

Chickasaw County Ambulance Council

January 19, 2022
Meeting Minutes
260 E Prospect Ave
New Hampton, IA 50659

Meeting called to order by Chairman Mark Mueterthies at 6:00 pm

Ambulance Council members present: Amy Laures, David Geerts, Jacob Hackman, Jim Ashley, Samantha Johnson, James Mitchell, Mark Mueterthies, Bobby Schwickerath.

Ambulance Council members absent: Randy Taylor

Guest's present were Jeff Bernatz, Doreen Cook, Brannon Anderson, Larry Laures, Jason Rude, Sheriton Dettmer, Aaron Flugum, Matt Kuhn, Megan Baltes, Bob Fenske, Tony Trower, Shirley Troyna, Kurt Knoll.

Introduction of Samantha Johnson, new Nashua City Council and CCAC member.

Motion by Jacob Hackman, seconded by James Mitchell to add "appoint secretary" to #6 on the agenda and approve the agenda with addition. All Ayes. Motion Carried

Motion by Jim Ashley, seconded by Bobby Schwickerath to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2021 Chickasaw County Ambulance Council meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried

Motion by Jacob Hackman, seconded by Amy Laures to approve claims in the amount of \$19,375.00 All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Jeff Bernatz requested a copy of all members' city council minutes showing appointment to EMA/911SB/CCAC boards for annual records.

Motion by Jim Ashley, second by Bobby Schwickerath to appoint Amy Laures as the five city (Lawler, Alta Vista, Ionia, Bassett, North Washington) voter. Roll Call: Ayes - New Hampton, Fredericksburg-Nashua, Lawler-Alta Vista-Ionia-Basset-North Washington, Board of Supervisor. Nays - none. CCAC-No representative appointed at time of vote.

Motion by Bobby Schwickerath, second by Amy Laures for New Hampton to have the CCAC vote. Roll Call: Ayes- New Hampton, Fredericksburg-Nashua, CCAC, Lawler-Alta Vista-Ionia-Bassett-North Washington, Board of Supervisor. Nay-None. Motion Carried

Motion by Jim Ashley, second by Bobby Schwickerath to appoint Mark Mueterthies as Chairman of the CCAC. Roll Call: Ayes- New Hampton, Fredericksburg-Nashua, CCAC, Lawler-Alta Vista-Ionia-Bassett-North Washington, Board of Supervisor. Nays-None Motion carried.

Motion by Jacob Hackman, second by David Geerts to appoint Amy Laures as Vice Chairman of CCAC. Roll Call: Ayes: New Hampton, Fredericksburg-Nashua, CCAC, Lawler-Alta Vista-Ionia-Bassett-North Washington, Board of Supervisor. Nays-none Motion carried.

Motion by Jim Ashley, second by Bobby Schwickerath to appoint Jeff Bernatz at CCAC Secretary. Roll Call: Ayes - New Hampton, Fredericksburg-Nashua, CCAC, Lawler-Alta Vista-Ionia-Bassett-North Washington, Board of Supervisor. Nays-none Motion carried.

Jim Ashley addressed the CCAC with some research that he completed based on the short amount of time before the contract is due. Jim Ashley met with Howard Co Ambulance, they advised that public owned ambulance services receive better pay for Medicare/Medicaid than a private service. They recommended buying two new ambulances but the lead time is greater than one year for delivery.

Jim Ashley recommended buy two used ambulances to be used until the new ones would be ready. Once the new ambulance arrived, the used ambulances could be move to Fredericksburg and Nashua.

Jim Ashley also met with Mitchell County. They run 700 calls and bought a new ambulance in 2021 for \$250,000. Mitchell County runs with EMTs and AEMTs and only have one paramedic in the whole county.

Jim Ashley advised that they all know what AMR does based on the presentation given at a prior meeting. AMR (Charles City) does not handle any billing; it all goes to corporate in St. Louis.

Jim Ashley wanted to know what is being done with the money coming in from the American Rescue Plan, Summit Pipeline, Cable along the railroad, and Wind turbines. Jim Ashley also advised that the wind turbine company does grants for community projects.

Jacob Hackman request to talk about agenda items #9 & #10 before discussing #8. All agreed.

Jacob Hackman addressed the CCAC for the feasibility study committee. Jacob Hackman reached out to Safe Tech Solutions. Their proposal was emailed to all members of CCAC for review before this meeting. Safe Tech Solutions advised that it would take 3-6 months to complete the assessment. James Mitchell asked if the current provider will be willing to provide information requested by Safe Tech Solutions, Hackman felt he would but had not addressed him directly.

James Mitchell stated that this would be the best way to get the answers to the questions CCAC has been asking for years. Jacob Hackman agreed and read the final report outline.

Mark Mueterthies asked if the fee had to be paid up front or installments. Jacob Hackman advised that they did not talk about that in detail. Jacob Hackman advised the CCAC that there was \$23,357.86 left of the seed money. Jacob also advised that CCAC budgeted \$16,500 for legal and professional related services and have only spent \$900 to Kennedy & Kennedy Law Firm leaving \$15,600 in the budget.

Motion by North Washington, second by Jacob Hackman to do the feasibility study and have Mark Mueterthies do the stop date of April 30, 2022 and set fee schedule. Roll Call: Ayes- New Hampton, Fredericksburg-Nashua, CCAC, Lawler-Alta Vista-Ionia-Bassett-North Washington, Board of Supervisors. Nays – none

Jacob Hackman advised the CCAC that him and Randy Taylor met with the current provider on January 3, 2022. Part of the discussion was about buying the current vendors equipment, that did not work out. The rest of the discussion was about a contract extension for July 2022 until December 31, 2022. Some of the reason it is only a 6-month extension is because of the inflation of medical supplies. New contract terms would be \$24,500/mo.

Jim Ashley reminded the CCAC that Nashua and Fredericksburg told the CCAC that if they do not get an ambulance in their towns, they will pull out of the 28E. Jacob Hackman reminded the CCAC that and city or county that wishes to remove themselves from the 28E must give 180 day following the beginning of a fiscal year notice in writing.

Aaron Flugum asked if the current provider change his Medicaid acceptance, Jacob Hackman advised he did not.

Megan Baltes asked where the city councils were at on the AMR proposal. Majority were not in favor.

Motion by James Mitchell, seconded by David Geerts to authorize CCAC Chairman Mark Mueterthies to sign a 6-month extension with Chickasaw Ambulance Service. Roll Call: Ayes – New Hampton, Fredericksburg-Nashua, CCAC, Lawler, Alta Vista, Ionia, Bassett, North Washington, Board of Supervisor. Nays-none Motion Carried.

Motion by Jim Ashley table the AMR bid, motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by James Mitchell, second by Bobby Schwickerath to decline the AMR bid for ambulance service in Chickasaw County. Roll Call: Ayes- New Hampton, Fredericksburg-Nashua, CCAC, Lawler-Alta Vista-Ionia-Bassett-North Washington, Board of Supervisor. Nays-none Motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Schwickerath, second by Jacob Hackman to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried 1856.

Mark Muetherthies, Chairman
Chickasaw County Ambulance Council

Jeff Bernatz, Secretary
Chickasaw County Ambulance Council