

Richland County Joint Ambulance Committee
Minutes of meeting
Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Present were: Fred Clary, County Board; Jeanetta Kirkpatrick, County Board; Marsha Machotka, Richland Center City Council; Paul Corcoran, Richland Center Mayor; Mary Rognholt, Akan Township; Calvin Brown, Bloom Township; Randy Schmidt, Buena Vista Township; James Lingel, Dayton Township; Verlin Coy, Henrietta Township; Glen Niemeyer, Ithaca Township; Steve Chupp, Marshall Township; Ryan Keller, Orion Township; Gordon Palmer, Richland Township; Scott Banker, Rockbridge Township; Pat Marshall, Sylvan Township; Bob Holets, Willow Township; Jean Nicks, Boaz; Jim Huffman, Yuba, Darin Gudgeon, Ambulance Director; Jeanne Rice, Admin. Secretary.

Chair Kirkpatrick, called meeting to order 7:00pm.

Meeting had been properly posted.

Rice, called roll call of members. Eagle Township representative not present.
18 present 1 absent

Banker made motion, seconded by Holets to approve agenda – motion carried.

Palmer made motion, seconded by Huffman to approve minutes of 1/21/15 meeting – motion carried.

Monthly Reports to Municipalities:

Darin explained ambulance calls made by municipality and calls by payment method.

In January we responded to 62 calls. Baraboo covered 1 missed call.

48 calls were billable. 43 were BLS calls and 5 were ALS.

31 were Medicare, 6 Medical Assistance, 6 private insurance and 5 private pay.

Committee would like next report to add a line showing calls that Richland County was not able to respond to and to identify which ambulance service responded to the call.

Non-billable calls are billed to municipality. Next report to show each township and non-billable calls made. 14 calls were not billed, 9 billed to municipalities.

This committee may want to make a decision in the future to charge or not charge patient for a no transport call.

Darin went over payroll and crew pay.

Approve Revised Budget:

Kirkpatrick went over 2015 budget.

Need to add costs for hiring 4 AEMTs: \$116,290 for salaries

7,000 FICA

6,500 for retirement

66,000 for health insurance

2,400 for dental insurance

160 for life insurance.

Total of \$199,050 will be coded to budget line on the sheet presented today.

\$389,560 projected expenses and \$435,000 projected revenue plus write-offs.

\$125,000 expected to be received from municipalities on contract.

Also need to add Baraboo back-up agreement to budget as well.

Holets made motion, seconded by Nicks to approve revised budget – motion carried.

Approve Contract with Baraboo:

Discussion on contract:

There is nothing that addresses liability.

What type of scheduling will be done? EMTs schedule themselves but will be changing that due to hiring AEMTs. In the future we will be able to schedule a month or two in advance.

Baraboo wants 7 days advance notice. We don't always schedule that far in advance so would like that time period shortened. Hoping the four hired AEMTs will help cover this.

The State is requiring us to have a backup plan in place.

Noted paying Baraboo to wait for a call as well as them billing the patient if they have a call.

More often it would be using a Baraboo crew member rather than the whole unit.

Contract has short term included, giving us 6 months of "growing pains" and allowing us to hire full time staff.

Should not be automatic renewal.

Need approval with changes or come back to this committee. The contract has to go back to the Baraboo council. State wants to see this done ASAP.

Full county board has to approve the agreement. Will send back to Baraboo with recommended changes. If they running as Paramedic doing Paramedic level care, their liability covers any errors made.

Changes to be considered include:

reducing 7 day advance notice to 4 day.

Clarify liability

Not having automatic renewal of contract

Want to be an informal memorandum

30 day termination notice

6 month agreement.

Banker made motion, seconded by Brown to send changes back to Baraboo – motion carried with 1 abstaining.

Baraboo to send contract back to this committee then to county board. It will be a recommendation by this committee to the county board for passage.

Approve Volunteer Pay:

Darin would recommend calculating by call \$13.00 vs. paying a stipend for covering the primary truck.

Reedsburg is paid on call; \$31.00 per call and \$18.00 an hour after first hour. EMT is guaranteed \$30.00 for a 12 hour shift if no call. Asking to be able to change the way primary crew is paid – not asking for change in the budget of \$83,100, but using the \$83,100 in a different way.

Brown made motion, seconded by Banker to table approval with understanding of Darin coming up with a proposal and keeping within the budget – motion carried.

Approve Required Hours for Volunteers:

Currently each paid on call staff is required 48 hours a month (combination primary/backup and 8 hours on weekend). Darin proposes 48 hours on the primary truck and in order to be considered for the bonus pay at the end of the year, 72 hours a month and 8 hours on weekend. The only penalty at this time for non-compliance is not getting the bonus.

Kirkpatrick asked for motion to approve hours for volunteers to be 48 hours on primary truck.

No motion made – request failed due to lack of motion. Will put on agenda for next month.

Legal opinion regarding full time paid AEMTs volunteering when not scheduled to work:

Our legal counsel's recommendation is to NOT allow full time paid AEMTs to volunteer. Full time paid AEMTs will not volunteer additional time.

Took 5 minute break at 8:55 before going to closed session.

Closed Session:

Holets made motion, seconded by Banker to go to closed session: Wisconsin Statutes section 19.85(1) (c) to consider the employment of a public employee: Purpose to review applicants and recommendations for hiring AEMTs

Roll call vote. AYES: Clary, Kirkpatrick, Corcoran, Machotka, Rognholt, Brown, Schmidt, Lingel, Coy, Niemeyer, Chupp, Keller, Palmer, Banker, Marshall, Holets, Nicks, Huffman.

AYES 18, NOES 0, TOTAL 18. Motion carried.

Committee members plus Gudgeon and Rice also present in closed session.

Palmer made motion, seconded by Brown to go back into open session – motion carried.

Steve Chupp left the meeting.

Approve recommendations for hiring AEMTs:

Clary made motion, seconded by Holets to offer AEMT positions to 3 people, David Yardley, Lori Post and Jennifer Chapin – motion carried by voice vote with 1 abstaining.

Effective start date for David Yardley 1/30/15 and effective start date for Lori Post 2/1/15. Darin will be contacting Jennifer Chapin to offer her the third position.

Permission to rent space for AEMTs:

One obstacle is facility for full time staff to stay. Darin found a 2 bedroom unfurnished apartment with a month-to-month lease. It is located 6 blocks away from the courthouse at Third and North Church Street. Cost is \$375.00 a month (no lease) plus utilities.

Corcoran made motion, seconded by Marshall to postpone any action til next meeting to get more information.

Roll call vote. AYES: Corcoran, Machotka, Rognholt, Marshall. NOES: Clary, Kirkpatrick, Brown, Schmidt, Lingel, Coy, Niemeyer, Keller, Palmer, Banker, Holets, Nicks, Huffman.

AYES 4, NOES 13, TOTAL 17. Motion defeated.

Corcoran made motion, seconded by Marshall NOT to rent apartment at 620 N. Church.

Roll call vote. AYES: Clary, Corcoran, Machotka, Rognholt, Schmidt, Niemeyer, Palmer, Banker, Marshall. NOES: Kirkpatrick, Brown, Lingel, Coy, Keller, Holets, Nicks, Huffman.

AYES 9, NOES 8, TOTAL 17. Motion carried NOT to rent apartment.

Brown made motion, seconded by Rognolt to rent motel on an as needed basis and research apartment – motion carried with 2 no votes.

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 18th at 7:00pm in the County Board Room.

Huffman made motion, seconded by Banker to adjourn – motion carried. Meeting adjourned 9:50pm.