

Richland County Joint Ambulance Committee:
Strategic Planning for EMS Subcommittee
June 20, 2018
Minutes

Present: Justin Lockwood, Brian McGraw, Ryan Keller, Gordon Palmer, Bob Holets, Darin Gudgeon

Prior to the meeting being called to order, the subcommittee members toured the Richland Electric Cooperative (REC) building as well as the current spaces occupied by the Richland County Ambulance Service within the Richland County Courthouse.

1. Meeting was called to order at 1951.
2. Notification of the meeting had been made and the agenda was posted.
3. Committee attendance was as noted above, with all members present.
4. A motion was made by Holets to approve the agenda as posted. McGraw made a motion to second it. The agenda was approved.
5. A motion was made by McGraw to approve the previous meeting's minutes as presented. It was seconded by Keller. The minutes were approved as presented.
6. The first draft of a potential survey was provided to the subcommittee members. The questions were read through and were discussed. Of the six numbered questions presented, Holets stated he felt that items 2, 3, and 6 were the only items pertinent to ask the Service members. The group discussed the need for the survey to not unnecessarily stir up emotions and that the information gains from the questions would need to be information that could help the subcommittee determine what the Service members perceive as the most important goals. Gudgeon discussed the survey done in 2014 with a similar mission, which helped lead to establishing full-time members. McGraw stated that some questions initially being asked may be asking the member to choose without knowing background information or what the consequences of that decision might be.
Item 1 was dropped. Items 4, 5, and 6 were combined to inform the member that the subcommittee has discussed a list of potential priorities and asks the member to choose the three which they feel are the most important to pursue. There was discussion about including wage increases on the list of priorities, as though this is an item frequently brought up, it may not dictate what the Committee or County might choose to do and could stir up negative emotions. Pay scales for the paid-on-call and full-time members were discussed, which Gudgeon noting that AEMTs would be the lowest paid employees in the County.
It was decided that the questionnaire would be finalized and a message would be sent out to all Joint Ambulance Committee members prior to the questionnaire going out to the Service

members to inform them of it taking place and that the findings will be presented at an upcoming Committee meeting.

7. Gudgeon informed the subcommittee that he had been in contact with a Community Specialist with the Department of Agriculture. She informed him that there are two potential funds available, a loan and a grant. The funds are being looked at for potentially purchasing a new station with living quarters, which she stated would qualify for funding through the Community Facility Program, which both the loan and grant fall under. This would assist in covering both the purchase and remodeling costs. The grant and loan are typically together, but he was going to check on the percentages and what amount the Service would be eligible for. Gudgeon stated that the application is 35 pages long and due in the fall. It would require working with other departments such as the Clerk's office.

McGraw and Palmer will set up a meeting with Shannon Clark for further information on the REC Building, with the knowledge that they would not be able to enter into an agreement without Committee approval. Lockwood will check with the City of Richland Center regarding the State's Revolving Loan Fund and eligibility requirements. Gudgeon will get more information from the Community Specialist and email information out to the Subcommittee members as it becomes available. Palmer will also check on eligibility of the Service for funds as it pertains to a building or ambulance purchase through the Joan Ortmann Wood McCullum Foundation.

8. This item was incorporated into previous agenda items' discussions.
9. The next meeting is scheduled for July 18th at 7:30pm. The agenda is anticipated to include more about grant eligibility and requirements, information regarding the REC building, and funding according the State Statutes. Keller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by McGraw. The meeting was adjourned at 21:15.