



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS CONFERENCE ROOM
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MARCH 25, 2010
10:00 A.M.**

MINUTES

PRESENT: LEROY BLACKSHER, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, HENRY ETHERIDGE, COMMITTEE MEMBER; ANDREW FULGHUM, ADMINISTRATOR; WILBUR DALEY, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR EMERGENCY SERVICES; JUDITH FRANK, CLERK TO COUNCIL

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT THE ELECTRONIC AND PRINT MEDIA WERE NOTIFIED.

DURING PERIODS OF DISCUSSION AND/OR PRESENTATIONS MINUTES ARE TYPICALLY CONDENSED AND PARAPHRASED.

CALL TO ORDER: COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10:05 A.M.

INVOCATION: COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR GAVE THE INVOCATION.

DISCUSSION: COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE REQUESTED THAT THE MONTHLY REPORTS BE BROKEN DOWN BY STATIONS. THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE VARIOUS STATIONS AND THE RESPONSE TIME. MR. DALEY POINTED OUT THAT THE RESPONSE TIME HAS BEEN REDUCED DUE TO THE FIRE STATIONS BEING MANNED. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE COMMENTED THAT EVEN THOUGH MR. DALEY WAS FOUR PEOPLE SHORT, HE STILL COVERED THE STATIONS. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE SAID THAT MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT IT TAKES 14 PEOPLE TO COVER THE STATIONS. MR. DALEY SAID THAT MR. FULGHUM ADDED IN THE COVERAGE FOR WHEN SOMEONE IS OUT. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE ASKED IF MR. DALEY NEEDED FOUR ADDITIONAL FIREMEN OR 14. MR. DALEY SAID 14 ADDITIONAL FIREMEN WOULD BE PARADISE. MR. DALEY SAID HE COULD DO IT WITH 10 FIREMEN. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED IF HE NEEDED 10 FIREMEN OR 14 AS STATED BY MR. FULGHUM. MR. DALEY SAID THAT 14 WOULD BUILD IN COVERAGE WHEN SOMEONE WAS OUT. MR. DALEY SUGGESTED PUTTING EVERYONE ON A 53 HOUR WEEK AND ENROLLING THEM IN THE PORS. MR. DALEY SAID IF EVERYONE WENT TO A 53 HOUR WEEK, IT WOULD CUT THE OVERTIME IN HALF. MR. DALEY SAID THAT OVERTIME WOULD ONLY START AFTER THEY WORKED 53 HOURS. COMMITTEE MEMBER

ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THAT CAN BE DONE LEGALLY. MR. DALEY SAID MOST OF THE PEOPLE ON THE AMBULANCES WORK 40 HOURS, BUT ANY NEW PEOPLE, PART-TIME PEOPLE AND PEOPLE IN THE STATIONS WOULD BE 53 HOURS. MR. DALEY SAID THIS IS THE METHOD EVERYONE ELSE IS USING. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE ASKED WHY THE THREE SUPERVISORS CAN'T WORK A SHIFT AT THE STATIONS. MR. DALEY SAID THEY CAN IF NEEDED; HOWEVER, THEY NEED TO MAKE SURE EVERY STATION IS MANNED. MR. DALEY SAID THEY DELIVER SUPPLIES TO ALL THE STATIONS, THEY TAKE TRUCKS IN TO BE REPAIRED, THEY DO TRAINING AND ARE OUT EVERYDAY.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE SAID THAT HE WAS OF THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ALL THE STATIONS WERE TO BE MANNED AND THAT THERE WAS ENOUGH IN THE BUDGET TO COVER IT. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE SAID HE DID NOT CARE WHAT MR. FULGHUM OR MS. LUCAS TELLS HIM (MR. DALEY), THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO KNOW IF YOU DON'T HAVE WHAT YOU NEED TO DO THE JOB. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE SAID IT IS THE COUNCIL'S JOB TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY AND WHEN THE PEOPLE WERE CUT FROM THE EMS BUDGET, MR. DALEY NEVER TOLD THE COUNCIL HOW IT WOULD EFFECT HIS DEPARTMENT. MR. DALEY SAID HE THOUGHT HE COULD COVER THE STATIONS WITH PART TIME PEOPLE. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE SAID THAT IT IS MR. DALEY'S BUDGET AND HIS PEOPLE AND IF HE CAN'T CONTROL HIS BUDGET, HE CANNOT DO HIS JOB. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE SAID THAT IT WAS THE COUNCIL'S JOB TO PROVIDE FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE CITIZENS AND IF A SECRETARY HAS TO BE CUT TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS, THAT IS HOW HE WILL VOTE.

