

Richland County Joint Ambulance Committee

May 17, 2023

Minutes

Present: Brian McGraw, Kerry Severson, Sharon Schmitz, James Lingel, Glen Niemeyer, Dan Stanke, Gordon Palmer, Terrance Jindrick, and Darin Gudgeon. Via Zoom: Tom McCarthy.

Not Present: Julie Fleming, Mary Rognholt, Todd Stittleburg, Jerome Durst, Doug Duhr, Tim Willis, and Jean Nicks.

1. Meeting was called to order at 19:15.
2. Notification of the meeting had been made, and the agenda was posted.
3. Committee attendance was as noted above, with 9 members present.
4. A motion was made by Schmitz to approve the agenda as posted. Palmer seconded it. Motion Carried; the agenda was approved.
5. A motion was made by Palmer and seconded by Lingel to approve the previous meeting's minutes as presented. Motion carried; the minutes were approved.
6. At this time, the Committee recognizes the following people as voting members of the Joint Ambulance Committee: Julie Fleming and Kerry Severson, County Board; Tom McCarthy and Sharon Schmitz, Richland Center; Mary Rognholt, Akan; Jim Lingel, Dayton; Brian McGraw, Eagle; Todd Stittleburg, Henrietta; Glen Niemeyer, Ithaca; Jerome Durst, Marshall; Dan Stanke, Orion; Gordon Palmer, Richland; Doug Duhr, Rockbridge; Tim Willis, Willow; Jean Nicks, Boaz; and Terrance Jindrick, Yuba.
7. There were no comments from the public.
8. There were no comments from the EMT delegation.
9. A. Gudgeon informed the Committee that the County is still working through auditing the account, which has created difficulties in compiling the consolidated reports. Gudgeon stated once the reports are able to accurately be compiled, they will be provided to the Committee. However, he was able to tell the Committee the account started 2023 with \$254,111.97.
B. The report from Cvikota as of May 15 showed a total of 335 calls billed out with 128 ALS1, 132 BLS, 5 ALS2, and 70 on-scene care. This led to a total of \$258,932.00 billed out with \$69,183.48 in payments received and \$55,465.07 in allowances/write-offs. The Committee shared concerns regarding the timeliness of reports being billed out over the past year. Gudgeon stated he was going to be meeting with the billing representative the following week. If there were not firm answers on the situation and a resolution in the near future, the Committee requested Gudgeon begin gathering information from other qualified billing services. Until June 2022, Cvikota had done well with billing and collections; the Committee was pleased with the services to that point. It was requested this be included on the next agenda for further update and discussion.
C. The Call Summary Report showed between February 1 and April 30, there were 264 calls, of which 4.92% transported a patient emergent to the hospital with one upgrading en route.
10. Gudgeon showed the proposed Business Plan on the screen for all to follow along. Gudgeon stated he had also shared the Plan with James Small from the Office of Rural Health and Dan Williams from the EMS Section from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for them to review. The Business Plan was created in-house by Gudgeon, Burch, and John Heinen. Heinen is a contractor who primarily works with

the office through Emergency Management in planning; he analyzed data sets and assisted in the creation of projections.

Gudgeon went through the content of the Plan with the Committee, stating the goal was to show that no County Tax Levy dollars would be used while also attempting to not raise municipality fees. He stated in the projected costs, he had reached out to several dealerships and was waiting to receive quotes on a new chassis for Unit 35. In projecting call volume several variables were taken into consideration such as time of year and change over time for call volume in 1996 through 2000 and 2012 through 2022. In attempts to increase revenue, it was noted certain transfers yielded greater revenue than others so an emphasis would be placed on marketing for those transfers. Gudgeon stated a letter would be drafted explaining the decision for the Business Plan with the Service staying with the County, citing the benefits to tax payers.

Stanke made a motion to approve the Business Plan, with modifications for projected costs if the data is received, and forward on to Finance and Personnel Committee for consideration, seconded by Palmer. Motion carried. The Committee extended its appreciation to those involved for the work put into the document, stating the product is extraordinary. McGraw reminded the Committee that Heinen had volunteered his time on this project; McGraw recommended the Committee consider compensating him as a professional consultant for the work done, to be discussed in a future meeting.

11. Schmitz made a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Severson. The motion carried; the meeting was adjourned at 21:17.