



20 April 2022

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD 19 APRIL 2022 MEETING MINUTES

EMSAB Members: Dave Chenault Laura Gifford Mike Larson
Mary Egeland Jennifer Grinage Serena Tschirgi

EMSAB members attended the April 19 meeting in the LFD Station 1 Training Room at 12:00 p.m. Members Egeland and Grinage attended via Zoom. Also present were Staff Liaison/Fire Chief Travis Myklebust, Deputy Fire Chief Greg Rightmier, Council Liaison Kasee Forsmann and LFD Assistants Danel Arnzen and Stephanie Rudy, who took notes.

Old Business:

- Chenault made a motion to approve the January 18 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Tschirgi and approved by the board.

New Business:

- Board discussed the recent ambulance fee benchmark survey of comparable agencies. The survey shows LFD is lower in all fees, except standby. The issue in raising rates too much is this may just increase our write-off amount since LFD transports a high volume of patients on Medicare/Medicaid. Reimbursement from Medicare/Medicaid is a set amount.

According to the insurance percentages, the closest comparable cities included in the survey are Clarkston Fire Dept. and Kootenai County EMS. Tschirgi recommended increasing all rates; Chenault suggested aligning more with Kootenai's fees. Staff Liaison Myklebust will talk to Kootenai about their write-off percentages.

Standby amount needs to align more with the true cost of overtime. Staff Liaison Myklebust will run numbers on the average hourly cost. The Board discussed separating out public vs. non-public entities because some are supplemented by taxes. It was decided to address this aspect in the future.

Chenault moved to hold a special meeting to decide on fee increases after additional information has been gathered. The motion was seconded by Tschirgi.

The following will be provided at the May 17 special meeting:

- Overtime average for standby (includes benefits)
- Kootenai County EMS write-off percentage
- Mileage rate fee suggestions from ambulance billing

- Chenault made a motion to re-elect Larson as EMSAB chair. The motion was seconded by Tschirgi and approved by the board. Tschirgi moved to re-elect Gifford as vice-chair; seconded by Chenault. Gifford serving as vice-chair for the next year, was approved by the board.

Other Business:

- On March 17, 2022 Governor Little signed the Idaho Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) legislation. GEMT is used to cover the funding gap between our fees and the allowable amount from Medicaid.
- Ambulance billing has been moved from the administrative services department to the fire department. This was possible through a reorganization at City Hall. This will allow LFD more access to information regarding EMS response. This will also make it easier to provide ambulance billing with up-to-date prices in order to invoice the Cost + 10% fee.
- Lewiston’s Medical Director Dr. Austin Brown is now the medical director for Asotin County and Clearwater Paper Fire Department. This will allow for more consistent EMS protocols and training throughout the valley.
- LCSC Workforce Training is discontinuing its paramedic program after this current class. In the future, this program may be offered through a degree.
- New Station 4 update: Finishing up Phase IA; 30% of the design is now complete. The cost of building has increased to 6.9 million in a very short time. Staff Liaison Myklebust is working with Mayor Johnson and finance for the additional money. If all goes forward as planned, LFD will be breaking ground in October 2022 with a move-in date in December 2023. This station has been designed with growth in mind. The chief is considering moving Medic 72 from the Grelle station to the new building. This would decrease the response time to the “tree streets”.

Tschirgi moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 pm; seconded by Chenault.

**SPECIAL EMSAB MEETING IS TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022 AT 12:00 PM
IN THE STATION I TRAINING ROOM**

Submitted by: _____ Date _____
 Travis Myklebust, Staff Liaison

_____ Date _____
 Stephanie Rudy, Recording Secretary

TAM: sr

c: Kari Ravencroft, City Clerk
 Dan Johnson, Mayor
 Jana Gómez, City Attorney

LEWISTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

2022 AMBULANCE USER FEE STUDY

AREA	Resident BLS	Non-Res BLS	Resident ALS	Non-Res ALS	Treat - No Transport	Mileage	O ₂	Standby
Ada County	680.00	803.00	1007.00	1130.00	326.00	14.75	67.00	100.00
Asotin County FD#1	570.00	570.00	800.00	800.00	100.00	15.00	0.00	94.00
Canyon Cnty	676.00	797.00	997.00	1118.00	437.00	15.50	0.00	74.00
Clarkston	490.00	590.00	650.00	750.00	0.00	11.50	35.00	100.00
Idaho Falls	No Response							
Kootenai Cnty EMS	611.00	717.00	797.00	903.00	213.00	16.50	0.00	140.00
McCall Fire	650.00	650.00	925.00	925.00	400.00	17.00	0.00	100.00
Pasco Fire Dept	650.00	1150.00	650.00	1150.00	250.00	11.00	0.00	NA
Pocatello Fire/Amb	633.00	842.00	752.00	1001.00	292.00	15.00	0.00	170.00
Pullman	900.00	1050.00	1050.00	1200.00	0.00	17.00	0.00	60.00
Walla Walla	796.00	1012.00	884.00	1114.00	75.00	12.00	0.00	91.00
Average	665.60	818.10	851.20	1,009.10	261.63	14.53	51.00	103.22
Lewiston	468.00	468.00	728.00	728.00	200.00	11.44	37.00	104.00
Difference	197.60	350.10	123.20	281.10	61.63	3.09	14.00	-0.78
% Difference	42%	75%	17%	39%	31%	27%	38%	-1%

AREA	EMS Transports	EMS Non-Transports	% Private	% Medicare	% Medicaid	% Other
Ada County	23,039	12,531	33%	29%	14%	24%
Asotin County FD#1	96	44	6%	53%	29%	na
Canyon Cnty	13,911	5,992	19%	48%	20%	13%
Clarkston	1,059	973	22%	54%	20%	4%
Idaho Falls	No Response					
Kootenai Cnty EMS	11,074	6,576	4%	63%	12%	21%
McCall Fire	337	100	9%	56%	17%	18%
Pasco Fire Dept	4,387	821	16%	44%	29%	10%
Pocatello Fire/Amb	4,203	3,487	8%	31%	22%	39%
Pullman	1,335	746	23%	50%	22%	5%
Walla Walla	3,000	2,200	14%	55%	28%	3%
Lewiston	4,579	2,892	5%	65%	13%	17%