

Richland County Joint Ambulance Subcommittee

December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Minutes

Present: Brian McGraw, Mary Rognholt, Cheryl Dull, Gordon Palmer, Julie Fleming, Glen Niemeyer, Doug Duhr, and Jean Nicks.

Absent: Don Stanke, Kerry Severson, Todd Coppernoll, Jerome Durst, Tim Willis, Terrance Jindrick, Tom McCarthy

1. Meeting called to order at 2:02 p.m.
2. Notification of the meeting was made and the agenda was posted.
3. Committee attendance was as noted above.
4. A motion was made by Palmer and seconded by Niemeyer to approve the agenda. Motion carried; agenda was approved.
5. Director Jessen provided the monthly financial report. Members have copies of each month in front of them for January through November.
6. McGraw started discussion on goals and priorities of the JAC committee.
  1. Committee discussed the completed wage study by the county. Pay was discussed for the difference between EMT and AEMT. Years of service vs. correct pay grade. Pay grades have improved and are now competitive within the surrounding counties.
  2. a. The month of January has zero open primary hours, regarding staffing.  
b. The need was discussed as to consider upping staffing amounts, as to have two ambulances staffed.
  3. Discussion regarding going off a rolling average per call. Should there be a set amount of money per call, or one flat rate coming from each municipality. Municipality costs and fees were questioned, regarding should each municipality have a certain rate or fees associated within them. Concern was raised as to how the county is going to absorb the difference as to the previous salary and now to the new wages set. New pay increases will start January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Fleming explains the 5% increase all around for the pool of money the county will use to absorb the fees and expenses.
  4. Committee discussed the amount of money per call. \$170 per call, is the billed amount. Goal would remain as a fixed rate on the rolling average number of calls.
  5. Discussion on the current status of ambulances. The need for maintenance costs and repairs have been large. The newest ambulance running is a 2012. The need to set aside funds for a new ambulance was discussed.
  6. a. Funds were discussed as to the balance remaining of each.  
b. Currently do not have any staff nearing retirement.
  7. a. JAC representative to be present at least one board meeting.  
b. There are currently two mass casualty trainings scheduled for 2025.  
c. Have accepted at least 75% transfers.
  8. a. Needing to strengthen the working relationship with Richland Center Fire Department, possibly getting rid of the lift assist bills. Currently EMS doesn't bill the fire department when paged out for a call pertaining to fire.
  9. Intercept agreement with Avoca, and possibly Lone Rock soon to come.

10. As it stands today, currently have 95% of the flex plan put together.

7. A motion was made by Rognholt and seconded by Niemeyer to adjourn, which was approved at 3:40 p.m.