

Richland County Joint Ambulance Committee
Strategic Planning for EMS Subcommittee
February 22, 2017
Minutes

Present: Jeanetta Kirkpatrick, Bill Kloehn, Bob Holets, Ryan Keller, Gordon Palmer, Darin Gudgeon, Amber Burch, and Sharon Schmitz

1. Meeting was called to order at 1901.
2. Notification of the meeting had been made and the agenda was posted.
3. A motion was made by Bob to approve the agenda; Bill seconded.
4. A motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes was made by Bill and seconded by Gordon.
5. Jeanetta reported to the group that she had spoken with the Wisconsin Towns Association Legal Counsel. She reported that, at the current time, there cannot be a levy for an ambulance like fire, however, they suggested the committee petition for change. They recommended having Senator Marklein and Representative Brooks come meet with the group. She was not sure if the formation of a District would be considered "new" to use the levy. Jeanetta stated that she will invite the legislators to a future subcommittee meeting.

Bob inquired about how other services were funding through taxes, stating that Willow Township pays Cazenovia for Fire and some of that goes to the ambulance. Ryan noted that Muscoda does this, also. Darin stated that most were done per capita and set before the levy freeze.

6. In a previous meeting, there had been questions regarding money being pulled out from the Ambulance Fund. Jeanetta stated that she looked into it and found that money had been pulled out of line 3 was due to insurance savings that was placed into a general County Health Savings account to be applied toward deductibles. This was due to a change in insurance and will not be done each year.
7. C. Next the group discussed budgeting, as that would have a big impact on items 7.a and 7.b. Darin reviewed the handouts regarding budget requests from the previous meeting. It was noted that revenue coming in from accounts older than two years are deposited into the current year, so there may be more funds than accounted for. The amount used for rig replacement was based on a \$170,000 truck with a 21 year life-cycle. The current oldest rig is 20 years old. It was recognized that there would be an expected \$240,000 to come in from billing, so the committee would have to find \$360,000 to make up the difference.

There was discussion on concerns about the overtaking of smaller services and the potential need of covering more area. The group agreed that they needed to be building toward the future. It was commented that if they were not on the town board, they'd all want to go with the "Cadillac" plan, but now they have to find the money to do what is right.

Gordon inquired about potentially taxing the whole county. Darin stated that Waushara County does, and that the money collected from any area not covered by that county-run service is paid to the service that does cover that area. Ryan asked if the County could levy for that. Jeanetta stated that the County may have to do a referendum for it and that the County is looking at services not mandated by the State for the County to run, so she was unsure that it would be accepted to raise a tax for it. It was noted that, per State Statute, Townships are required to provide an ambulance service and that counties, cities, and villages are not officially required to.

It was decided that a meeting should be set with the Wisconsin Towns Association Legal Counsel and local legislators. Jeanetta anticipated the need to present a plan to the full committee in May or June. She would try to schedule a subcommittee meeting within the next month.

8. The next meeting will be scheduled so that the legislators and Wisconsin Towns Association Legal Counsel can attend. Jeanetta will notify the group.
9. Bob moved to adjourn the meeting. Ryan seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2101.