

AGENDA
HARDY COUNTY EMERGENCY AMBULANCE AUTHORITY
MEETING DATE JANUARY 8, 2025
STARTING AT 6:30 P.M.
MEETING AT THE 9-1-1 CENTER
157 FREEDOM WAY
MOOREFIELD, WV 26836

AGENDA:

- CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
- APPROVE MINUTES—NOVEMBER SPECIAL MEETING
- TREASURER'S REPORT

OLD BUSINESS:

- BUILDING, EQUIPMENT/VEHICLE
- WARDENSVILLE, HCEAA, WEST HARDY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, 9-1-1 CENTER UPDATES
- TRAINING

NEW BUSINESS:

- COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
 - UPDATE REPORT FROM COMPANY 21
 - WEST HARDY'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL STEPEND FUNDS
 - APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES
 - COMMENTS—BOARD MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES
 - PUBLIC COMMENTS
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- NEXT MEETING DATE, FEBRUARY 12, 2025 AT THE BAKER BUILDING, 17940 STATE ROAD 55, BAKER, WV 26801

MEETING NOTICE

HARDY COUNTY EMERGENCY AMBULANCE AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025

9-1-1 CENTER

157 FREEDOM WAY, MOOREFIELD, WV

MEETING TIME WILL BE 6:30 P.M.

THE HARDY COUNTY EMERGENCY AMBULANCE AUTHORITY WILL HOLD A MEETING ON **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025, AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE 9-1-1 CENTER, 157 FREEDOM WAY, MOOREFIELD, WV 26836**. THE MEETING WILL BE TO DISCUSS THE REGULAR BUSINESS OF THE AUTHORITY. THE MEETING WILL BE OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. A QUORUM OF THE HARDY COUNTY EMERGENCY AMBULANCE AUTHORITY BOARD IS SCHEDULED TO MEET AND MAKE DECISIONS AND TAKE OFFICIAL ACTION ON MATTERS SCHEDULED ON THE MEETING AGENDA.

A COPY OF THE MEETING AGENDA WILL BE AVAILABLE, IN ADVANCE, TO ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC AND/OR NEWS MEDIA AT THE CLERK'S OFFICE, ROOM 111, 204 WASHINGTON STREET, MOOREFIELD, WV 26836 OR BY CONTACTING THE HARDY COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE AT TELEPHONE NUMBER 304-530-0250.

Hardy County Emergency Ambulance Authority

Board of Directors Meeting

January 8, 2025

Present: President Paul Lewis, Vice President Dr. Tim Thorne, Secretary Jean Flanagan, Fran Welton, County Commissioner Steve Schetrom

Executive Director Derek Alt, Assistant Executive Director Nathan Kesner

Guests: Tom Walker from Wardensville Rescue Squad; Steven Pendleton from the Moorefield Examiner; David Pratt, Billie Jo Biddle, Terena Dolly and Mike Phillips from West Hardy Emergency Medical Service; Roger Vacovsky, member of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Paul at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer followed.

Minutes

Jean moved and Tim seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Dec. 4, 2024 Special Meeting. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report

Derek reported the following for the 4th Quarter of 2024 (October, November, December):

Total Expenses	\$413,822.23
Total Revenue	\$406,74.42
Income from Hardy County Commission	\$310,000.00
Income from Services	\$ 93,642.74
Other Income	\$ 3,061.68
Current Checking Account Balance =	\$18,294.00
Current Savings Account Balance =	\$ 9,906.27

Old Business

Building/Grounds

Derek reported an engineer, hired by the Hardy County RDA for another project, checked the crack in the floor and re-affirmed it is caused by normal settling of the building.

Equipment

Derek reported all county-owned equipment is in service.

Vehicles

371, 372 - In service. Nothing to report.

373 - In service. Transmission was replaced with warranty covering most of the cost. The HCEAA paid \$2,766.10 total for the repair.

376 - In service. An issue with the rear lights was resolved.

383 - In service. A battery disconnect was installed to prevent battery drain.

Serv3/Argo - In service. Nothing to report.

Derek reported the West Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services completed inspections on all units in December. All units passed inspection.

Calls for Service

Paul reported the following calls for service in December

West Hardy EMS	102
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HCEAA	74
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Wardensville	35
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It was discussed that calls for service are doubled. Each time a call is made it goes to two agencies.

Paul reported his is hiring to replace one dispatcher and another will be retiring in June.

Training

Derek reported a Training Calendar is posted on the website for 2025. It will be updated to include public classes for 2025.

Mass Casualty Incident Refresher/Hazmat	Jan. 15.	at Baker
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Prehospital Trauma Life Support	Jan. 18	at Romney
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Struggle Well	Feb 2, 4 or 5,6	at Romney
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Basic Life Support/CPR	Feb. 19	at Baker
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Escape	Feb. 26- Mar. 2	at Pipestem
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Nathan reported the state is offering a Leadership Certificate Training online.

Paul reported there are 911 Dispatchers in need of a Red Cross class.

New Business

County Commission

Paul reported the County Commission will meet twice per month, beginning on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 5 p.m. The schedule going forward will be the first Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m. and the third Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m.