MR. DALEY SAID THAT WHEN PEOPLE TALK ABOUT EMS THEY TALK ABOUT FIRE SERVICE, BUT MR. DALEY SAID THE PEOPLE WORKING IN THE FIRE STATIONS CAN ALSO HANDLE MEDICAL CALLS.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THEY WERE GETTING ANY VOLUNTEERS. MR. DALEY SAID THAT IT WAS HARD TO GET VOLUNTEERS BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE SAME TRAINING AS PAID FIREMEN. MR. DALEY SAID THAT THERE ARE ABOUT 21 ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE ASKED IF A VOLUNTEER WORKS A SHIFT AT ONE OF THE STATIONS, WILL HE GET PAID MORE THAN \$8.00. MR. DALEY SAID A CERTIFIED VOLUNTEER CAN WORK A SHIFT AND BE PAID FOR WORKING A SHIFT. THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED HOW TO BECOME CERTIFIED AND HOW LONG IT TAKES. MR. DALEY SAID ALL THE PAID FIREMEN ARE ALSO AT LEAST A BASIC EMT. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT ACE AND IF THEY OFFER CLASSES. MR. DALEY SAID THEY DID IN THE PAST, BUT NOT CURRENTLY. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD MEET WITH THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM ACE AND DISCUSS IT. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE ASKED HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE RESIGNED OR BEEN TERMINATED. MR. DALEY SAID THAT THERE HAVE BEEN 5 SINCE JUNE OF 2008, AND 3 WERE THIS YEAR.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE ASKED IF ALL THE EQUIPMENT WAS WORKING AND MR. DALEY SAID HE MADE A POINT OF TELLING ALL HIS PEOPLE TO CHECK EVERYTHING, EVERYDAY.

MR. DALEY INFORMED THE COMMITTEE OF THE REPORTING CHANGES REQUIRED BY DHEC AND THAT HE HAS RECEIVED FUNDS TO PURCHASE COMPUTERS FOR THE TRUCK SO THAT THEY WILL COMPLY WITH DHEC REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. MR. DALEY SAID THAT HE GOT THREE BIDS FOR

THE EQUIPMENT. MR. DALEY SAID THAT THEY GET THIS GRANT EVERY YEAR AND HE WOULD LIKE TO USE \$3,500.00 FROM HIS BUDGET TO INSTALL BRACKETS IN ALL THE TRUCKS SO THE COMPUTERS CAN BE MOVED. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE FIREFIGHTERS GRANT. MR. DALEY SAID IT CAN ONLY BE USED FOR AIRPACKS. MR. DALEY SAID THE GRANT WAS WRITTEN SPECIFICALLY FOR THAT. MR. DALEY SAID HE GOT THREE QUOTES FOR THE SOFTWARE AND IT WOULD REQUIRE A YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION OF \$33,674.90. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THEY HAVE NO CHOICE, BUT TO BE COMPLIANT. MR. DALEY SAID THAT IT WOULD BE AT LEAST ANOTHER YEAR BEFORE THE NEW WORLD SYSTEM THAT THE COUNTY CURRENTLY USES WOULD HAVE THE SYSTEM. COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHERIDGE ASKED WHAT THE \$11,000.00 FOR EACH FIRE STATION IN THE BUDGET IS FOR AND MR. DALEY SAID THAT THAT IS FOR ITEMS NEEDED AT THE STATIONS.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 11:11 A.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

LEROY BLACKSHEAR
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN