

To Our Community,

We are writing to you not just as emergency responders, but as your neighbors, friends, and the people who have stood beside you during some of your most critical moments.

In April of 2025, our community placed its trust in the ambulance district by approving a 0.5% tax increase. That decision was supported with the understanding that it would strengthen our service—allowing us to become independent from the hospital system and build a stable, community-focused foundation for the future.

Recently, the ambulance board announced that the contract with the hospital will be terminated effective June 30, 2026 at midnight. While change can sometimes be necessary, what has followed has raised serious concerns among those of us providing your care.

Without meaningful communication or input from the crews who serve you daily, the board and current leadership have decided to move to 48-hour shifts in a high call-volume system. This has been described as “family friendly” and a way to attract outside employees. In reality, for many of us, this schedule is unsustainable. It keeps us away from our families, our farms, and the lives we’ve built here in this community.

We want you to understand what this truly means.

This ambulance service has been built by people who live here—people who know your names, your families, your histories. We are deeply invested in this community because it is our home. We have taken pride in providing care that goes beyond protocol—care that is personal.

Now, many of us are being forced into an impossible position: choose between our families and continuing to serve you. As a result, more than half of the current staff may have no choice but to leave.

If that happens, the service you receive will change. It will likely be staffed by individuals from outside the community—people who, through no fault of their own, do not have the same connection to you, your families, or this area. That loss of continuity, experience, and local knowledge will have a real impact.

This is not the future that was promised when the tax increase was passed.

We feel blindsided by these decisions and deeply concerned about the lack of transparency and communication from the board. More importantly, we are concerned for you—our community—and the level of care you deserve.

We believe you have a right to know what is happening and how it may affect you. We also believe there must be accountability for decisions that risk the stability of this service and the well-being of this community.

We remain committed to providing the best care we can for as long as we are here. But we cannot stay silent while decisions are made that could fundamentally change emergency medical care in our community.

We encourage you to ask questions, seek clarity, and hold leadership accountable.

Respectfully,

The Dedicated Members of Your Ambulance Service