

Richland County Joint Ambulance Committee

February 21, 2024

Minutes

Present: Brian McGraw, Kerry Severson, Julie Fleming, Sharon Schmitz, Mary Rognholt, Gordon Palmer, Doug Duhr, Terrance Jindrick, Jean Nicks, and Amber Burch.

Not Present: James Lingel, Todd Stittleburg, Glen Niemeyer, Jerome Durst, Don Stanke, Tom McCarthy, and Tim Willis.

1. Meeting was called to order at 19:15.
2. Notification of the meeting had been made, and the agenda was posted.
3. Committee attendance was as noted above, with 9 members present.
4. A motion was made by Palmer to approve the agenda as posted; Duhr seconded it. Motion Carried; the agenda was approved.
5. A motion was made by Jindrick and seconded by Palmer to approve the previous meeting's minutes as presented. Motion carried; the minutes were approved.
6. There were no comments from the public.
7. There were no comments from the EMT delegation.
8. A. Burch reviewed financial reports for November, December, and January. November started with a balance of \$202,387.32. There were \$74,976.43 in revenue and \$52,759.69 in expenditures, leaving an end balance of \$224,604.06. It was noted there is a discrepancy between November's end balance and December's beginning balance, which is listed as beginning at \$222,895.95. Burch stated she would check with the Clerk's Office for an explanation. For December, there were revenues of \$45,150.89 and expenditures of \$63,008.29, leaving a remaining balance of \$205,038.55. January began with \$205,038.55 and saw \$31,971.92 in revenues and \$58,437.30 in expenditures. January ended with \$178,573.17. There were two payments seen for Workman's Comp in January, and it was noted there was a Workman's Comp payment for December. Burch will discuss this with the Clerk's Office for clarification. An entry was also seen on the January report denoting "2023 Entries for 2024"; Burch will inquire about this as well. It was recognized there were still payments to the former billing contractor Cvikota; these are expected to continue to dwindle in amounts as they receive less payments on accounts.
B. The transition to the new billing service EMS|MC had taken place and appeared to go well. There had not been much for payments received yet due to the short time since they began billing but revenue is expected in the next few weeks. EMS|MC had submitted a report for consideration; they can create the report to the specifications of the Committee if there are any changes wished in the future.
C. The Call Summary Report for 2023 showed there were 1229 calls for the year, of which 5.5% transported a patient emergent to the hospital.
D. Burch updated the Committee on the posting of the EMT position, noting there had been two candidates; one was not qualified and the other, an internal applicant, has their interview scheduled for later this week. Burch also informed the Committee that a donation of \$2,000 had been received from Dairlyland Power Cooperative and Richland Electric Cooperative, of which part was to be used for leadership development. Finally, an update on the AFG grant opportunity was discussed, highlighting that the grant would cover 95% of project costs if selected. The grant is to be written as a regional grant with Lone Rock Rescue Squad and Ithaca First Responders.

9. There have reportedly been five applicants for the Emergency Services Director position. Three were noted to not be qualified; the two remaining candidates are internal candidates.
10. The work for the building project has been completed. The sensor in the garage had initially not appeared to work but had been calibrated earlier today. There were change orders that were being contested for payment per the Finance and Personnel Committee, directing the County's Corporation Counsel to review. Burch presented a quote for signage for the building. Two quotes had been sought but only one was received prior to this meeting. The Committee viewed the proposed designs and discussed the departments represented. The Committee supported the design as presented.
11. Burch informed the Committee the roof had had a few places where water had leaked through at different times. In reaching out to a local contractor, it would cost \$1,500 to do minor repairs. They also submitted a proposal to replace the roof at \$75,000. The roof is nearing end of life; the Business Plan as listed the anticipation of replacing it in 2026 for \$95,000. The Committee discussed the options concerning replacing with the same product as is currently used or building a truss system. A motion was made by Duhr seconded by Rognholt to replace the old roof, allowing for bids to replace with the same as existing or utilizing a truss system. Motion carried.
12. With the purchase of the new used ambulance, the intention was to have preventative maintenance completed on the rig prior to placing in service, paid for from Fund 16. Three bids were received for the work from Fillback, Nowak Automotive, and Hallada. After discussion, Rognholt made a motion to accept the bid from Fillback for repairs as presented as well as the DOT transportation inspection. Palmer seconded. Motion carried.
13. Burch informed the Committee of the need for new mobile radios for the new ambulance. It is recognized that the radios in the current unit will not be compatible with the County's new radio system. Rather than paying to move the existing radios from the current unit to the new unit knowing they will soon need to be replaced, it was recommended that new compatible radios be purchase, programmed, and installed. To save money down the line. Duhr made a motion to purchase two mobile radios totaling up to \$5,000 plus the cost of installation, seconded by Severson. Motion carried.
14. With the new Unit 34 in place, the current Unit 34 will be able to be sold. The unit has 105800 miles. The Committee determined they would prefer to see if there are local services interested in the unit before opening the sale up to the public. Their goal would be to receive \$8,000 but would accept \$5,000. A motion was made by Duhr, seconded by Severson, to reach out to neighboring services about the opportunity. Motion carried.
15. The next quarterly meeting is set for May. Schmitz made a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Fleming. The motion carried; the meeting was adjourned at 21:11.