

Minutes from the meeting that was held on July 8th, 2025 a 6pm at the Wapello County EMA office

Attendance: T.J. Millikin, Mike DeWild, Bryan Ziegler, Loren McIntosh, Bill Hoffman Jr., Athena Sears, Chad Drury (Ottumwa Courier- Free Press), Cindy Hewitt, David Cronin, Lori Reeves, Peter Rieter, Tim Richmond, Amanda Hull

Meeting was called to order by Tim Richmond at 1803

- 1.) Agenda was approved by Loren and seconded by Amanda; all ayes
- 2.) Introduction of the Council Members: each member introduced themselves and gave a brief history of their careers and any involvement they have had in EMS.

- Board of Supervisors: Bryan Ziegler- has been involved with Fire/EMS
- City Council-Ottumwa: Bill Hoffman Jr. - has been involved with Fire/EMS
- Physician Medical Director: Dr. Douglas Lyssy (ORHC) - absent from meeting
- EMS Assn. (practicing provider): Amanda Hull- currently involved with Fire/EMS
- Emergency Manager: Tim Richmond- has been involved with Fire/EMS/EMA
- Retired Local Physician: Dr. Peter Rieter- retired internal medicine doctor
- Dispatch: TJ Millikin- has been with City of Ottumwa Dispatch for years
- EMS Training Program: Lori Reeves (IHCC) – has been involved with training EMS and service director for ambulance service
- Community At-Large: Open position
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- EMS Service Directors:
 - Agency: Cindy Hewitt- past EMS instructor, EMS director, Public Health, nursing
 - Blakesburg: Mike DeWild- has been involved with Fire/EMS
 - Eldon: Athena Sears- has been involved with Fire/EMS
 - WCRF: Loren McIntosh- has been involved with Fire/EMS
 - OFD: David Cronin- past service director of EMS service, involved with Fire/EMS, instructor for EMS
 - ORMICS: Mark Frymoyer- absent from meeting

*Advisory Board is made up with people that have knowledge in the field of EMS and they are not handpicked. The 2 open Community At-Large spots will be filled in the near future. Our goal is to lay a foundation and adapt the best EMS service to provide to Wapello County.

By-Laws will be put together and approved at the next meeting.

3.) EMS System Standards:

(Tab #2 in binders) This is the 2025 Iowa EMS System Standards Self-Assessment for Wapello County. Please review these and let Tim know of any errors or changes that may need to be done.

All these Standards are review and sent to the Regional Coalition Meeting in January every year; then they are sent to the State Level. There is around \$6,500 given to Wapello County to help out with EMS education and training each year. We also do lean on other partners for projects in the community to help support fast responses to emergency such as AED's in parks.

4.) Review of EMS Association work to date 2025:

(Tab #4 in binders) This tab will give you the work that has been done up until now including some of the following:

- Report that was given to the Board of Supervisors in March of 2025
- Conversations that have happened of the last couple of years
- Planning assumptions
- Cost to operate and run an ambulance service
- How other counties in Iowa are doing things
- Ideas on a draft of what a service could look like
- Other key information for background building

5.) Data Collection working group:

(Tab #5 in binders) This tab will give you the old agendas and minutes from the previous EMS Association meetings. Also in this tab you will find the start of the DATA collection that has been done with ORMICS, OFD, and Dispatch.

6.) Forward path:

(Tab #6 in binders) This tab will give you the information that was provided at the 1st public meeting that was held in April of 2025.

The Forward Path of the process of where we need to go

We will start doing SWOT analysis of each idea.

Mission Statement

Next several meetings will be brainstorming on how to move forward.

Reaching cost ideas how much and how to cover those costs.

Develop and then make sure the system is sustainable

Stakeholders

Board of Supervisors

Then Board of supervisors implementing the agreed upon concept

When do we want this on the ballot if that is what we are needing to move forward with a different system? (November of 2025 is a NO)

We need to look at this as if there is not a current system in place and or refocus existent money.

Will there be community Para-medicine? Will there be changes in dispatch?

We need to work in hand with the Public Health Board (Eric Carlson, Beth Doggett, Kim Brown, Dr. Ronda Dennis-Smithart, and Lloyd Keith) they meet every 2 months.

Initiatives for changes are started:

OFD reported being 90-120 days out on being a transport service as they do own an ambulance. This will be EMT Level for now; they are working with ORHC with providing pharmacy and medical direction. This will be a backup service if ORMICS is busy.

Transparency- everyone needs to keep an open mind and COMMUNICATION is going to be KEY on moving forward as a whole.

HOMEWORK: a.) read by-laws and send changes-edits to Tim ASAP

b.) OFD to look at budget they have or use for EMS (what is the %)

c.) Need to think about how to show why we are Essential now –VS- past; explanation of why and the value of why.

d.) Figure out what the boots on the ground needs; what are the GAPS? How do we fix those GAPS?

7.) Set dates for meetings:

Monthly Meetings need to be held

Next Meeting is set for August 4th, 2025 at 6pm at the Wapello County EMA office

These meetings are open to the public.

What to bring to next meeting:

-DATA collection from EMS Association calls (Mark, Sean, David, Loren)

-IHCC- Student Data including the impact that the High School program has done for EMS

-David is going to bring FC Canto's data that he presented at past meetings

- TJ is going to bring CAD data

Loren motioned to adjourn meeting, Pete 2nd, all ayes.

Meeting ended at 1920.