACTION: Mr. Carlisle requested to see some of that data related to that at the next meeting. Mr. Lindstrom agreed to provide that information.**

Mr. Lindstrom stated that the section of the County Administrative Code that established the User Fee would have to be amended to include language that gives the Director, HHSA, or the Director's designee authority to waive the User Fee for those residents financially unable to pay the User Fee. He distributed a copy of the current section of code showing the proposed amendment. This will go forward as a Board Letter, possibly in March, 2006.

MOTION made by Pat Chambers, Seconded by Ken Coyle, to approve the proposed amendment. MOTION carried. Chairperson Savage requested to see a final copy of the Board Letter after it is finalized.

MOTION made by Robin Clegg, Seconded by Ken Coyle, to send a letter to County Supervisor Dianne Jacob supporting the amendment if needed. MOTION carried. Chairperson Savage will draft the letter.

Financial Subcommittee

Kevin Howe and Ken Coyle volunteered to serve on the Financial Subcommittee in the near future.

B. Administrative Report (Anne Marcotte, R.N., County EMS)

Sam Stratton, M.D., had been chosen and accepted the position of San Diego County EMS Medical Director, but later accepted a tenured position with UC Irvine. Shortly thereafter, Bruce Haynes, M.D., was approached to serve as Interim EMS Medical Director and accepted the position. Gary Vilke, M.D. will continue to serve as EMS Medical Director until February 28, 2006. Dr. Haynes is currently the EMS Medical Director of Orange and Imperial Counties and has a long history of emergency department medicine. Dr. Haynes began employment on February 3, 2006 to have a transition period with Dr. Vilke. A search for a permanent EMS Medical Director will once again convene.

Mr. Lindstrom was recently promoted to Principal Administrative Analyst and will be over both the EMS and Bioterrorism sections.

C. **Agency Reports**

Lakeside Fire: Andy Parr is working on a fire at this time. A small working group has been established to come up with a new plan on a Mutual Aid agreement with neighboring communities.

Santee Fire: The new medic unit is working well and on calls all the time.

V. **ELECTIONS FOR 2006**

MOTION made by Kevin Howe, Seconded by Mary Meadows-Pitt, R.N., to re-elect Warren Savage as Chair and elect Ken Coyle as Vice-Chair for 2006. MOTION carried.

VI. **SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 11, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. at the Lakeside Fire Department Administrative Office. Mr. Rupp was requested to call Advisory Board members prior to the next meeting to verify attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary
County EMS



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CSA-69 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Members Present

Chambers, Pat – Santee Chamber of Commerce
Clegg, Robin – Lakeside Comm. Planning Group
Coyle, Ken – Lakeside Fire Protection District
Guidry, Doreen – East Co. Fire Protection Dist.
Howe, Kevin – Lakeside Union School Dist.
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Sharp Grossmont
Savage, Warren – City of Santee
Voepel, Mayor Randy – City of Santee

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

Members Absent

Carlisle, Allen – Santee School District

Contract Staff Present

Baker, Mark – Lakeside Fire
Mattick, Richard – Santee Fire

County Staff Present

Lindstrom, Mark
Marcotte, R.N., Annie

I. INTRODUCTION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Warren Savage, Chair, brought the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

It was announced that Chief Darrell Jobes had lost a son recently. A moment of silence was observed.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 9, 2006

MOTION made by Kevin Howe, Seconded by Robin Clegg, to approve the minutes of February 9, 2006 as submitted. MOTION carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

IV. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS

A. Financial Report (Mark Lindstrom, County EMS)

Mr. Lindstrom reported that the April 25, 2006 Board Letter which amended the section of County Code authorizing the user fee passed on consent. The amendment authorizes the Director, Health and Human Services Agency or the Director's designee to waive the fee for those CSA 69 residents financially unable to pay the fee. Mr. Lindstrom stated that County Counsel has recommended that there needs to be more stringent criteria for determining resident's financial inability to pay the user fee than having them sign a statement declaring their financial inability. They have recommended that annual income of 135% of the federal poverty level be used as the threshold with resident supplying documentation to show annual income. 135% of the federal poverty level is the same percentage that County Medical Services uses to determine eligibility. Mr. Lindstrom distributed a handout showing household income levels at 135% of the federal poverty level for various household sizes and a handout showing the number of accounts eligible to apply for a fee waiver for the months of July through November 2006. Discussion ensued with the general consensus of the Advisory Committee that when they voted in support of the user fee, it was with the understanding that residents would simply have to sign a statement declaring their financial inability to pay the fee in order for the fee to be waived.

