Annual Report for 2015

To the Towns of Belvidere, Eden, Hyde Park, Johnson and Waterville

   We are in our 12th year of serving the residents of Northern Lamoille County. We thank you for your past support and look forward to serving you in the future.

   Our call volume has increase during the 2015 calendar year.  We responded to a total of 1448 calls compared to a total of 1352 calls in 2015. Of these calls 838 were emergency (911) calls with the balance being mutual aid or transports.  The breakdown of emergency calls per town are:  16 in Belvidere, 56 in Eden, 231 in Hyde Park, 263 in Johnson, and 23 in Waterville.

    For this fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2016 we are asking for an increase of 3.2% in funding from the five towns. This increases the per resident from $25.85 to $26.67. This increase is necessary as for the first time in three years we are offering a well earned increase in pay. We also know that Medicare is lowering their reimbursement for the first time in history by -0.4%.

   In the calendar year of 2015 we swallowed write offs for Medicare $302,419.57, Medicaid $247,018.65 and Veterans Administration $8,125.10.  This totals $557,562.32 in write offs. These write offs exceed the total funding supplied to us by the five towns.

Our 2015 write offs were $155,000.75 more than in 2014. Unfortunately this increase was anticipated due to the State’s takeover of the Health System. With Medicare funding being decreased for 2016 we again project increases in write offs. Unfortunately our elected officials in both Montpelier as well as Washington D.C. continue to shift cost to the property tax payer.

   In 2015 we have continued to be often used as the primary responder for neighboring services. We continue to strive an work with these services and Select Boards to alleviate this situation.

   We are a 501 C3 charitable organization and are open to tax deductible donations that would be use to help with the cost of equipment and operations. Please feel free to contact us if you wish to donate.

    Once again we thank you for your past support and look forward to serving you in the future.

Sincerely,

Scot Griswold Vice chairman

Michael A. Paradis Executive Director