

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

TOWN HALL MEETINGS:

September 26 - Panama Parish Center
September 27 - Shelby Community Building
September 28 - Elk Horn Town Hall
October 3 - Defiance Parish Center
October 5 - Therkildsen Center, Harlan



Did you know that EMS Services (Ambulance) are not deemed essential and do not receive funding from the state? Iowa law enforcement and fire departments are classified as essential services so they receive tax funding. When calling for a fire or police, those services arrive because Iowa law mandates it. EMS services are different.

When calling 911 for a medical emergency, it is expected that an ambulance to arrive quickly. With staffing shortages and the retirement planning of Medivac Ambulance/Rescue, Bob and Nella Seivert, brings the issue to the forefront.

WHY DO WE NEED A TAX INCREASE?

- The EMS professionals and volunteer staffing shortage in our community has resulted in those on the job working more hours to respond to incoming emergency calls. Competition against higher paying, better benefit and lower-stress jobs. With this severe shortage, we need to keep up with industry standards of pay for EMS workers.
- In the last 10 years, there has been a dramatic decline in the number of EMT volunteers. Lack of volunteers is a challenge to keep coverage 24/7.
- Labor and fuel cost are record highs.
- Operational expenses like supplies and repair costs are increasing dramatically.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE TAX INCREASE TO COVER EMS SERVICES?

- Law enforcement and fire departments are classified as essential services so they receive funding from tax payers.
- EMS professionals and volunteers would receive needed critical training
- EMS could update and purchase the latest lifesaving equipment and technology

HOW CAN YOU LEARN MORE?
SCAN THE QR CODE.