MOTION was made by Pat Chambers, Seconded by Ken Coyle, that the CSA-69 Advisory Committee is opposed to the fee waiver process as recommended by County Counsel. MOTION carried.

Mr. Lindstrom referenced column E of the budget tracking handout. Third quarter projections indicate approximately \$19,000 will be needed from reserves; approximately \$48,000 less than was budgeted.

B. Administrative Report (Anne Marcotte, R.N., County EMS)

Ms Marcotte reported that Bruce Haynes, M.D., EMS Medical Director, planned on attending but had a meeting conflict and apologized for not being able to attend.

There is a possibility that Alvarado Hospital could close. EMS staff have been conducting contingency planning should this occur. Approximately 500 patients a month are directed to Alvarado Hospital so those transported by ambulances would have to be taken to other facilities.

A recent San Diego Union newspaper article written by Cheryl Clark discussed STEMI patients and where is the best care for those types of patients. According to most literature, the most appropriate facility for a STEMI patient is an open cath lab so they can have their arteries opened and a stent put in. The Cardiac Advisory Committee (CAC) has been conducting numerous meetings and reviewing which facilities have the best set up for off-loading a patient and getting them into a cath lab within 120 minutes of the event. There will be a quality improvement program and policies coming out concerning this.

C. Agency Reports

Lakeside Fire: No report.

Santee Fire: Two weeks ago the City of Santee hired three new fire-fighter paramedics. They will attend the fire academy later.

V. FISCAL YEAR 2006-07 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mr. Lindstrom presented the FY 2006/07 budget proposal which will require \$28,744 from reserves.

MOTION made by Kevin Howe, Seconded by Pat Chambers, to approve Fiscal Year 2006-07 Proposed Budget as submitted. MOTION carried.

VI. FISCAL YEAR 2006-07 ANNUAL BENEFIT TAX ADJUSTMENT

Mr. Lindstrom stated that the 2006 Consumer Price Index increase of 3.7 % would bring the FY 2006/07 benefit tax to \$43.44.

MOTION made by Robin Clegg, Seconded by Kevin Howe, to approve the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Annual Benefit Fee Adjustment. MOTION carried.

VII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 10, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. at the Lakeside Fire Department Administrative Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary
County EMS



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CSA-69 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 10, 2006

Members Present

Carlisle, Allen – Santee School District
Clegg, Robin – Lakeside Comm. Planning Group
Coyle, Ken – Lakeside Fire Protection District
Howe, Kevin – Lakeside Union School District
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Sharp Grossmont

County Staff Present

Bohy, Wendy
Lindstrom, Mark
Marcotte, R.N., Annie

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

Members Absent

Chambers, Pat – Santee Chamber of Commerce
Guidry, Doreen – East Co. Fire Protection District
Savage, Warren – City of Santee
Voepel, Mayor Randy – City of Santee

Contract Staff Present

Baker, Chief Mark – Lakeside Fire Protection District
Mattick, Richard – Santee Fire
Miller, Dave – Santee Fire
Parr, Andy – Lakeside Fire
Pfohl, Chief Bob – City of Santee

I. INTRODUCTION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ken Coyle, Vice-Chair, brought the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. Warren Savage, Chair, is out of the country at this time. Attendees introduced themselves.

Mr. Coyle announced that Mr. Savage had informed him to report that County Supervisor Dianne Jacob stated that she was in agreement with the Advisory Committee's position concerning the user fee waiver.

Mark Lindstrom, County EMS, introduced Wendy Bohy, Analyst III, who will be taking over most of his responsibilities for CSA-69 in the future. Mr. Lindstrom stated that this would be his last meeting but would work with Wendy as needed. Kevin Howe, Lakeside Union School District, thanked Mr. Lindstrom for his dedicated service and wished him well.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - May 11, 2006

MOTION made by Kevin Howe, Seconded by Robin Clegg, to approve the minutes of May 11, 2006 as submitted. MOTION carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

IV. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS

A. Financial Report (Mark Lindstrom, County EMS)

Mr. Lindstrom referred members to the financial report sent out in their packets. The County's fiscal year ends June 30th and this year shows that once the final figures are tabulated in August, 2006, CSA-69 should be in the black about \$68,000. A savings of approximately \$130,000 was possible with the contracts with both the Lakeside and Santee fire agencies. Also, approximately \$30,000 more in property tax revenue and \$5,000 more in benefit tax was realized. The user fee revenue will fall short around \$280,000. The year-end reserve picture appears to be about \$1,300,000 at the end of FY 2005-06.

