



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION MEETING
117 South Main Street, Monticello, Utah 84535. Commission Chambers
February 04, 2025 at 9:00 AM

MINUTES

The public will be able to view the meeting on San Juan County's Facebook live and Youtube channel

CALL TO ORDER

Time Stamp (audio & video)

Commission Chair Stubbs called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Time Stamp (audio & video)

Commission Chair Stubbs called for attendance:

PRESENT

Commission Chair Silvia Stubbs

Commission Vice Chair Lori Maughan

Commissioner Jamie Harvey

STAFF

Mack McDonald, County Administrative Officer

Lyman W. Duncan, Clerk/Auditor

PUBLIC

Jeremy Hoggard, EMS Director

Kaden Kulow, Monticello City Administrator

Trent Herring, Blanding City Manager

Ann Leppanon, Bluff Mayor

Erin Nelson, Bluff Manager

Jimmy Johnson, San Juan Health District Chief Operating Officer

Farley Crofts, San Juan Health District Chief Financial Officer

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Emergency Medical Services Operations Discussion with Cities and Town.

Time Stamp (audio & video)

Mack presented the Emergency Services Operations discussion with the elected officials from Blanding, Bluff, and Monticello. Mack handed out a copy of Resolution No 2022-23 to the attendees. He also gave a history of EMS for the past thirty five years. The tax funding was passed for the Monticello Hospital to provide emergency services to the entire county, but due to continued losses, the EMS program was returned to the county. Since that date, the Tax funding remained with the Monticello Hospital, while the county has absorbed the losses stemming from the ongoing EMS program. Utah Navajo Health System (UNHS) has maintained a successful EMS program in Monument Valley, Navajo Mountain, and Montezuma Creek. Mack presented a schedule showing the number of ambulance runs within the county and their locations. The intent for today's discussion is to gain insight and seek solutions for funding the EMS program for the northern half of the county. EMS systems all over the country are losing money and San Juan County is not an exception. Insurance companies are scrutinizing payments to the EMS providers, hence making it difficult to be paid adequately. Volunteer EMS paramedics are difficult to find because they want to be paid and reimbursed for their time ways from home and family. He also stated that due to state law, cities and towns are required to contract with EMS providers. Commission Chair Stubbs asked where the money is coming from current EMS contracts with the municipalities. Jimmy Johnson, COO for the hospital stated the tax was for "healthcare" and not necessarily for EMS. Jeremy Hoggard gave a history of his past experience with EMS. He asked "why nurses are paid, but not EMS paramedics? He also stated that volunteerism is down, employers are less willing to let their employees leave the office or building to take an ambulance run.

Trent Herring, Blanding Manager, asked about the excel document and the losses. He asked about grants and other income. He has been asking for more information since August 2024. Commissioner Maughan asked about services for the Navajo Nation. Jeremy responded that UNHS covers the entire reservation except for Bluff, so he sends a Blanding ambulance to cover the town. Commission Chair Stubbs stated that we need better and more accurate financial information to utilize in these type of discussions. Jeremy is going to do all he can to clean up his statistics. Farley was appreciative of all the comments given and wanted to continue these discussions. Jimmy mentioned the Hospital is taking the minimum amount of property tax each year in an effort to help the property owners. Ann is in agreement with the other officials. They are having a hard time recruiting EMS staff. Erin mentioned that the

community wants to keep employees in their jobs and not have them go on ambulance runs. She also said that resources are stretch thin. Commissioner Harvey spoke about the EMS dispatch system and the lack of meeting with the crew in Price. The outsourcing of the dispatch to Carbon County in 2022 has caused problems within the southern part of the county. He stated there has been very little transparency with the dispatch crew in Price. The commission agreed to have a work session on April 15, 2025 to discuss these matters again.

ADJOURNMENT

Time Stamp (audio & video)

Motion to adjourn at 10:23 a.m.

Motion made by Maughan, Seconded by Harvey.

Voting Yea: Stubbs, Harvey, Maughan

The Board of San Juan County Commissioners can call a closed meeting at any time during the Regular Session if necessary, for reasons permitted under UCA 52-4-205

All agenda items shall be considered as having potential Commission action components and may be completed by an electronic method **In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing auxiliary communicative aids and services for this meeting should contact the San Juan County Clerk’s Office: 117 South Main, Monticello or telephone 435-587-3223, giving reasonable notice**

APPROVED: _____
San Juan County Board of County Commissioners

DATE: _____

ATTEST: _____
San Juan County Clerk/Auditor

DATE: _____