

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
JULY 28, 2009**

The Health & Human Services Committee met on Tuesday, July 28, 2009 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building beginning at 1:45 p.m. Mr. Jeffcoat, Committee Chairman, presided.

Members Attending:

Johnny W. Jeffcoat, Chairman

James E. Jim Kinard, Jr.

Debra B. Debbie Summers

William B. Banning, Sr., V Chairman

Bobby C. Keisler

Also attending: Katherine Hubbard, County Administrator; Joe Mergo, Deputy County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Assistant County Administrator; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

**EMS Staffing (Goals 1,2) - Public Safety/EMS - Brian Hood, EMS Coordinator** - Chief Hood presented a request to reconsider EMS's New Program Request for an Additional Night Shift Staff presented during the FY09/10 budget worksessions. The new program proposed was for five additional EMS staff for the night shift. The addition would allow EMS to increase the number of night shift ambulances to respond to the rising number of calls. Chief Hood reported EMS handles 28,390 calls annually and has seen an increase in call volumes up over five percent from the last fiscal year and 25 percent in the last four years, which is approximately 6,100 more calls per year. He said call volumes are rising faster for the night shift due to the continued growth in the County. The program requested would allow EMS to increase the number of night shift ambulances from ten to eleven and convert a day ambulance into a twenty-four hour ambulance. Chief Hood said the cost is estimated at \$291,000 for the full fiscal year. EMS currently utilizes the services of private ambulances to assist with calls in urban areas. Ms. Hubbard, County Administrator, suggested adding the new program request to a supplemental appropriation, which would mean an adjustment to the millage to fund this reoccurring cost. The Committee discussed revenues generated from the rise in calls and rate increase options. The request was deferred for review later in the afternoon by the Committee of the Whole.

**Approval of Minutes - Meetings of April 28, May 12 and 26, June 23, 2009** - A motion was made by Mr. Banning, seconded by Ms. Summers to approve the minutes for the April 28, May 12 and 26, and June 23, 2009 meetings as submitted.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Old Business/New Business** - None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee  
Assistant to the Clerk

Johnny W. Jeffcoat  
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett  
Clerk