

**Summit County  
Emergency Medical Services Board  
Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2021**

Meeting was held electronically via Zoom.

**Summit County EMS Board called to order:** 3:00 p.m.

**SCEMSB Voting Members Present:** SS Chief Scott Anderson, NS Chief Ian Nelson, PCFD Chief Paul Hewitt

**SCEMSB Voting Members Absent:** County Manager Tom Fisher, Director of Health Rich Bullough, Bob Jasper, Dr. Scott McIntosh

*Voting members present did not constitute a quorum.*

**Others in Attendance:** PCFD Chief Ashley Lewis – SCEMSB Ex Officio  
Kamas Mayor Matt McCormick – SCEMSB Ex Officio  
Summit Co. Deputy County Manager Janna Young – SCEMSB Ex Officio  
PCFD Admin. Asst. Debbie Colgan – Recorder

**Others Absent:** Coalville Mayor Trever Johnson – SCEMSB Ex Officio  
Summit Co. Deputy Attorney Jami Brackin – SCEMSB Ex Officio

**I. Assign Roles of Chair and Vice Chair**

Chief Hewitt began by welcoming attendees to the meeting. The roles of the Summit County EMS Board (SCEMSB, or the Board) to be assigned are the Chair and Vice Chair. A recommendation was made to appoint Chief Paul Hewitt as the Chair and Chief Ian Nelson as the Vice Chair; however, after a brief discussion it was determined a quorum of voting members was not present, and a vote to assign these positions was tabled to the next Board meeting.

Members of the Board were identified as follows:

Voting Members

Summit County Manager Tom Fisher  
Director of Health Rich Bullough  
Dr. Scott McIntosh  
North Summit Chief Ian Nelson  
South Summit Chief Scott Anderson  
PCFD Chief Paul Hewitt  
Bob Jasper

### Ex-Officio Members

Deputy County Manager Janna Young  
Kamas Mayor Matt McCormick  
Coalville Mayor Trever Johnson  
PCFD Chief Ashley Lewis  
Deputy County Attorney Jami Brackin

Deputy County Manager Young commented the ex-officio members of the Board were added after the original Board members were appointed and we may need to revisit the voting capacity for some members.

## **II. EMS Legislative Update**

Deputy Manager Young provided a brief update on some of the legislative bills that were introduced during this session regarding EMS as follows:

- **HB303, Emergency Medical Services Revisions:** This bill was passed and basically makes EMS an essential service on par with fire and law enforcement. It has an implication for cities and municipalities by making it more of a responsibility of the cities to be providing service. Guidance from the attorneys will need to be provided about what this means for Summit County's EMS program.
- **HB419, Insurance Coverage for Volunteer EMS Personnel:** This bill was introduced late in the session, so it did not get a committee hearing and, consequently, did not move forward. It would have set up a fund most likely managed by the Utah Association of Counties (UAC) that would provide health insurance benefits to volunteer EMS providers. It carries a high fiscal note, which caused some delays through the legislative process. UAC will continue to pursue this bill.
- **SB53, Behavioral Emergency Services Amendments:** This bill was passed and modifies the certification provisions for EMS. It will require EMS personnel to be certified to address mental and behavioral health crises or situations.
- **SB109, Emergency Services Amendments:** This bill also passed and directs the State Emergency Medical Services Committee to establish certification requirements. It also applies existing liability protections to individuals certified by the State Emergency Medical Services Committee, among other things.

Deputy Manager Young said Deputy County Attorney Brackin will monitor enactment dates for these EMS bills and advise the Board on any implications or changes that need to be made to our system.

### **III. Priorities for the EMS Board**

Priorities for the Board were identified as follows:

- Post-incident analysis
- Continual improvement, including improving relationships with North and South Summit
- Address any other priorities or concerns of any type

### **IV. EMS Goals and Objectives through 2021**

Goals and objectives for 2021 were identified as follows:

- Staffing improvements
- Training improvements
- Incremental planned budget increases

### **V. Post-incident Analysis**

A discussion about a recent incident was held to identify areas where improvements can be made in EMS incident responses. There was additional discussion regarding possibly hiring some full-time employees to help manage the North and South Summit EMS services, and Chief Nelson said we should also look at other options involving volunteer and part-time employees. He commented he would still like to see the fire departments run the EMS service for their areas at some point.

Mayor McCormick asked Chief Anderson if there would be interest in getting all firefighters for North and South Summit EMT certified, and Chief Anderson replied getting EMT certified is now a stipulation for all new hires in South Summit. They are required to get the certification when the class becomes available, much like they are required to obtain other certifications, such as wildland and structure certifications. Chief Lewis commented both he and Chief Nelson are course coordinators and can get together to get a basic course going.

Chief Hewitt mentioned Chief Lewis will be tracking when ambulances are out of their area for anything other than calls. Mayor McCormick asked if a secondary ambulance could be stationed at the fire stations to serve as a resource fire personnel could use when the primary ambulance is already in use. Chiefs Anderson and Nelson replied that both North and South Summit fire would need to upgrade their licenses to at least the Advanced EMT level in order to have fire personnel utilize an ambulance to transport patients, but the engines do carry basic life support (BLS) equipment. Chief Lewis commented initial steps would be to get North and South Summit fire personnel certified and get appropriate equipment on their apparatus so they can initiate care when they are first on scene and other units are in route. It was noted Dispatch has a new director.

EMS response improvements were identified as follows:

- North and South Summit EMS crews should notify Dispatch when they are out of area, and the fire departments for those areas should be notified as well.
- Training sessions for North and South Summit should be split into separate sessions held in each area instead of holding one session for both areas.
- The fire departments for North and South Summit should be dispatched on all non-Alpha EMS calls where a patient assessment has not been made.
- EMS training should be increased for North and South Summit fire personnel.
- When assistance is offered, it will not be cancelled.

## **VI. Frequency of Summit County EMS Board Meetings**

The members present discussed how often the Board should meet and agreed monthly meetings will be held for the immediate future with the possibility of meeting less often later. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was dismissed at 4:12 p.m.