B. Administrative Report (Anne Marcotte, R.N., County EMS)

The STEMI project which utilizes 12-lead EKG's performed by paramedics in the field on patients with chest pains and determines whether or not the patient has a certain type of acute myocardial infarction is continuing. Recent studies have shown that it's best for a patient who has ST elevation on their 12-lead EKG to be transported directly to a cath lab. Hospitals which desire to be a STEMI Receiving Center must have cath lab capability 24/7. Those who desire to be designated have submitted their applications to County EMS and these applications are currently being reviewed. Most of the site visits have been conducted and it appears there will be twelve civilian and one military hospital with designated, certified cath labs, with seven days-a-week, 24 hours-a-day STEMI Receiving capability. After approval by the County Board of Supervisors including a County Board Letter, operations could begin in late September or slightly later in the year. Case reviews will be conducted every month and a quality improvement process will be implemented.

Hospitals which will be designated as Stroke Centers are still being considered. There is an oversight committee with three subcommittees that have been meeting for the past year.

Bruce Haynes, M.D., has been appointed as the new full-time County EMS Medical Director, effective August 15, 2006. Dr. Haynes has been serving as the Interim EMS Medical Director for the past few months and will resign his position as Orange County EMS Medical Director. He may continue as EMS Medical Director for Imperial County which does not require too much time each month. Dr. Haynes has currently been visiting with many of the different groups of committees in San Diego County to become more familiar with all the operations.

Carmel Angelo continues to serve as the Acting Director for County EMS. The position

may be opened up in the near future for a permanent appointment.

The ROC (Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium), an international and nationwide research program to study outcomes from resuscitation, continues with San Diego County as a part of that study led by Dan Davis, M.D., UCSD/Mercy Air. Some operations already exist in ten or eleven other centers scattered around the U.S. The ROC Study has two areas of study; trauma and medical resuscitation. New guidelines from the American Heart Association regarding CPR compressions continue to be reviewed and implemented. Certain types of software can be placed into the EKG machines that will measure the effectiveness of CPR. The trauma study will begin first with the use of hypertonic saline which allows the patient to receive fluid in small amounts which help correct shock states related to traumatic injury. The studies are being funded through a grant from the NIH (National Institute of Health).

C. Agency Reports

Lakeside Fire: From approximately 1990 until recently, Lakeside and Santee Fire agencies shared one ambulance between them and part of that sharing was a relationship with who buys what which worked well over the years. With the addition of a fourth ambulance, Santee Fire and Lakeside Fire have both took on more responsibility for their two ambulances. Each agency will now do their own purchasing.

Santee Fire: The medic units have been split; however, the CSA is one agency. Richard Mattick will be moving to the Operations side of Santee Fire and Dave Miller will now assume the EMS side. Mr. Mattick thanked everyone for the opportunity to work together and how pleasurable and informative it was.

V. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, November 9, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. at the Lakeside Fire Department Administrative Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary
County EMS



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Members Present

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Chambers, Pat – Santee Chamber of Commerce
Coyle, Ken – Lakeside Fire Protection District
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Sharp Grossmont
Savage, Warren – City of Santee
Voepel, Mayor Randy – City of Santee

County Staff Present

Bohy, Wendy
Marcotte, R.N., Annie
Metz, R.N., Marcy

Members Absent

Carlisle, Allen – Santee School District
Guidry, Doreen – East Co. Fire Protection District
Howe, Kevin – Lakeside Union School District

Contract Staff Present

Baker, Mark – Lakeside Fire
Mattick, Richard – City of Santee
Parr, Andy – Lakeside Fire
Rottenberg, Mike – City of Santee

Recorder

Byous, Barbara

I. INTRODUCTION / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Warren Savage, Chair, brought the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. and requested the Committee Meeting Recorder to call members in advance as a reminder of the upcoming CSA-69 Meeting to ensure having a quorum. Attendees introduced themselves.

Mr. Savage welcomed Richard Mattick, the new Interim Fire Chief of the City of Santee, and thanked him for attending today's meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Pat Chambers, Seconded by Mary Meadows-Pitt, to approve the Minutes of August 10, 2006 as submitted. MOTION carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS / PETITIONS

None.

IV. STAFF / AGENCY REPORTS

A. Financial Report (Wendy Bohy, Admin. Analyst, County EMS)

As of October 30, 2006, the cash balance in the CSA 69 Heartland Paramedic account was \$1,112,394.

On the Expenditure and Revenue by Object & Account, Column C, Actual Year to Date Expenditures are \$388,712.

On the Expenditure and Revenue by Object & Account, Column C, Total Revenues are \$160,790. Taxes are not in yet.

- Also Column C, Net Cost is \$227,922, as of October 30, 2006.

