



POWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes
Commission Chambers
543 Bannock Ave.
American Falls, ID 83211
www.powercounty.id.us

Tuesday, July 13, 2021, 1:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of County Commissioners met in special session Tuesday, July 13, 2021, and called the meeting to order at the hour of 1:01 pm, in the Commission Chambers of the Power County Courthouse.

II. COMMISSIONERS/STAFF

PRESENT: Commissioner Ron Funk, Chair
Commissioner Delane Anderson
Commissioner Bill Lasley

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Flor Cardona, Deputy Clerk
Anson Call, Legal Counsel

OTHER PARTIES PRESENT: Ambulance Chief Di Jones
Kami Chandler
Jathan Nalls
Derek Coleman
Renee Houston

III. AGENDA

A. MOTIONS:

1. **Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda for Monday, July 13, 2021, was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.
2. **Convene as Ambulance District Board at 1:01 pm:** A motion to adjourn as the Power County Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Power County Ambulance District Board was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.
3. **Reconvene as Board of County Commissioners at 4:14 pm:** A motion to adjourn as the Power County Ambulance District Board and reconvene as the Power County

Commissioners was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.

B. POINTS OF ORDER:

1. **State Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Bureau:** Jathan Nalls, Derek Coleman, Renee Houston from the State Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Bureau presented the Power County EMS assessment they had conducted. Mr. Nalls advised Power County EMS serves a population of 8,000 and advised there will be an estimated 800 ambulance calls this year. Mr. Nalls advised the Power County EMS is licensed as a Paramedic level service requiring a Paramedic to be on duty 24/7. Mr. Nalls advised during FY2020, Power County EMS transported more than 400 patients, 375 patients transported to hospital emergency departments. Mr. Nalls advised that out of the 375 patient transports, 181 went to Power County Hospital and 173 to Portneuf Medical Center.

Mr. Nalls advised there are two primary factors affecting Power County EMS funding, the annual budget and billing and collections.

Mr. Nalls advised Power County Hospital is a critical access hospital that offers services to patients suffering from routine medical emergencies, but advised Power County Hospital is not equipped or capable of providing definitive care for time sensitive emergencies. Mr. Nalls advised the closest primary specialty hospitals capable of definitive care, time sensitive emergencies is Portneuf Medical Center and Eastern Idaho Regional Medical center. Mr. Nalls advised the Bureau recommends the Power County EMS, Power County Hospital and the EMS Medical Director (Dr. Curtis Sandy) develop time sensitive emergency policies and protocols regarding which patients should bypass Power County hospital and go to the closest specialty center.

Chief Di Jones advised the Medical Director is Curtis Sandy and advised Dr. Sandy directs what the standing orders are.

Mr. Nalls advised the EMS billing collected revenue:

- 2018 - \$207,583
- 2019 - \$198,071
- 2020 - \$194,324

Mr. Nalls advised the EMS billing collection trend over the past 3 years is moving in the opposite direction from what was expected. Mr. Nalls recommends an evaluation of EMS billing and revenue collections operations.

Mr. Nalls advised the State currently has no record of mutual aid or interagency cooperative agreements with other EMS agencies or counties and advised they recommend an agreement be put in place.

Mr. Nalls advised Chief Jones performs all quality assurance (QA) chart audits and recommends the Power County EMS incorporates a QA process.

Mr. Coleman advised the current volunteer/part time staffing does not meet the ambulance staffing requirements of the State and advised Power County EMS is