

PICKENS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

October 9, 2023

222 McDaniel Avenue, Pickens, SC 29671

IN ATTENDANCE - BOARD: Richard (Kenny) McPeters
Bill Daniel
Paul Howland
Dennis Bauknight
Troy Burton
JB "Jan" Kelley
Rodney Herd

ABSENT - BOARD: Tracie Barnette
Hub Smith
Brooke Newman
Randy Bowers

IN ATTENDANCE - STAFF: Billy Gibson
Meredith Teske

IN ATTENDANCE - GUESTS:

Agendas, bearing date, time and location of meeting were emailed to Board members and news media and a copy was posted on the county website and bulletin board at the Administration facility.

Meeting called to order at 6:00. P.Howland offered an invocation.

Minutes from August approved. Motion by J.B. Kelly and seconded by B.Daniel.

Fair Tax

Dennis Bauknight summarized the "fair tax" presented to the county council representatives. budget changed per the Councilmen's input. Motion to share this with community members to encourage they contact County Council about the Fair Tax. Motion by D.Bauknight and second by B.Daniel. Motion passes. The secretary will send out the summary with these minutes.

Radio Study: The upgrade continues. Application has been submitted with DNR for approval of a new tower location (better coverage area). A back-up location has been identified but is a less desirable location. Radio equipment is on order (>6-month lead-time). Clarification was provided by Chief Gibson on the proposed radio system regarding coordination: police, sheriff, fire, ambulance and other emergency services. The unified dispatch discussions will continue as the "radio upgrade" proceeds.

Emergency Services Division Report:

2 ambulances are on order. These are replacements. Lead-time is >6 months.
New engine is ready at the plant. Due in a short order.
New EMS Training officer (D.Easter) began.
Dispatch for Liberty has relocated to the Pickens facility (now includes Liberty, Central and Pickens). Certain technical upgrades will be completed over the next few months which shall enhance the operational capabilities.
The stair-chair order is approved & on order.

New Business:

R.Herd reminded the committee of the need for emergency services within the community.

EMS Fee Structure (see attached for the details). M.Teske presented the summary. Motion to present the recommended ambulance fee structure to County Council. Motioned by R.Herd and second by JB Kelly. Motion passed. Chief Gibson agrees to present to the county administrator for consideration by Council. This board will receive notification when this will go or if it goes to County Council.

Board Meeting attendance. There is no requirement for attendance. The Secretary will create an attendance sheet for this board to be reported to the Chaiman at each meeting.

M.Teske summarized the morale of the employees. Good summary.

JB.Kelly motioned we adjourn; second by D.Bauknight. The next Board meeting is Monday, November 13th.