Ms. Bohy attached a copy of the Expenditure Report for 2005/06 to the 2006/07 Report that was distributed to the Advisory Committee at today's meeting.

Mr. Savage asked about the status of the User Fee Collection at EMS.

ACTION: Wendy Bohy will look into that and will have information available at the next meeting.

Mr. Savage said that we want to keep track when actual payments were made to see if there is a trend. Since the fourth ambulance was added to the service of CSA 69, it has increased their capabilities in both Santee and Lakeside

Mayor Voepel asked about the Net Cost of \$79,814 that shows a negative (Page 2, Column C). He asked if that is the correct amount. Ms. Bohy confirmed that it is correct until the taxes come in.

Mr. Savage suggested to watch this negative trend so it doesn't get too high.

B. Administration Report (Anne Marcotte, RN, County EMS)

The County continues to progress with the STEMI program, the stroke elevation program that was reported at the last Advisory Meeting. The contracts have gone to the hospitals.

Marcy Metz reported that 13 hospitals have submitted applications to be Stroke Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) Receiving Centers. The MOAs have gone out to those facilities for signature. The hospitals in the east region that have submitted applications are, Grossmont and Alvarado. Once the MOAs are returned, the hospitals will be entered into the QCS system and the Paramedics will know which hospitals have cath labs. Patients with STEMI will be taken to those designated hospitals.

Ken Coyle asked if there is any information on whether Kaiser plans to use the

vacated Scripps East Hospital in El Cajon. Pat Chambers reported that he heard there is a structural issue and the hospital will probably not re-open.

Ms. Metz stated that the County's Oversight Stroke Team has been meeting and looking into stroke care in San Diego County. More information to come at future meetings.

C. Agency Reports

Lakeside Fire: Andy Parr stated that things are going well and a lot of issues were discussed at their Operations Meeting.

Santee Fire: Richard Mattick reported that they have new fire fighters and paramedics on board. A new assessment will begin in mid January 2007.

Anne Marcotte: EMS has the compliance data which is provided to the County in report form for the year to date, through October. With the addition of the fourth ambulance, ambulances are expected to respond to every 911 call within 10 minutes, 90% of the time. 10% of the time, they can be longer than 10 minutes.

Overall time:

Medic 1 - 87.5	Medic 4 – 90.97
Medic 3 – 86.6	Medic 5 – 90.17

Ms. Marcotte reported that the ambulances are approaching 90% of the time in all areas. Mr. Savage noted that the fourth ambulance has made a big impact.

The ambulance time has consistently improved over the year. It was discussed today at the Operations Meeting that we want to improve further. The plan is to look at all the calls. Both Andy Parr and Richard Mattick are going to look at the calls that have response times greater than 10 minutes.

Discussion ensued about the medic response times.

Mr. Savage asked about the next overview - - Ms. Marcotte said she will talk with Leslie Ray. The last overview may have been done in July. Warren stated that the overview was a tremendous help.

Pat Chambers stated that two meetings ago he made a motion that was carried, that the CSA is not pleased with the County's response over people who couldn't pay the User Fee. Mr. Chambers said that Mr. Savage spoke with Supervisor Dianne Jacob, and as reported at the last meeting, she is in agreement with the Advisory Committee's intent.

- Mr. Chambers would like a response back from the County stating that they have no intention of repeated calling of people who can't pay their User Fee bill.
- Ms. Marcotte reported that the User Fee waiver is still with County Counsel. County Counsel will make the determination of how to resolve this issue. County staff has told them that what they want to add is not the original intent of what

this Advisory Committee agreed to.

ACTION: Ms. Marcotte will follow-up with County Counsel tomorrow.

- Mr. Savage confirmed that he did meet with Supervisor Dianne Jacob and she indicated she knew what the Advisory Committee had said and agrees.
- Mayor Voepel discussed the billing process. Ms. Marcotte reported that everyone will get billed, but it is her understanding that there will not be collections. County Counsel said they will add that the people who say they are not able to pay will have to meet certain qualifications. Ms. Marcotte will follow-up on the billing process with Mr. Savage after she hears from County Counsel.
- Mr. Savage inquired if the hospitals are still on bypass? Mary Meadows-Pitt said it has improved, but it may increase due to the upcoming winter flu season. The public should not use emergency rooms for general illness.
- Mr. Savage thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and he is glad to see the new people on board. The Advisory Committee appreciates the support they receive from EMS.

V. SET NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2007 at the Lakeside Fire Department Administrative Office.

ACTION: Mr. Savage requested that a reminder phone call be made to Advisory Committee members.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Barbara Byous
Recording Secretary