

**ORDERS - - - BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, LEWIS COUNTY
SPECIAL
SESSION HELD: JULY 25, 2016 2:00 P.M.**

**LEWIS COUNTY TOWING MEETING
JULY 25, 2016
2:00 PM
LEWIS COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SQUAD CONFERENCE ROOM**

PRESENT: Agnes Queen; Tom Fealy; Pat Boyle; Bill Rowan; Jim Gum; Cindy Whetsell;
Stanley Toland, Tolands Wrecker Service; Stanley Toland, Jr., Tolands Wrecker Service;

Jimmy Suttle, Weston Fire Department; Joe Neal, M&J Towing; Joseph S. Pickens, Pickens Auto Service; Shelia Lipps, Lipps Wrecker; Kim Malson, Hitt's Wrecker; Tim Hitt, Hitt's Wrecker; Brad Taylor, Quality Wrecker.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Agnes Queen, President of the Lewis County Commission.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Per West Virginia Code §24-6-12, the Lewis County Commission is required to have a meeting regarding towing policies and procedure in the county every three (3) years. The last meeting was June 11, 2013. It was noted that towing companies were sent a certified letter notifying them of the meeting date and time. An ad was published in the *Weston Democrat* for two (2) weeks notifying the public of the meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES: All in attendance stated their name and the agency/company they represented.

REVIEW OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: The Lewis County Towing Policies and Procedures have not changed since the 2013 meeting. Comments, questions and/or suggested changes were solicited from the group. There were none.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS: The Lewis County Commission thanked all towing services for the excellent work they provide for the county.

COMMENTS FROM WRECKER COMPANIES: The following issues were addressed:

- 1) When dispatch notifies a towing company it should be stated if the company needs to send a wrecker or a roll back. Also, for accidents on the interstate dispatch should request if the entry point for access is from the north or south bound lanes. It was asked that dispatch request this information from the agency or caller before notifying the tow company.
- 2) When a vehicle is placed on hold there are times no one claims it. Law Enforcement Agencies placing the vehicle on hold are asked to follow up with the towing company to get these vehicles released in a timely fashion.
- 3) When a towing company is called to pick up an abandoned vehicle, they need the Vehicle Identification Number and registered owner's name and address. This information needs to be provided by Law Enforcement when the request to pick up the vehicle is sent to the towing company.
- 4) It was asked if there are two tow companies dispatched for two vehicles which is to clean up debris. The Public Service Commission states that the towing company that picks up a vehicle is required to clean up all debris from the vehicle they are towing
- 5) Recently a wrecker from Morgantown was involved in an accident in I-79. The driver requested a wrecker service from Fairmont be called. This caused I-79 to be shut down for a lengthy period. It was questioned why law enforcement did not use their legal right and call a local company to get the interstate cleared in a timely fashion.
- 6) Law Enforcement needs to do traffic control for the towing companies while they are working on scene. This is for the safety of the workers.
- 7) A&S Towing is NOT on the Lewis County Wrecker Rotation. If they show on scene, law enforcement should ask them to leave.
- 8) Courtesy Patrol does not follow the county policy. Cindy Whetsell, County Administrator, will follow up with the state to ask that courtesy patrol in Lewis County notify dispatch if a wrecker is needed so the next in line service can be called.

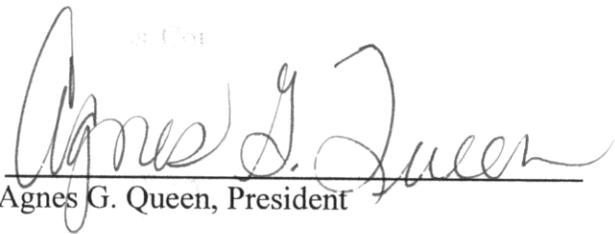
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The questions related to Law Enforcement will be sent to the Lewis County Sheriff's Department and responses will be mailed to all attendees.

COMMENTS FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS: Jimmy Suttle, Weston Fire Department stated that all towing services in Lewis County do an excellent job.

E-911- DIRECTORS COMMENTS: Bill Rowan, E-911 Director requested all agencies please submit all current required paperwork. He thanked all for the excellent job they provide for the county.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2: 25 PM on this the 25th day of July, 2016.



Agnes G. Queen, President

APPROVED:

August 1, 2016