

UNAPPROVED JULY MEETING MINUTES

FLOYD COUNTY EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Date: July 16th, 2024

Time: 8:20 P.M.

Meeting called to order by: Dawnett Willis

IN ATTENDANCE

Voting Members: Keith Starr, Dawnett Willis, Dave Luett, Dawn Staudt and Jeff Sterling

Non-Voting Members: Jim Jorgenson, Marty Parcher and Brandy Molitor

Public: Mayor Dean Andrews, Bob Steenson of the Charles City Press

Meeting Called to Order by: Chair-Pat Lumley at 8:20 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made Dave Luett

Second by Jeff Sterling

Action Taken: Agenda approved by council.

APPROVAL OF APRIL MINUTES

Motion made Dave Luett

Seconded by: Jeff Sterling

Action Taken: April minutes approved by council.

Agenda Item #5

Pat Lumley is being replaced on the council by City Councilman, Keith Starr.

New council chair to replace Pat Lumley.

Motion made by Jim Jorgenson to appoint Keith Starr as the new chair.

Second made by Dave Luett

Action Taken: Keith Starr is appointed as the new chair of the EMS Advisory Council and the meeting is turned over to Keith.

Agenda Item #6 Discussion on the steps needed to prepare for the upcoming November vote.

Keith Starr reviewed the meeting held by the Ambulance Commission, just prior to this meeting. The Ambulance Commission voted to proceed with Mark Kuhn's proposal of requesting \$450,000 for the EMS tax levy (which is \$50,000 more than Kuhn suggested) for a 5-year periodicity and have Floyd County Medical Center, Floyd County and the City of Charles City split any additional expense equally among the 3 entities.

Dawn Staudt discussed there was very little discussion at the previous meeting on how this levy is going to help Nora Springs, Marble Rock or Greene. Keith mentioned that Mark Kuhn stated there would still be a \$10,000 amount that would continue to go towards aiding the other services.

Dawn pointed out that there is more money needed to help Nora Springs build their service to be able to service that side of the county in a more, timely manner than AMR can do. The drive time to Nora Springs is 25 minutes, even running emergent.

Dawn pointed out that the purpose in the EMS tax levy is to build a sustainable county wide EMS system and the only discussions at this time have revolved around the AMR contract. This levy needs to benefit all the communities in the county.

Dawn also stated she did not agree with the solution being to ask the hospital for money when they experience the same reimbursement shortfalls, wage wars to keep staffing, and the cost of medication and supplies constantly changing. That is a band-aid for a much larger hemorrhage, we need to fix the problems, not keep doing patch work.

Dave Luett confirmed the 25-year-old ambulance in need of replacement and Nora Springs staffing struggles.

Marty Parcher agreed that there are several areas of concern that go beyond just funding the AMR contract. Also questioned why we are taking recommendations from the Ambulance Commission or the Board of Supervisors. Marty asked "wasn't the advisory council created to advise the board of supervisors on the needs of the county?". Dawn stated "yes, this seems backwards, why did we do all the work up to this point?"

Brandy Molitor mentioned Nashua Ambulance also serving the county. Keith Starr questioned why they have territory within Floyd County when we contract with AMR to cover the entire county. The ambulance response areas were decided prior to any of the current members working in the county, unsure when, what group or why the response area were drawn. More research into this topic needs to be done.

Discussion on amount to be requested was driven by Mark Kuhn's proposal and not on the research already completed by the EMS Advisory Council. The recommendation by the council is based on the likely approval of the Board of Supervisors.

The EMS Advisory Councils recommendation is

Motion made by Dawn Staudt-November ballot, tax levy request \$490,000, Periodicity of 5 years made by Dawn Staudt

Second by Dawnnett Willis

Action Taken-The recommendation to the Board of Supervisors will be made, for a 5-year periodicity, with a \$490,000 requested levy, not to exceed \$490,000 total collected annually, to be placed on the ballot as part of the EMS Tax Levy ballot question.

Next meeting agenda items will be decided after the Floyd County Medical Center Board of Trustees hold a special meeting to discuss the financial request made by Mark Kuhn.

Date and time of next meeting-TBD.

Motion to Adjourn -Jeff Sterling

Second Dawnnett Willis

Action Taken: Meeting adjourned.