

BEULAH AMBULANCE DISTRICT

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2012

P.O. Box 133
8870 Grand Ave
Beulah CO 81023

We're on the Web and Facebook !
<http://beulahambulancedistrict.org>



Emergency - Call 911

Beulah EMS Members

Bryan Ware EMT P	Chief
Trish Anderson EMT-I	Captain
Nathan Anderson EMT-B+	Lieutenant
Tom Griggs EMT-I	Lieutenant
Ross Marsh EMT-B+	Lieutenant

Corky Outhier	FR
Michael Smith	EMT-B
Kurt Thompson	EMT-P
Doug Bohrer	EMT Trainee
Courtney King	EMT-B+
Anne Coughlin	EMT-B/RN
Beth Halpin	EMT-B+
Naomi Blake	EMT-B
Beth Siegfried	EMT-B
Shane Ewing	FR
Nicole Richardson	FR
Scott Robertshaw	EMT-B
Barring Coughlin	EMT-B
Joni Smith	EMT-B
Chandra Bergman	EMT-B+
Kevin Fern	FR
John Dustin	FR
Alyssa Arsenault	FR
Joe Bechina	EMT-B
Joel Outhier	EMT-P

All of our member's donate many hours of their lives to protect yours. We appreciate everything that our members do for us and they appreciate the continued support that our community shows.

Beulah Ambulance District Board

President Steve Douglas (2014)
Vice President Carol Wright (2012)
Secretary Anne Moulton (2014)
Treasurer Ruth Ann Amey (2012)
Judy Lietz (2014)

New Members Wanted:

We are always looking for more members. Our members are businessmen and women, housewives, retirees, teachers, artists, nurses, and many others. Most of our members were not medical personnel when they joined, just regular folks who cared about serving their community.

We provide the training, the practice, continuing education, and camaraderie. If you are interested in learning more, call the EMS office at **719-485-2367**.

The Beulah Ambulance District

Report to The Community 2012

President's Letter - Steve Douglas

2011 was a busy year; full of changes. As you can see elsewhere in this report, we had a significant increase in ambulance calls. It is too early to tell if that is because the community's need was greater, if it placed more reliance on the District to meet those needs, or a combination of those and other factors. It is also too early to know if the increase reflects an emerging trend that we need to prepare for or just an anomaly. What is really important is the fact that the District and its responders were ready, willing and able to meet that increased need. It is also important to report that revenue from billing insurance for our responses was sufficient to pay the nominal costs associated with having responders scheduled to be on call and to respond. Those revenues also covered the increased operating expenses associated with that increase in call load. Considering all the variables involved, we are proud that the numbers balanced out.

We all know that 2012 is a Presidential Election year. It is important to note that it is also a Beulah Ambulance District Board election year. The 5-member board is on staggered terms, with two seats up for election this year. Carol Wright and Ruth Ann Amey have served the District and community very well as Board Vice-President and Treasurer respectively. They have chosen to not seek re-election, so those board positions need to be refilled this year. (Officers are elected by the Board itself, but the seats are filled by the public.) Those two (2) seats shall be filled at the May 8, 2012 Election. Candidates for election must file Self Nomination petitions. Qualified nominees are individuals who are registered to vote in Colorado and have been District residents for 30 days or more or persons who own taxable property within the District. If only 2 nomination petitions are filed and only 2 candidates are running the election may be cancelled on March 6, 2012. If the election is cancelled the District will not have to pay for the cost of operating the election which could be several thousand dollars. If more than 2 candidates file Self Nomination Petitions it will be necessary to hold the election which will be a mail ballot election. The key is to fill the Board vacancies with committed and able individuals who are prepared to be active members. If you are interested and have questions about what is involved in being a board member, please call us at 485-2367.

The Beulah Valley Volunteer Fire Department has faithfully served this community for over 62 years. It is voluntary in every way, including individual service and monetary donations; both of which are essential to providing the service. The Department announced to the community by mid-2011 that it was unable to continue providing fire service indefinitely, because of a decrease in number of new volunteers, the aging of existing volunteers and because of significant shortfalls in monetary donations. It formed a Citizens Committee and asked it to look for options for continuing fire service to the community. The most viable option identified by the Committee is for the fire department to combine with the Beulah Ambulance District, and to do so utilizing the District's current boundaries. The Beulah Ambulance District Board and its EMS Chief (Bryan Ware) has been in extensive discussions with members of the fire department and the Committee over the past several months. We believe that such a merger is not only possible, but it is in the best interest of the community that we serve. We say that with the highest level of respect for current and past volunteers of the Beulah Valley Volunteer Fire Department. They have and continue to serve this community well, and have earned our sincere gratitude. Change is not easy, even if it is the right thing to do. Fire and EMS personnel, and members of the wider Beulah community are working together to find the best ways to meld these two services in an efficient, effective and fiscally sound manner. The current goal is to bring that plan and price tag (mill levy) to the District's voters well in advance of the November 2012 election. Your help in crafting that solution is essential. We ask that you participate as much as possible and cast an informed vote in November. In the meantime, have a safe, productive and enjoyable 2012. Call us if you need us.

