

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE EAST CENTRAL FIRE/EMS GOVERNING BODY

The monthly meeting of the East Central Fire & EMS Protection Territory Board was called to order on August 13, 2026 at 3:00 pm by President Bob Byrd.

Members Present: Steve Ottenweller, Bob Byrd, Jeff Abbot, Mark Smith, Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer, John Graber

Board members signed a roll call sheet and Christine Camp read the roll call.

Previous Meeting Minutes

Mark Smith made the motion to approve the minutes from the July meeting as provided. Mark Bradtmueller seconded the motion, and motion was approved.

Ayes: John Graber, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith, Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

Pay Claims

The pay claims were signed by Board members.

Steve Ottenweller made the motion to approve the pay claims. Jeff Abbott seconded the motion, and motion was approved.

Ayes: John Graber, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith, Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

Amending the Agenda

Mark Bradtmueller made a motion to amend the agenda by adding 2 items
Career Staff Hiring
Glide Scope Purchase.

Mark Smith seconded the motion, and motion was approved.

Ayes: John Graber, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith, Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

Old Business

New Business

Approval to Hire 3 Lieutenants

The Chief gave an update on the hiring process

1. the initial screening of the selection process was performed by an independent evaluator, this included written tests and scenario role playing, this process reduced the candidate list to 4 candidates
2. the next level of interviews was performed by the operations command staff for the Allen County Fire and EMS District, this process reduced the candidate list down to the recommended 3 candidates
3. peer reviews were solicited and shared with all candidates.

The Chief is requesting the Board approve hiring

1. Augustine Wyss to Lieutenant / Paramedic Probationary at \$23.68
2. Goeff Ellingwood to Lieutenant / Paramedic Probationary at \$23.68
3. Zach Thiel to Lieutenant / Paramedic Probationary at \$23.06.

All 3 will have a starting date of 8/9/2026.

Mark Smith made a motion to approve hiring the 3 candidates the Chief has recommended. Chad Bauer seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Ayes: John Graber, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith, Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

Part-time New Hire

The Chief is requesting the Board approve hiring Jonathan Plant Jr. and Jenna Mackin as Part-time EMT Basic at the hourly rate of \$17.00, with a start date of August 16, 2026.

Chad Bauer made a motion to approve hiring Jonathan Plant Jr. and Jenna Mackin as Part-time EMT Basic at the hourly rate of \$17.00. Steve Ottenweller seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Ayes: John Graber, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith,
Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

Cancer Screening Test, by ONE Test

The Chief is requesting the Board approve offering all 35 Career Staff members cancer screening by ONE Test. The contract quote total is \$11,605.25 with a 10% deposit at the time the order is placed. There is adequate money in the budget to cover this cost.

Mark Brandmueller made a motion to approve offering all 35 Career Staff members cancer screening by ONE Test. Chad Bauer seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Ayes: John Graber, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith,
Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

Professional Health Services Invoice

The Chief is requesting approval to pay Invoice # 4999 to Professional Health Services in the amount of \$17,747.98 for Career Staff physicals.

Steve Ottenweller made a motion to approve paying Invoice # 4999 to Professional Health Services in the amount of \$17,747.98 for Career Staff physicals. Mark Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Ayes: John Graber, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith,
Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

City of New Haven - Providing Unit Compensation

The Chief is requesting approval to pay Invoice #107-080126 to the city of New Haven in the amount of \$96,692.00.

Mark Brandmueller made a motion to approve paying Invoice #107-080126 to the city of New Haven in the amount of \$96,692.00. Mark Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Ayes: John Graber, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith,
Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

20/20 BioLabs

The Chief is requesting approval to pay Invoice #7873 to 20/20 BioLabs in the amount of \$1,128.00. This is the deposit for the Cancer Screening.

Steve Ottenweller made a motion to approve paying Invoice #7873 to 20/20 BioLabs in the amount of \$1,128.00. Mark Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Ayes: John Graber, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith, Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

Career Staff Hiring

The Chief shared he is considering hiring Lay Htoo for the open Probationary Career Full-time Firefighter position. The pay rate would be \$20.93 per hour, bi-weekly rate of \$2,343.71. Htoo is currently attending school to receive his Paramedic License. Completion of the hiring process is waiting on Htoo passing the PERF review.

Glide Scope Purchase

The Chief is requesting permission to purchase 7 Glide scopes and bags for all East Central Ambulances. The Glide scopes cost \$2,000 a piece, with total cost of \$14,000. This equipment will be the standard used by the Allen County Fire and EMS District, so we are trying to move toward the standard.

Chad Bauer made a motion to approve purchasing 7 Glide scopes and bags for all East Central Ambulances at a cost of \$14,000. Mark Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Ayes: John Graber, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith, Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

Adjournment

Mark Smith made the motion to adjourn the Board meeting. Jeff Abbot seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Ayes: John Bauer, Steve Ottenweller, Jeff Abbot, Bob Byrd, Mark Smith, Mark Bradtmueller, Chad Bauer

Nays: none

The next regular scheduled meeting is September 10, at 3:00 pm.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "St Ottenweller", written over a horizontal line.

Steve Ottenweller

Secretary

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bob Byrd", written over a horizontal line.

Bob Byrd

President