

**Lincoln County Board of Commissioners
Ambulance District Budget Hearing
August 28, 2017**

Present: Chairman Cresley McConnell, Commissioner Roy Hubert, Commissioner Rebecca Wood, Clerk Brenda Farnworth for minutes.

65 patrons in attendance including Sheriff Rodriguez and Deputy TK Smith.

6:04pm Chairman McConnell called the meeting to order

Chairman McConnell led all present in the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman McConnell reviewed the Ambulance District budget.

Salary increase of 17.49%. Trying to keep part-time EMS help, raised the wage to \$10.10 per hour.

Other employees received 3% to 11.39% wage increases

New Ambulance was purchased in 2017 for \$144,339. Will be contributing \$25,000 into the ambulance fund each year for future purchase.

Overall budget was reduced from \$506,238 to \$446,361, a (35.18%) decrease due to the new ambulance purchase in 2017.

Property tax increased from \$133,400 to \$147,293, a \$13,893 increase.

County funding for the Ambulance District operations increased from \$100,000 to \$130,000.

Chairman McConnell opened the floor to questions about the Ambulance budget.

Questions from the floor.

- Why the County is giving the Ambulance District \$130,000?
 - The Ambulance District is at their maximum levy capacity and cannot increase taxes enough to operate the ambulance district efficiently.
 - Commissioners are working with IAC to draft legislation to try to get the levy rate increased.
- Question regarding the increase in wages.
 - The Ambulance has difficulty attracting EMS personnel to work in Lincoln County.

6:30pm Chairman McConnell adjourned the Ambulance District Budget Hearing.

Respectfully,
Brenda Farnworth, Clerk

Cresley McConnell, Chairman

Attest:

Brenda Farnworth, Clerk