Treasurer's Report-Ruth Ann Amey

This past year has been one of growth and maturation for the Beulah Ambulance District. Revenue in 2011 totaled over \$139,000. This amount came from Pueblo County taxes, health insurance companies, Medicare billing, and donations. Almost \$33,000 was due to a successful two-year effort culminating in the initiation of billing to health insurance companies and Medicare. The additional dollars brought in by this achievement supported numerous operational improvements, and allowed the District to expand volunteer recruitment and training, purchase additional medical equipment and, for the first time, offer nominal payment to volunteers. We were able to reimburse our volunteers \$1 for each hour on call (Beulah Ambulance District now has 24-hour coverage) and \$30 for each response.

Expenses in 2011 totaled over \$135,000. This year efforts were made to strengthen operational allocations. We are pleased that in 2011 funds in the operational area grew and the percentage of costs in areas such as insurance, office supplies and professional expenditures decreased. The breakdown follows:

Personnel, Education and Administrative Expenses	58%
Ambulance and Medical Supply and Equipment Expenses	19%
Office Expenses	11%
Insurance	5%
Community Program and Other Expenses	4%
Professional Expenses	3%

In addition, we received and spent over \$6,300 in grant monies for additional equipment and training.

Detailed financial figures for 2011 are available in the Ambulance Office. Community members are invited -- and encouraged -- to stop in to review the budget and expenditures.

District Statistics

Total EMS Responses:	132
Total Transported:	80
Total Public Service Calls:	7
Day Time Responses:	114
Night Time Responses:	18
Total Hours on Responses:	281

Types of Calls

Difficulty Breathing	17
Chest Pain	13
Cardiac Arrest	2
Deceased	2
Medical Incidents	45
Traumatic Incident	31
Misc	22

Community Health Outreach

We are always looking for new ways to serve your health care needs, so if you have suggestions or ideas please let us know.

In 2011 we hosted 4 community health sessions that did not have a great response so in 2012 we will be trying something new. We will be hosting a Community Health Fair Day on Thursday, **April 12, 2012**. The Health Fair will run from 7:00 am—10:00 am and is a free health screening. No need to schedule ahead of time, you can just show up during the time frame. At 10:30 Dr. Charlie Vial will be presenting a motivational speech in regards to psychological healthiness.

Community Health Screening Topics:

- Blood Pressure Check Body Mass Index Fitness Test**
 - Blood Sugar Check Cardiovascular Risk Assessment**
- Please fast for 1 hour before if you are getting a Blood Sugar check.

Tuesday, **June 12, 2012** at 6:00 pm at the Community Center—Understanding Advanced Directives and Do Not Resuscitate Orders

Chief's Report

2011 continued to bring growth for the Beulah Ambulance District as we saw our call volume increase 71% over 2010 and a doubling in the number of our Emergency Responders. The members of the Beulah Ambulance District participated in a combined 849 hours of training, improving their skills and knowledge in emergency medicine. The members of the District also trained 66 citizens in CPR and First Aid. We have quickly become a professional organization that is here to serve our community to the best of our ability.

One of the greatest improvements that we made during 2011 was in our ability to answer your call for help more promptly. We have reduced our average response time from 13.5 minutes in 2009 to 9 minutes in 2011. This is the time from when the 9-1-1 communications center dispatches the ambulance till the ambulance arrived at your home. We also improved our scene time from 23.1 minutes in 2009 to 17.2 minutes in 2011. Time on scene includes patient assessment, initiation of treatment, and preparing the patient for transport. Both of these improved times are better than the State average and illustrate how our members are improving your chances for a positive outcome during a medical emergency.

We started a Basic EMT course this January that is being taught by the staff of the Beulah Ambulance District. This is the second course we have hosted here in Beulah after having such great success with the first class in 2011. By hosting these courses the District has saved over \$ 17,000 by not having to send the students to Pueblo for training. Those who successfully complete the course and the National Registry exam then join the Beulah Ambulance District as responders.

The Beulah Ambulance District always is striving to improve the overall health of our community members. Early in 2012 the District partnered with AED Authority to provide 7 Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) throughout our community. National statistics continue to show an increase in the number of sudden cardiac arrest across our country, the most important factor in the patient's chance of survival is early defibrillation. With the placement of the AEDs throughout our community we have set a goal to increase the number of citizens who are CPR and AED trained. We encourage you to call and schedule a CPR class today so you can make the difference in someone's life.

If the District's voters approve the addition of fire service to our Service Plan and approve the associated mill levy increase in November, the combination of the two organizations will greatly improve the capabilities of service to the community. We will be increasing the overall number of trained emergency responders with both medical and firefighting capabilities. We will be eligible to obtain more grant funding as a combined tax-based organization and should be able to improve the department's ISO (Insurance Services Office) rating, which in turn will improve many of your insurance rates.

The Pueblo County Sheriff's Office donated a used 1996 Tahoe to the Ambulance District in late 2011, which will be utilized as a response vehicle to aid in rescue situations where the Ambulance may not be able to get into. This generous donation by the County has allowed our service to become more versatile in our capabilities.

The District began collecting non-perishable foods late in 2011 and will continue to ask for donations for the entire year of 2012. We have found that many of our own neighbors are struggling to put food on the table and we want everyone that can to step up and help. Donations of non-perishable, non-expired foods can be dropped off at the District Office Monday-Friday from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm. The District has partnered with the Grand View Baptist Church to host a food pantry on the 3rd Saturday of every month from 12:00 – 2:00 pm. Anyone who might be in need is encouraged to come to the church and select the items you may need. The pantry is completely anonymous and you are welcome to take as much or as little as you need.

The Beulah Ambulance Board meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm
at the EMS Office located at 8870 Grand Ave.
November and December meetings are combined, with the date TBA.