

# DeSoto Parish Emergency Medical Service

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## **Minutes of the DeSoto Parish EMS Board of Commissioners Tuesday, March 14, 2017**

The DeSoto EMS Board of Commissioners held its regular meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, at DeSoto EMS Central Station at 5:00 p.m.

Members present were: LaTarsha Shelton, Tim Thames, Keith Parker, Rusty Canton, and Dennis Reed. Absent were: Brent Ingvarlsen and Katina Lane.

Guests were: Administrator Joe Magee, Assistant Administrator Karl Mann, Administrative Assistant Jane Manning, Billing Specialist Melonie Confair, EMS Supervisor Lane Johnson, Supervisor Steve Confair, Architect Brian McNew, DeSoto EMS Co-Medical Director Dr. Pat McGauly, Paramedics Brent Crawford, Gordon Miller, Logan Moore, EMT Jeremy Phillips, Attorney Bryce Denny, Patrick Benfield, and Attorney Rhys Burgess.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Shelton at 5:00 p.m. Confair gave the invocation, and Phillips led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Parker made the motion to add the following to the agenda: change the monthly meeting of the DeSoto EMS Board from monthly to bi-monthly. Thames seconded the motion. Motion carried by all ayes. This item will be added to New Business.

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2017, Board meeting was made by Canton and Reed seconded the motion. All ayes carried the motion.

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2017, Special meeting was made by Canton and Reed seconded the motion. All ayes carried the motion.

The financial report was given by Magee, and a motion to accept it was made by Canton. Parker seconded the motion. Motion carried by all ayes.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Thames with Canton seconding the motion. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Old Business:**

Architect McNew reported that Station 5 in Pelican is almost 50% complete. Completion is expected in mid-June.

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An update was given on the Cooperative Endeavor with DeSoto Fire District 3 in Stonewall. The paperwork is complete with DFD3 Board Chairman, Greg Baker, and Administrator Joe Magee signing the Endeavor.

**New Business:**

Thames made the motion to approve the bid from Alere for \$42,000 to purchase 7 venous blood gas analyzers at a cost of \$4,300 each. Included in the approval will be the service agreement for \$245/month and the reagents for \$364/month. Canton seconded the motion. Motion carried by all ayes.

Reed made the motion to approve the bid from Hamilton Medical for \$49,753.20 to purchase 3 transport ventilators at a cost of \$16,444.26 each. Included in the approval will be \$420.42 battery charger and power cord.

Thames made the motion to change Brent Crawford to full-time Training Officer with a 45 hour work week for a salary of \$60,000 annually. Canton made the second. All ayes carried the motion.

The motion to renew our group Blue Cross policy for another year – beginning May 1, 2017 was made by Parker. The second was made by Canton. All ayes carried the motion.

Reed made the motion to continue with The Hartford for long-term disability as is. It is the second year of a 2-year contract. The second was made by Thames. Motion carried by all ayes.

Thames made the motion to renew the Lincoln Life policy for another year – beginning May 1, 2017 was made by Thames. The second was made by Reed. All ayes carried the motion.

The motion to approve the purchase of the equipment for the tower on Cotton Belt Road including the repeater, accessories, and installation was made by Parker. Thames made the second. Motion carried by all ayes.

Benfield chose to have the appeal of his termination in a closed session.

Thames made the motion for the EMS Board of Commissioners to go into Executive Session to hear the Patrick Benfield appeal of his termination. Reed seconded the motion. Motion carried by all ayes.

After completion of the Executive Session, Canton made the motion to close the Executive Session. The second was made by Thames. All ayes carried the motion.

Thames made the following motion in reference to Benfield's appeal: Magee, Mann, Dr. McGaully, Benfield, Attorneys Denny and Burgess will meet at the end of the Board meeting for discussion. Benfield will return before the DeSoto EMS Board

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after his hearing with the LA Bureau of EMS in mid-April for an appeal. The second was made by Canton. All ayes carried the motion.

**New Business, continued:**

With the Executive Session being closed, the regular meeting continued with the addition to the agenda.

Parker made the motion to change the meeting dates for the DeSoto EMS Board of Commissioners from second Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. monthly to bi-monthly starting immediately. Canton made the second. Motion carried the motion.

The motion to adjourn at 6:16 p.m. was made by Canton. The second was made by Thames. All ayes carried the motion.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 9, 2017.

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Latarsha Shelton  
Board Chairman

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Rusty Canton  
Board Vice-Chairman