

**SPECIAL JOINT MEETING****SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND COUNCIL****JULY 7, 2020**

The Scott County Board of Commissioners and Council met in Special Joint Session on July 7, 2020 at 4:00 pm in the Commissioners Room, Suite 128, Courthouse. Commissioners present were Robert Tobias, John Lizenby, and Mike Jones. Council members present were Mike Zollman, Iva Gasaway, Robert Peacock, Donnie Richie, and Rachael Hardin. Councilmen Ab Watts and Raymond Jones were not present at the meeting. Also present was Council Attorney Mike Carter, EMS Oversight Committee member Jean Robbins, and Auditor Tammy Stout Johnson.

**EMS STAFFING AND OPERATIONS OF THIRD TRUCK**

Commissioner Tobias explained the original staffing plans for the third truck was to utilize part time employees. Part time technicians have been hard to find, partially due to their full time employers restrictions because of Coronavirus exposure risks.

Commissioner Jones proposed a third truck running for up to 60 hours per week and staffed by a full time Paramedic and a full time EMT. Jones said funds from the Truck Remount line could be used to cover the personnel expenses for the remainder of 2020.

Councilman Peacock asked about the progress on hiring the EMS Director. Tobias replied that the job description was revised and the position reposted. The revision of the duties emphasized business management and personnel management skills.

Councilman Zollman asked for the rationale to bring up a third truck for weekly operations. Tobias cited transfers account for approximately 60% of the revenue, and a third truck would help relieve additional pressure and conflicts for transfer runs. Zollman asked if the run volume was increased. Tobias said it remained steady. Peacock stated he had heard that transfer runs were turned down recently. Zollman and Tobias reported that they visited EMS last week and met with some staff. Concerns were expressed regarding the exposure to COVID-19 and the personal loss in wages if quarantined by not being able to earn overtime. Commissioner Lizenby questioned if the transfer runs were turned down, was it because of COVID-19 or just didn't want to take the run. Jones said personal protections equipment should be worn on all runs.

Jones said his research led him to believe that Scott County has a larger work load compared to other services due to transfer volume. Oversight Committee member Jean Robbins spoke with Scott Memorial officials, which indicated that transfer runs have been refused lately and a competitor was called in to transport the patients.

Zollman then asked why transfer runs an issue now after fifteen (15) years in operation. Council member Gasaway asked about the aggressiveness of their recruitment efforts. Tobias said that safety is the top concern and if this third truck would qualify as part of the COVID-19 response, then we could recoup our operation expenses. Councilman Richie expressed concerns over hiring two (2) full time employees that might only have jobs for the next six (6) months if a third truck is not feasible in 2021. Richie wondered if different work shifts could not be used to relieve work overloads. Tobias said if it were not for the public health situation, he might have a different opinion on the dilemma.

Tobias said that Commissioners unanimously agreed at their last meeting to send the request for an additional full time Paramedic and an additional full time EMT to Council for consideration and Salary Ordinance amendment.

**MOTION:** Peacock motioned to create a Third Truck Personnel line in the EMS budget; amend the 2020 Salary Ordinance by adding one (1) full time Third Truck Paramedic and one (1) Third Truck Basic EMT; and transfer \$87,200 from the Truck Remount line to the new Third Truck Personnel line. Second provided by Hardin. Motion carried unanimously.

**POLICY FOR RETURN OF PAID TIME OFF DURING INITIAL PERIOD OF PANDEMIC**

An amendment to the Paid Time Off policy was considered for the return of PTO hours (non FMLA related) taken from March 25, 2020 through April 18, 2020. The credit of PTO to service records would cover the particular time when the 2020 Salary Ordinance was amended to include compensation for employees "on call" during the onset of the statewide stay at home executive order.

**MOTION:** Jones motioned to approve the personnel policy amendment to return non-FMLA related PTO that was taken from March 25, 2020 through April 18, 2020 and credit the employees Service Records. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION:** Gasaway motioned to approve the personnel policy amendment to return non-FMLA related PTO that was taken from March 25, 2020 through April 18, 2020 and credit the employees Service Records. Second provided by Richie. Motion carried unanimously.

**EMERGENCY OPERATIONS ORDINANCE AND HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATIONS POLICY DRAFTS**

A draft of an ordinance for emergency operations and a proposal for a public health emergency operations policy was provided to all by Auditor Johnson. The documents were for review and subsequent consideration at each Board's regular meetings in July.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, Jones motioned to adjourn the Commissioner portion of the July 7, 2020 Special Joint meeting. Second provided by Lizenby. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no other business, Peacock motioned to adjourn the Council portion of the July 7, 2020 Special Joint meeting. Second provided by Gasaway. Motion carried unanimously.

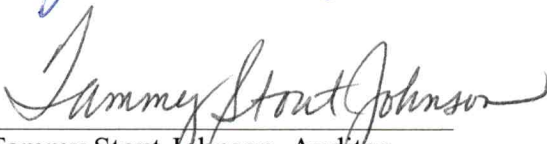
Commissioners:

  
Robert Tobias, President

  
John Lizenby, Vice President

  
Mike Jones, Member

ATTEST:

  
Tammy Stout Johnson, Auditor

Council:

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Mike Zollman, President

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Ab Watts, Member

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Robert Peacock, Vice President

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Rachael Hardin, Member

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Iva Gasaway, Member

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Raymond Jones, Member

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Donnie Richie, Member  
Auditor

ATTEST:

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Tammy Stout Johnson, Scott County