Update from West Hardy EMS - Co. 21

Dave Pratt reported the squad had moved from its Washington Street location to Spring Avenue. The moved has worked out very well. The community came together to assist with supplies, labor and monetary support. American Woodmark donated kitchen cabinets. Fertig Cabinets donated counter tops for the kitchen. They are waiting for a pre-fab structure to house their fourth ambulance. Mike Phillips and his company have donated time, but still need to be paid for some services provided.

Dave also reported the new ambulance they purchased was not delivered in December as expected. It may not arrive until the summer. The company that is remounting the box onto a

new chassis has experienced labor shortages. The \$262,500 anticipated to pay for the remount is still in the bank account.

Billie Jo Biddle circulated extensive financial reports which indicate the following:

Total Expenses for 2024	\$781,268.18
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Total Revenue for 2024	\$922,372.22
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Billie Jo explained that all profits go back into the company. She said the next major purchase would perhaps be fluid warmers for the ambulances. Keeping saline and other fluids warm in the cold weather is not possible.

Dave also reported Co. 21 and squads from three neighboring counties have applied for a FEMA grant to replace heart monitors. The grant, if successful, would be valued at close to \$1 million.

Request for additional funds for West Hardy

Billie Jo presented documentation of the WHEMS schedule, rates of pay for paid staff and pay-per-call members. She also submitted comparative hourly rates for Hampshire, Grant and Morgan counties. She indicated the WHEMS staff has not had raises since the company was formed. Since this request was initially made in October, the WHEMS has increased hourly pay for drivers, EMTs, and paramedics as follows:

EMVO-Driver	from \$14 - \$17
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EMT-B	from \$16 - \$20
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Paramedics	from \$20 - \$25
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Currently the WHEMS receives \$15,000 per month from HCEAA. WHEMS requested an increase to \$25,000 per month.

Jean moved and Tim second a motion to increase the monthly allocation to \$25,000 per month. The motion was approved.

Payment of Invoices

Derek presented a list of expenses for Oct., Nov., and Dec. Tim moved and Steve seconded a motion to approve payment of the invoices. The motion was approved.

Comments from Board/Employees/Public

Paul requested all three agencies (WHEMS, HCEAA, Wardensville) present FY2026 budget information prior to the Feb. meeting. This is so the board can review the material before the meeting.

Paul also requested the monthly meeting be moved to the third Monday of each month, beginning in February. The next meeting would be scheduled for Monday, Feb. 17. There was no objection by the board.

County Commissioner Steve Schetrom provided prepared remarks as follows:

- The HCEAA must represent the county as a whole.
- The HCEAA must be separate from the agency which provides service to the east side of the county.
- The HCEAA must serve the entire county - all three agencies.
- The HCEAA must treat each agency fairly in regard to the distribution of funds. This will probably mean the HCEAA agency will receive less and the WHEMS will receive more.
- There will be a restructuring of the HCEAA - no specifics were given.

- All of these things must happen before an increase in the fee will be considered.
- The recommendations from the committee assigned will be very important. The committee consists of Dr. Tim Thorne, Jean Flanagan, Billie Jo Biddle, Lisa Twigg and Nathan Kesner. They are scheduled to meet Friday, Jan. 10.
- The County Commission would probably consider an incremental increase in the fee - perhaps 30% or \$150 for regular property-owners and \$100 for Homestead Exemption property.
- The HCEAA Ordinance needs update and amending to address Business Fees.

Tim said the perception is that one side of the county gets more funding from the fee than the other. It is our job to serve the complete county

Jean asked if there was a method to ascertain the cost per call for each agency. This would be a way to make sure funds are allocated fairly. Nathan and Billie Jo said they would provide that information to the committee.

Fran asked if there was a way to charge for signed refusals. Signed refusals have increased and there is no revenue realized from a call resulting in a signed refusal. There seems to be no method to recoup those costs.

Mike Phillips said people should be aware of how the fee is distributed. Steve said there was significant information received during the Town Hall meetings held in preparation of the levy vote - which was defeated. He would like to continue having Town Hall meetings in some form. Paul reported Ron Crites resigned from the board. He will submit a name for consideration to the Hardy County Commission at the next meeting.

Roger Vacovsky said he tried to find out when and where the HCEAA Board meetings were being held and it is not listed on the website. He wondered why the WHEMS gave 25% pay raises, totaling \$120,000 per year, and then asked for funds to cover it. He also asked why the Calls Out are reported and not the Calls Run. Nathan showed him where that information is provided to the board.

Steve moved and Fran seconded a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

The next meeting of the HCEAA Board will be held on Monday, Feb. 17 at the HCEAA Building in Baker. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Flanagan, Secretary

DATE Jan. 8, 2025

SIGN-IN SHEET

Name	Representing	E-Mail
Jean F. Donagan	HCEAA	
Paul R. Evans	HCEAA	
Nathan M. Ever	HCEAA	
Derek Alt	HCEAA	
Tom Walken	WURS	
Robert Vavrosky	SELF	
Steven Schetron	County Commission	
Dusty Wretford	WHENS	
Mike Briggs	WHENS	
Jenna Dally	WHENS	
Tim Thorne	HCEAA	
Fran Walton	"	
David Pratt	WHENS	

Billie Biddle

WHENS

Steve Pendleton

Examiner