

**FIRE, POLICE & SAFETY MEETING  
FEBRUARY 2, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Rick Ash; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Michael White; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Attorney Jacob Holmes; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Pafford Ambulance Jamie Pafford, Charles Stanton, Clay Hobbs; Jennifer Revels; Public Affairs Tom Henry; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

**1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Rick Ash. A breakdown was handed out to the Justices of runs made in Mississippi County. 9,350 responses in 2021. 2020 responses 8,439. 2019 8,398 responses. 30% of responses were not transported to the hospital. 2019 response time 8:24 minutes, 2020 7:35, 2021 7:54. 1 or 2 ambulances had been added for better clinical outcome. Largest cost was having the ambulance and staff ready to go. 8 patients transported from Wilson, 8 patients from Joiner, 3 patients from Dyess last month.**

**2. Blytheville had five and Osceola two trucks at this time. Additional trucks were added if wait times increased. Staff had been increased when needed. Pafford came monthly and met with Blytheville EMS committee, hospital staff. Quarterly reports could be provided if wanted. Response time to the south end of the county were concerns. Justice White asked if response time would be improved and had a proposal been put together. Jamie Pafford said an ambulance could be stationed in the south end for part of a day. First responders were important in the community. Mississippi County could sponsor a first responder program. Pafford had a program to train the first responders. Justice Jackson said first responders made a difference. Pafford met the standards for the International Academy Center Dispatch Standards. Ambulances were dispatched while questions were being asked. State law required ambulances rolling within 2 minutes. Ambulances in Mississippi County had to be licensed by the State Health Department. Better communication was needed during an emergency. Justice McDonald asked if another ambulance would be added for the additional people hired for the new steel plant. Jamie Pafford said BRS took care of themselves. Pafford would work with the county to devise a plan.**

**3. Attorney Jake Holmes had concerns with the Pafford Contract. Justice Ash would like for the attorneys to work together to fix the situation. Fire chiefs, police chiefs in the county would be contacted to put together a plan for the first responders for training. Tom Henry brought one of the ventilators that was available if needed. House numbers needed to be large enough for the ambulances to find the houses.**

**4. County was not buying a county ambulance at this time. The County would move forward with developing a County first responder program. An additional ambulance just sitting in Wilson would have to be paid for by the county. Pafford should be able to report back within 30 to 45 days with a proposal.**

**4. Meeting adjourned.**

**Minutes submitted by: Cindy George**