

Wapello County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (WCEMSAC)

Meeting Minutes from January 13th, 2026

Meeting was called to order by Tim Richmond at 17:06CST.

- 1.) Roll Call: Tim Richmond (EMS), Bryan Ziegler (County Supervisor), Jean Dell (Community Member), Athena Sears (Eldon), Mike DeWild (Blakesburg), David Cronin (Ottumwa), Lori Reeves (IHCC), T.J. Millikin (Dispatch), Dr. Doug Lyssy (Medical Director), Mark Frymoyer (ORMICS), Amanda Hull (OFD/ORMICS), Peter Reiter (Physician/Retired), Cindy Hewitt (Agency), Loren McIntosh (Wapello Rural).
 - a. Others: Richard Bergmann (Ottumwa Regional CEO)
 - b. Absent: Bill Hoffman Jr. (City Council)
- 2.) Review applicants for At-Large position, make a selection:
 - a. A hand out with multiple people interested in the open position was given to all and we narrowed it down to 5 people:
 - i. Becca Hamlin
 - ii. Amy Gardner
 - iii. Angie Hill
 - iv. Debb Kent
 - v. Quincy Keck
 - b. Of the 5 that we selected we drew names out of a hat and put them in order if a person is no longer interested or unable to fill the open spot, we will go down the list until the position is filled. Tim will reach out to them in order before the next meeting:
 - i. Quincy Keck
 - ii. Debb Kent
 - iii. Becca Hamlin
 - iv. Angie Hill
 - v. Amy Gardner
- 3.) Approval of Last meeting minutes:
 - a. 1st- Mike
 - b. 2nd Loren
 - c. All in favor
- 4.) Committee Updates:
 - a. **Community Response Team:** (Bryan & Athena) researching how other communities in the area do things.
 - b. **Industrial Response Team:** (Loren & Lori) No updates
 - c. **EMS/BLS Countywide Abilities Team:** (Mark & Mike) No Updates
 - d. **Communications Team:** (T.J. & Jean) plan on visiting EMD centers
 - i. T.J. has talked to a dispatcher with the City of Ames that is a EMD center and she was telling him that EMD is more of pre-arrival instructions not determining if it is ALS/BLS response. Lift Assists no-injuries they just send

Fire however this all depends on the services that respond. They also reported that staffing is a 2-person minimum 24/7.

- ii. Dr. Lyssy is going to look in to different EMD throughout the US and will report back at the next meeting.
 - iii. EMD does have to be signed off by a medical director
 - iv. Tim was going to try and get feedback from Mahaska County on how their new dispatching is going.
 - v. Bryan opened the door to City of Ottumwa (Phil Rath) and Wapello County Sheriff (Don Phillips) as to moving towards 1 dispatch center vs having it separated into city and county.
- e. **Community Education Material Team:** (Tim & Peter) reported that the Wapello County Life app is doing well and are going to look at ways to better market the current app since it is working so well.
 - f. **Training Team:** (Lori) No update
 - g. **Response and Transportation Team:** (Cindy, Tim & Bryan) they have no update as they have been unable to get in touch with Jay from 10-15 Transit.
 - h. Community Paramedicine Team: (Tim) No updates from the state
 - i. Richard Bergmann talked about the funding for Rural EMS options through the state are changing on how the money is being handed out. Best to pre-plan your requests and have it ready on the shelf so you can get it turned in fast before the money is given elsewhere.
 - i. High Volume Locations Team: (Cindy, Bill, & David) No Updates
 - j. Lift Assists Team: (Cindy, Bill, & David) No updates
- 5.) Review EMS Provider Survey Results: (Handout)
- a. In the hand-out the black words are good things, red words mean needs improvement, blue words mean recommendations
 - b. The survey nails down what the issues are to help us better focus on how to fix or improve the system.
 - c. We need to look at what costs \$ and what can be improved without \$.
- 6.) Ideal EMS System Book Draft: (Handout)
- a. Pg. 15 is the Hub and Spoke system that we are currently using
 - b. Section B will help us get into weeds on the current data we have
 - c. Section C pg. 6, bold area, high volume periods
 - d. Section E this will dig into the data that isn't given to the public
- 7.) Other Discussions:
- a. Education to the public that there is no \$ from taxes currently going to ambulance; we need to education them on what the system is currently
 - b. EMS is listed on the property tax statements and this the money that the EMA gets not EMS (the state calls EMA-emergency management systems is why it is listed as EMS)
- 8.) Adjournment of the meeting happened at 18:27
- a. 1st- Loren 2nd – T.J. all in favor

NEXT MEETING February 10th, 2026 at 17:00CST at the Wapello County EMA office