

Morgan County Commission & Ambulance Authority Meeting
March 17, 2016
7 pm @ Warm Springs Middle School

The Morgan County Commission and the Morgan County Ambulance Authority held a public hearing to hear public comments regarding the proposed changes to the Morgan County Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fee Ordinance.

George Didawick, Chairman, Morgan County Special Medical Service Board, presented a power point presentation to the audience. After the presentation, the EMS Board and the County Commission welcomed comments and questions from the audience.

Some of the citizens that spoke and voiced their concerns are as follows:

Lou Clawges- agree that Fire Rescue and Police are at the top of the list but what happens when citizens can't pay the increased taxes? Why isn't the state helping?

Sally McCumbee- I thank and applaud the EMS for their work. I understand paying the residential ambulance fee but why can't renters pay?

Brenda Hutchinson- If you plan to build a new facility and purchase property, where is the funding coming from? What happens to individuals who cannot afford to pay the increased fee, are you going to put a lien on their property?

Tammy Campbell- I am here to present a petition asking the County Commission to consider other cost saving options that could meet the ambulance service needs in Morgan County prior to doubling the county ambulance fees. There are over 600 signatures here. Ms. Campbell presented the petition to the Commission.

Debbie Farris- No matter what we, taxpaying citizens say, the County Commission already has their minds made up.

Ron Clingerman- If you put an EMS building in Largent while Paw Paw still has one, does Paw Paw get cut from funding? Is the fire fee going to increase next?

Franklin Strader- Why don't businesses have to pay an ambulance fee?

Dawn White- If the Commission retains 6.5% of the collected fees, why would you increase and double the fee?

Melvin Stotler- When you want to double the tax, can you take into consideration the people on fixed incomes that cannot afford it?

Ron Martin- Maybe another area to consider is charging tourists.

Barbara Linten- What do you have in Morgan County to bring people here? We have senior citizens on fixed incomes that can't afford it. Years ago, when people wanted to bring businesses to the county, everyone fought it and wouldn't let them.

Ron Martin- Look at charging businesses. We have approximately 226 businesses in Morgan County that have employees, around 1096 businesses with no employees, if you have a business in your home, double the ambulance fee for that residence.

Barbara Gloyd- I volunteer as an EMT, moving ambulance services to the western part of the county and having two crews in Berkeley Springs provides better coverage for the eastern part of the county. If there is an emergency in my family, I would give a million dollars to have emergency services come to my house.

Tom Zahnnow- I go to other places on vacation and pay hotel/motel taxes, our county has the lowest hotel/motel tax, why can't you go to the state Capitol and fight to increase the hotel/motel taxes for our county

Some other comments/concerns included:

- If this topic were put on the ballot for a vote and was voted no, what would you do then?
- We pay the fee and if we need emergency services, we still get a separate bill, what's the fee go towards? This seems like double dipping.
- How much of our tax money paying the fee goes towards salaries? What are the salaries?

President Close closed thanked everyone for attending and closed the public hearing at 9:30 pm.

MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSION & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD
 PUBLIC HEARING ON INCREASING FEE

Meeting Date: 3-17-2016

	NAME	Wish to speak Y/N below
1	Renea Stansbury	N.
2	LARRY MAW	?
3	BETTY MASON	?
4	Carl Cowell	?
5	mylene...	no
6	Beverly Dixon	NO (?)
7	NANDY CROSS	?
8	PAUL POHLENZ	no
9	Cindy MacDonaghay	no ?
10	Ralph W. Leasure Jr.	?
11	Harry Weiss	possibly
12	Mark J Blaw	possible
13	Dick Myers	no
14	Albete Man	NO
15	Gerald Ward	no
16	Milze Jenkins	no
17	Robert Dugan	no
18	Ray Bohm	no
19	Jenna Bohm	No
20	LOU CLAWGES	YES
21	Kay Fink	NO
22	Fernando Attadler	
23	Arl Ontari	No
24	Barbara Bloyd	No
22	Ellie...	
23	Dan Duckwall	No
24	Ron Davis	no
25	Larry Stewart	no
26	Icate Shunney	NO
27	RONALD KIDWELL	POSSIBLE
28	BARB WOLFE	NO
29	Sally McCumbee	yes
30	Kerry...	

(20)

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	NAME	Wish to speak Y/N below
31	Loretta C. Hanson	
32	Leonard B. Barron	
33	Barbara A. Lutton	
34	Phyllis E. Lutton	
35	Bruce Hutchins	Y
36	Steve Hutchins	
37	RODNEY HOVERMALE	
38	SAM SWAIN	Y
39	KEVIN S. SKEWALC	
40	Michael J. [unclear]	
41	Malcolm [unclear]	
42	[unclear]	W
43	John E. Mellott	
44	Bruce Mellott	
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MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSION & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD
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	NAME	Wish to speak Y/N below
64	Peter P. Steiner	Y
65	Wanda Murray	?
66	Dean Casper	?
67	STEPHEN DEWBETRO	N
68	J. J. McArthur	N
69	Steve McDonald	N
70	David White	?
71	Alice Lantz	Y
72	Jo Ann Blankley	N
73	Ranice Stotler	N
74	Medrina Stotler	X
75	Alan Ford	N
76	ART CUCINOTTA	Y N
77	Donna DeHoso	N
78	Phillip Springs	N
79	Jimmy Campbell	Yes
80	Buck Campbell	NO
81	Zeke Cartwright	NO
82	Tracie Cartwright	NO
83	Ken Martin	NO
81	Lou Kiley	NO
82	Tom Kiley	NO
83	Gene Smith	NO
84	Ken Reed	NO
85	Tom Zahon	NO
86	Dick Dely	yes
87	T. Stanley	NO
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	NAME	Wish to speak Y/N below
94	Dylan Craft	No
95	Debrah Hama	Yes
96	Sterling Mason	No
97	Joune Linnelly	No
98	M. McCarty	No
99	m. Wilson	No
100	ROX CLINGERMAN	NO
102	SRAS Y/OD	NO
102	PAT LARCENT	YES
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MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSION & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD
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NAME	Wish to speak Y/N below
128	Timothy Hagerty
129	BONNIE STOTLER
130	Susan Webster
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