

**Minutes of the DeSoto Parish EMS Board of Commissioners
Tuesday, March 9, 2021**

The DeSoto EMS Board of Commissioners held a regular Board meeting on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at DeSoto EMS Central Station at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vidler at 5:00 p.m. Caston gave the invocation, and Dr. McGaully led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present were: Chairman James Vidler, Vice-Chairman Rodney Arbuckle, Board Members Kimberly Adams (ZOOM), David Caston, and Dr. Stacey Henderson. Board Members LaTarsha Shelton and Dennis Reed were absent.

Guests attending were: Administrator Joe Magee, Administrative Assistant Jane Manning, Billing Specialist Melonie Confair, Medical Director Dr. Pat McGaully, and employees Kenneth Wilcher, Mike Williams, Mike Baker, Tony Long, and Chelsea Mitchell.

There were no public comments or additions/deletions to the agenda.

Chairman Vidler stated that he was absent, not present, as the January 12, 2021, minutes stated. He requested a correction to the minutes. The motion to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2021, Board Meeting with one correction (change Vidler from present to absent) was made by Arbuckle. It was seconded by Henderson. Motion carried with all ayes.

The financial reports: current bank balances, income-expenses, and budget vs. actual were presented by Magee. A motion to accept them was made by Henderson, and Arbuckle seconded the motion. The motion carried by all ayes.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Arbuckle. The motion was seconded by Caston. All ayes carried the motion.

Old Business:

A motion to purchase a hydraulic lift for the EMS mechanic's shop from ABC Auto Parts for \$29,027 was made by Arbuckle and seconded by Caston. Motion carried with all ayes.

New Business:

Magee gave an update on the ice storm. We had pipes that burst at Station 5. The Supervisor's Truck 705 was hit while on a call by a car that slid on the ice. Driveways were especially hard to navigate without a 4-wheel drive vehicle.

An update was given on Medic 12 that was involved in an accident on February 26, 2021. It will be repaired at Excellance, where it was constructed.

New Business, continued:

We have an ambulance under construction (Medic 16), but delays due to Covid, are making the delivery much later than we thought. The loss of Medic 12 will leave us without a frontline ambulance. A motion to declare an emergency to purchase a medic unit because of the loss of Medic 12 was made by Caston. It was seconded by Henderson. Motion carried with all ayes.

Excellance has a demonstrator ambulance available for \$201,541.16. The motion was made by Arbuckle to purchase the demonstrator using the emergency declaration. Caston seconded the motion. All ayes carried the motion. This unit will be Medic 17.

The motion to purchase a PowerLoad for Medic 16 for a cost of \$24,411.47 was made by Henderson. It was seconded by Caston. Motion carried with all ayes.

A motion to renew insurance policies with Blue Cross, The Hartford, and Lincoln Life for policy year May 1, 2021 – April 30, 2022 was made by Arbuckle. It was seconded by Henderson, and the motion was carried with all ayes.

Arbuckle made the motion to purchase a 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 4X4 truck for \$36,786 from Marketplace Chevrolet in Stonewall using a piggy back bid from the DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office. It was seconded by Caston. All ayes carried the motion.

The motion to adjourn at 5:34 p.m. was made by Caston. It was seconded by Arbuckle. All ayes carried the motion.

James Vidler
Chairman

Rodney Arbuckle
Board Vice-Chairman