



EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES AGENCY

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Lisa Martinez – 385-5263

lmartinez@springsgov.com

El Paso County Emergency Services Agency Elects New Officers for its Board

Colorado Springs, March 4, 2008 – The Emergency Services Agency (ESA) elected a new Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer at its regularly scheduled meeting held on Wednesday, January 9, 2008, at the El Paso County Offices (3rd floor hearing room).



Commander Jim Reid, El Paso County Fire Marshal, was elected to serve as Chair of the Board. "I am looking forward to working closely with the ESA board and public as we focus on the difficult and complicated task of the contract process towards an updated ambulance service agreement." He was appointed to serve on the Board in August of 2006 through the El Paso County Sheriff's Office and will serve for a three-year term. He is the Division Commander for the County's Office of Emergency Management.

"We have been fortunate to have Commander Reid on the board," said immediate past ESA Chair and El Paso County Commissioner Sallie Clark. "He's an asset to our board and the community."

-more-

Jim's knowledge of regional emergency planning and his experience in contract matters is an important asset as the ESA proceeds with a competitive bidding process toward a new ambulance transport contract.”



Jeff Wanderscheid, Colorado Springs Fire Department (CSFD) Firefighter, was nominated and elected as Vice Chair. Jeff served on the board previously as Treasurer. He has been with CSFD for 10 years and is a State certified EMT/Paramedic. In addition, Jeff has served his country proudly and is a Desert Storm veteran.

“Jeff brings many years of experience and a unique skill set to the Board,” said immediate past Vice Chair and Councilmember Margaret Radford. “His work in the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) field will help to ensure continued quality EMS to the citizens and visitors to El Paso County and the city of Colorado Springs.”

Robert Helton, former Chief of the Cimarron Hills Fire Department was chosen to fill the treasurer position vacated by Jeff Wanderscheid. Helton has been a firefighter for 27 years and retired from the U.S. Air Force after 20 years. He represents the Pikes Peak Fire Chiefs’ Forum on the board, an organization that is comprised of county fire chiefs, fire district officials and other EMS professionals.

Battalion Chief Bryan Jack from Tri-Lakes Fire retained his position as Secretary. Jack represents the county fire professional position on the ESA board and is a certified EMT/Paramedic. In addition to his duties as a firefighter, Jack serves on the Monument Town Council.

###