Lancaster County Opens New EMS Headquarters Facility

Lancaster County hosted a ribbon cutting on May 17 for its new $2.2 million EMS headquarters facility, housed in the old Founders Federal building on U.S. 521 between North Corner and S.C. 5.

Founders Federal Credit Union gave the 36-year-old, 19,000-square-foot building to the county in 2010 when consolidating multiple operations at its headquarters on Gillsbrook Road.

"It's been a long time coming for those of us who have been around for a while," said Lancaster County EMS Director Clay Catoe, quoted in The *Lancaster News* after the ceremony. "Without (Founders), this building would not be possible."

Catoe also thanked Steve Willis, who retired recently as Lancaster County ad-

ministrator, for working behind the scenes to get the headquarters built.

The county's EMS headquarters was previously housed for almost 40 years in the old, county-owned Gardner Nursing Home on Pageland Highway in Lancaster. The nursing home was built in 1937. Although EMS Station 1 remains at the previous EMS headquarters location on Pageland Highway, the county's new EMS headquarters has been moved to the new facility.

The construction of Lancaster County's new EMS headquarters facility was funded by a General Obligation Bond, approved by county council.

Two EMS stations, one in Heath

The upper photo shows Lancaster County council members, EMS staff members and others participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the county's new EMS headquarters, shown in the lower photo. (Photos by Greg Summers, *The Lancaster News*)