

DeSoto Parish Emergency Medical Service

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Minutes of the DeSoto Parish EMS Board of Commissioners Tuesday, May 9, 2017

The DeSoto EMS Board of Commissioners held its regular meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at DeSoto EMS Central Station at 5:00 p.m.

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

Guests were: Administrator Joe Magee, Assistant Administrator Karl Mann, Administrative Assistant Jane Manning, Billing Specialist Melonie Confair, Supervisor Steve Confair, Architect Brian McNew, DeSoto EMS Co-Medical Director Dr. Pat McGauly, Paramedics Mike Williams and Logan Moore, EMT James Williams, and Cody Williams.

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

A motion to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2017 Board meeting was made by Canton and Parker seconded the motion. All ayes carried the motion.

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

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

Old Business:

Architect McNew reported that Station 5 in Pelican is almost complete with expected completion in 8 to 10 weeks.

Lead Paramedic Mike Williams gave the report on the construction of Medic 15. Completion is expected by the first of June.

New Business:

The election to renew the DeSoto EMS tax millage on November 18, 2017 was discussed by the Board. The following notice was read aloud to the Board:

Notice of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given that at its meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. at the DeSoto Parish Ambulance Service District Building, 231 EMS Circle, Mansfield, Louisiana, the Board of Commissioners of DeSoto Parish Ambulance Service District, State of Louisiana, plans to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling an election to be held in the DeSoto Parish Ambulance Service District to authorize the continuation of an ad valorem tax.

Thames made the motion to purchase a 2012 Polaris Med-Stat off-road ambulance for \$29,975 from Natchitoches Ford. Ingvarsdson seconded the motion. All ayes carried the motion.

The motion was made by Thames to approve the contract for Dr. Patrick McGaully for a salary of \$30,000 annually to perform medical director duties. The second was made by Parker. All ayes carried the motion. The contract start-date is May 1, 2017.

The Board reviewed the proposed budget for fiscal year 2017 – 2018 which will be \$6,558,310 as compared to \$7,049,400 for 2016 – 2017. That is a decrease of \$861,090. The budget will be available for public viewing at Central Station until the public hearing on June 13.

The millage rate was reviewed by the Board. DeSoto EMS is currently collecting an ad valorem tax at 7 mils. In 2001, the first millage was 4 mils, the 2008 election awarded 6 mils. The state reassessed the parish's value, and moved us up to 7.4 mils, however, we are only collecting 7 mils. Magee suggested that we ask for 7 mils in the November 18, 2017 election to continue our ad valorem tax.

On October 13, 2014, the former DEMS Board approved the policy to no longer hire any employees' family members. Hiring Committee chairman, Karl Mann, asked the current Board to rescind the policy. The motion to rescind the policy was made by Thames, and the second was made by Ingvarsdson. All ayes carried the motion.

Ingvarsdson made the following 3-part motion regarding recent storm damage at Station 4 on Hwy. 509 in Carmel:

- to declare an emergency to repair recent storm damage – which is leaking from damaged roofing and roof vents.
- to approve M & M Builders, who submitted a quote for \$23,227.18, to make the necessary repairs.

The second was made by Reed. All ayes carried the motion.

The motion to adjourn at 5:45 p.m. was made by Thames. The second was made by Ingvarlsen. All ayes carried the motion.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 13, 2017, which will be a public hearing to approve the 2017-18 budget and the 2017 millage rate.

A special meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 to adopt a resolution to call an election on November 18, 2017, for continuation of our ad valorem tax.

Latarsha Shelton
Board Chairman

Rusty Canton
Board Vice-Chairman