

**Summit County
Emergency Medical Services Board
Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2021**

Meeting was held electronically via Zoom.

Summit County EMS Board meeting called to order: 2:00 p.m.

SCEMS B Voting Members Present: SS Chief Scott Anderson (joined at approx. 2:07)
Summit Co. Health Director Rich Bullough
Summit Co. County Manager Tom Fisher
PCFD Chief Paul Hewitt
Bob Jasper
Dr. Scott McIntosh
NS Chief Ian Nelson

Voting members present constituted a quorum.

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

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

I. Roll Call

Chief Hewitt began the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and conducted a roll call.

II. Approval of March 16, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Chief Hewitt made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2021, Summit County EMS Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Chief Nelson. Chief Hewitt, Chief Nelson, and Janna Young (in County Manager Tom Fisher's stead) voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed 3-0. Health Director Bullough, Dr. McIntosh, and Bob Jasper abstained from voting, as they were not present for the March 16, 2021, meeting.

III. EMS Licensure Discussion

Chief Lewis said he and Summit Co. Deputy Attorney Brackin have had multiple meetings with Guy Dansie, the State EMS Director, discussing Summit County's prior licensure and what needs to be done moving forward given HB 303 and what is best for the County in terms of licensure. The current license is set to expire on April 30, 2021. In the past there were three licenses, but we

were able to take the Park City paramedic license and blanket all of Summit County with that one license. By bringing a paramedic license to all of Summit County, we can start moving toward having paramedic service and staffing paramedics in North and South Summit. Renewal of the current license will extend the license for another five years. Chief Hewitt commented the license is issued under the requirements set by Utah Administrative Code R426-3-500, minimum licensure requirements for ground ambulance and paramedic services.

Deputy County Manager Young mentioned the legislative overview she provided during the last Board meeting, and HB 303 was one of the EMS bills she discussed. This bill changes the provision of EMS service and makes it an essential service that must be provided by cities and counties. Cities will either need to provide EMS services themselves or contract with a provider. Deputy Attorney Brackin has prepared a summary of the bill and how it impacts Summit County EMS for the Board to discuss.

County Manager Fisher added Chief Lewis and Deputy Attorney Brackin have been talking with the state agencies that will be regulating this, and there are many things that are still unclear on how they are going to regulate licensure. The law goes into effect on May 5, 2021, and County Manager Fisher said he believes it is going to take some time for the state agencies to determine rules and requirements for licensure.

Deputy County Manager Young commented if the County becomes the exclusive license holder for Summit County including the cities, it would be the only license issued in our jurisdiction. If the cities wanted to create their own EMS system, they would need to demonstrate another license is needed for city limits only; otherwise, they could be covered under the County's license and a payment to the County would be required. Bob Jasper commented it does not make sense for the cities to get involved as cities, and Mayor McCormick agreed it would be difficult for individual municipalities to provide their own service, but it may not be as difficult for North and South Summit as areas.

County Manager Fisher said it is unclear how special service districts will be handled under the new law, and additional discussions will be needed as people in the County decide what they want to do. He said two of the main points that have been identified in discussions over the past few months are the desire for local control and levels of service we currently do not have. He said if those are the main issues, those are what we should be focusing on and discussions on funding would follow. Chief Nelson and Mayor McCormick expressed their interest in participating in future funding discussions regarding EMS in Summit County.

IV. Review/Discussion of Fire District Response with EMS Calls and Response Reimbursement

Chief Anderson commented South Summit Fire has been going on almost every South Summit EMS call and voiced his concern regarding the lack of compensation being offered to South Summit Fire for those services. He said some South Summit Fire personnel are considering leaving due to the increased number of EMS calls they are responding to when they do not really need to

be there. He believes there are problems with the EMS system in the area, and the lack of familiarity non-local EMTs have with the area is a contributing factor.

Chief Hewitt commented it is expensive to dispatch fire apparatus to alpha-level calls, and the North and South Summit fire units should probably not roll on those types of calls. Bob Jasper asked why fire is responding on EMS calls, and Chief Nelson replied it is a matter of manpower. Mayor McCormick added it is a resource issue; the EMS crews need more resources and there is a funding shortfall, and we need to find a way to make those two issues match. Chief Hewitt said further discussions can be held regarding fire units responding to East side calls, as he agrees fire units are not needed on every call and refinements can be made to the memo that was distributed as a result of last month's EMS Board meeting. Bob Jasper echoed Chief Hewitt's comment that fire units are not needed on every call.

County Manager Fisher commented it would be good to know how much changes are costing South Summit Fire. Chief Anderson said a vehicle has been outfitted with a light bar, radios, and some basic EMT supplies, and schedules for several personnel have been changed. Some personnel have also made arrangements with their bosses to be able to leave when needed. The cost is several thousand dollars so far, and it is hard to place an amount on how much it would cost if personnel continue to need to leave their work and what the cost would be if personnel choose to leave South Summit Fire. Chief Anderson said it seems South Summit Fire should be entitled to some part of the ambulance revenue for the area, and County Manager Fisher replied come budget time, some hard figures will be required to suggest any changes in the level of service and how to compensate around that.

V. Election of Summit County EMS Board Officers for 2021

The roles of the Summit County EMS Board to be assigned are the Chair and Vice Chair. As discussed in the March 2021 meeting, a recommendation was made to appoint Chief Paul Hewitt as the Chair and Chief Ian Nelson as the Vice Chair. County Manager Fisher made a motion to nominate Chief Hewitt as the Chair and Chief Nelson as the Vice Chair. It was seconded by Bob Jasper and passed unanimously.

VI. Discussion of Possible Future Agenda Items/Additional Comments

Bob Jasper said further discussion regarding North and South Summit fire apparatus responding to calls should be held, and County Manager Fisher said Summit County Deputy Attorney Brackin should discuss HB 303 and its implications at a future meeting.

Deputy County Manager Young commented a follow-up should be made to an action item in the baseline report submitted to the Council of Governments regarding where the mayors are on any type of public polling or surveying to understand what service level residents want and if they are willing to pay for it. Mayor McCormick replied before residents are contacted, he believes further discussions regarding funding will need to be held to determine how much we would be asking

residents to cover. Chief Anderson added he is not sure if the South Summit Fire Protection District would receive assistance from the County to help cover costs associated with a service level increase, since it is its own entity and not under the county umbrella. County Manager Fisher commented he appreciates the discussions coming from these meetings. He said the Board was created to solve problems and solutions will be found.

County Manager Fisher said under the post-incident analysis item of the agenda for these meetings, he would like to cover statistics for calls our EMS personnel are responding to in between Board meetings. He also said it is important to review cases where improvements can be made, but we also need to recognize cases where our personnel have performed well.

Chief Hewitt mentioned Chief Lewis is preparing a proposal for the County Council regarding increased budgets and staffing, and Chief Lewis will discuss this at the next meeting.

The next Summit County EMS Board meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 25 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

VII. Adjournment

Chief Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Chief Hewitt. The meeting of the Summit County EMS Board adjourned at 3:04 p.m.