



Lawrence County  
**EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Date:** Thursday, February 26, 2025 | **Time:** 5:00-6:22 p.m.

**PRESENT: County Executive** David Morgan. **Commissioners:** Shane Eaton, Will Burnett, Phillip Heatherly, Steve Hagan, Chris Sutherland, Dave Ray, Barry Luffman, and Scott Franks. *County Fire & Rescue Coordinator* Tyler McDow, *EMS Assistant Director* Kane Watkins, *EMA Director* Shelton Barnett, Anthony Washburn, *Lawrenceburg Fire Chief* Jay Moore, *Chief Deputy* George Barturen, and John Uzbasic.

**Executive Morgan** called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL:** *Chairman* David Morgan, *Vice-chair* Shane Eaton, Will Burnett, Steve Hagan, Tyler McDow, Shelton Barnett, and Jay Moore.

**PRAYER:** Will Burnett.

**PLEDGE:** David Morgan.

#### **EMS UPDATE & LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

- **Watkins** gave the committee an EMS operational update, including commendation of personnel for extended response during recent winter weather. Legislative priorities from the Tennessee Ambulance Service Association were reviewed.
- The *Patient Protection and Fair Reimbursement Act* was identified as the highest legislative priority for EMS.

#### **EMS BILLING RATES**

- The committee reviewed and discussed EMS billing practices and Medicare benchmarks.

**Set EMS Billing Rates at 225% of the Medicare Allowable Rate.**

**Motion:** Luffman. **Second:** Hagan.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

#### **AMBULANCE FLEET & EQUIPMENT**

- The aging ambulance fleet and maintenance costs were reviewed.

**Approved Forwarding a Recommendation to the Budget Committee Review for the Purchase of a New Ambulance using a \$30,000 state EMS Grant,**

**Motion:** Eaton. **Second:** Burnett.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

**COUNTY FIRE & EMERGENCY READINESS**

- **McDow** gave updates on fire department compliance, staffing improvements, smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector distribution, ISO-related water system issues, and disaster preparedness.
- **Barnett** noted the lack of generator-powered emergency fueling capability is a critical risk for the county.

**Adjournment**

**Motion:** Eaton. **Second:** Luffman.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

**Minutes Submitted By:** Christian Tyree