

**Anchorage Middletown Fire & EMS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES/ 108 Urton Lane
February 18, 2025
Minutes**

I. Opening

- a. Chairperson Jim Yates called the meeting of the Board to order at 4:34 pm. at AMFEMS Station #1. Andy Downes, Jason Karrer, Linda, Oliver, Kyle Gallaway, And Mindy Sunderland were the trustees present. Also present were, Deputy Chief Brooks, Deputy Chief, Sutt, Interim Chief Tyler, Deputy Chief Kruer, Major McCray, Pam Henehan, Pat Walsh, Andrea Oser, Shannon Ran as recorder, and Bryan Dillon, general legal counsel to the Board.

II. Approval of Minutes

- A. Regular Meeting January 21, 2025
- B. Special Meeting February 4, 2025
Motion to approve the Meeting minutes from January 21st, and February 4, 2025, by Andy Downes, and seconded by Linda Oliver, Motion passed unanimously.

b. Financial Reports

- a. Financial Statement: Period Ending January 31, 2025
Thomas Wobbe was unable to attend, Interim Chief Tyler reports there was nothing new to report.

c. Expenditure Requests

Nothing currently

d. Surplus Equipment

- a. 12 Drager SCBA Masks- see attachment for serial numbers
Motion to Surplus the 12 Drager SCBA Masks, and give to Mine Rescue by Andy Downes, and seconded by Jason Karrer. Motion passed unanimously

e. Chief's Reports - Chief Tyler

All Division reports were included in the packet.

Passed out policy on Tela-work. Review and will talk about it at next meeting.

Andy Downes– I would like to ask the Chairman Yates to appoint a Policy Committee.

Kevin Tyler -So, the Chief will not be doing the policy anymore,

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Andy Downes - I want a committee to help update policy, most of the current policies are out of date.

Kevin Tyler – I ask the Chairperson to wait to get a full time chief before making the committee. Why do you feel the board needs to have control over the policy now? I have always brought policies to the board for review, before they are sent out

Jason Karrer- The most current vacation policy that Tonya sent out was not brought to the board; can it be brought to the board now?

Kevin Tyler- What policy are you wanting to see admin or operations?, Operational policies were not brought to the board and shouldn't be.

Is Linda Oliver- Tela work a new policy? Correct

Kevin Tyler- Operational policies have never been brought to the board and shouldn't because the board does not always have the vote. So, you want the where the board has control over everything,

Andy Downes- The board is not looking to have full control. I just want to review.

Bryan Dillion- Policy has always been, that all policies are to be brought to the board for review, in the past.

Kevin Tyler- Since Merger and my watch we have not ask for approval – meaning was for informational only.

Admin approval, Operational were informational only. Since 2109 we have not done this way.

Jason Karrer- I would like to see all policies come to the board, so we have time to review and meet with the personnel to their comments and concerns.

Kevin Tyler- Chairman what would you like to do?

Andy Downes- Appoint a committee- Policy committee should be up to the chief to put the team together. Chairperson Yates appointed Andy Downes, Linda Oliver, Jason Karrer and Chief will pick up other members

Kevin Tyler- We don't have the time to review all the policies, we are working on them as they come about. No policy has been added without the board knowing about it.

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Linda Oliver- I would like to see the original policies with the red lines to see the changes being made.

- f. Old Business
No Old Business
- g. New Business
No new business
- h. Open Forum

Major McCray WFD- Firefighters would like an update on the chief's process.

Andy Downes – an email update on the process will be email out this week.

Major McCray- I do support Chief Tyler as the next chief; he has supported me during my time. We have had some “rough” conversations, but I thank him because he has supported me and made my divisions what it is. He has been very open with his opinions and has been honest with me. Rumors are that other internal members have applied, but we need to move forward.

Andrea Oser (civilian) good friend of Fire Service, and very good friend of chief Tylers. I want to look into each board member's eyes, since the board has started the search, your eyes are not looking fairly at Chief Tyler, and it saddens me. I have written many letters and posted on social media of appreciation to your members. My sons Kyle is in the ER currently, which your members transported him.

I don't think you are being fair; Chief Tyler is part of our family and is dedicated to AMFEMS making this organization successful. He is tall, and he can be mean, but he is an onion, pull his layers back and get to know him, he has weakness. What I can't tolerate from watching from afar is that you are not giving him a fair change. Your selections committee needs to include people from outside. My son Kyle once wrote a letter that is to this day still in Kevins office reading. “Chief Tyler you are the man”. I will keep rallying for him.

Linda Oliver- What reasons leads you to believe that this board is being biased?

Andrea Oser- He is being framed, Watch Dog, everyone is trying to make him fail. The perception is not good. Who is the committee? I hate the name AMFEMS- I am from

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Harrods Creek, and I love that community. State Rep John Hodgkins came to me in the past and only had great things to say about Chief Tyler, but he comes to one board meeting and writes letters complaints against Chief Tyler, you can tell me someone didn't have him write that letter. I found that hard to believe he would write a letter of complaint on his own. The Rumors, Gossips meal is very strong that the board only has the agenda to bring him down.

Andy Downes – The board is the hiring committee, along with ESCI being part of the committee as well.

Linda Oliver- I feel the Currently board is doing a good job being due diligent looking for the best chief for this department to lead them to be successful.

Andrea Oser- Prior Chiefs since Merger were not a good fit, but Chief Tyler is. (She knows a lot of information about who has applied, and things reported to the board of trustees during executive session that members do not.) I have a lot more to say but I will keep it to myself, because I am not here to belittle anyone.

Linda Oliver -So you stand her today saying that AMFEMS is still a huge division within the department. Correct? So, the board hiring an outside firm would be the best way to not be biased. If the board didn't do research, how are we not do our due diligence for members, and community? He it comes back that Chief Tyler is the best then we did what we needed to do.

Andrea Oser – So you as the board are telling me that the slate/process is clean. Everyone has a “fair/ Equally” opportunity? Just because you are internal are you given a spot for interview. Thank you for your time, hiring outside takes time, Hiring inside will help with that.

Bryan Dillion- This board runs the department, the board will have the final say so. No one has been eliminated because they work in this department. ESCI is extremely objective. With 250 members the rumors and gossip will be flying all over the place, you cannot and shouldn't listen to those. As the Boards attorney I can say “the board has been completed objective during this process.”

Kevin Tyler- I come to you as an applicant not the current Interim Chief- So is the hiring Committee made up of the Board only?

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Jim Yates- Yes, the board is the hiring committee, but ESCI is part of that. and Andy Downes is the contact person for ESCI.

Kevin Tyler- What is the update – what is the next round?

Andy Downes

22 applications were submitted, 1st round it went to 15, 2nd round which was a questionnaire to 9, and the 1st rounds of interviews will be happening soon. ESCI will be reaching out to those applicants.

We can say that out of the 22 applicates 3 were internal, and 19 external.

Adjourn. 6:29pm.

Motion to adjourn by Andy Downes and Seconded by Jason Karrer, Motion passed unanimously.

- i. Executive Session
 - a. Personnel Matters- KRS 61.810(1) (F)

Motion to enter an executive session to discuss Personnel Matters- KRS 61.810(1) (F) Andy Downes, seconded by Linda Oliver. Motion passed unanimously. The Board went into an executive session to discuss personnel matters at 4:35 p.m.

The Board returned from the executive session at 5:50 p.m.

- j. Motion to Adjourn
 - Motion to adjourn at 6:29 pm. by Andy Downes, second by Jason Karrer. The motion passed unanimously.

Shannon F. Ran
Executive Administrative Assistant
Recording Secretary for the Board

*Supporting documents are available by request through the Fire Protection District.