

Minutes of the Kossuth County EMS Board Meeting, August 27, 2019

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Kyle Stecker at 19:00.

No public discussion was brought up.

Mark Davis requested two spelling corrections to previous meeting minutes.

Rick Murphy moved to approve minutes, second by Ryan Nelson, motion passed unanimously.

Affiliation agreement discussion:

The Affiliation Agreement was distributed and discussed. Tjaden asked for clarification of the purpose of the EMS Board and the Affiliation Agreement, and it was discussed that the initial purpose is to centralize the administration of the EMS services and develop a plan for a county EMS system.

Dave Penton explained the purpose and function of a medical director.

The leadership portion of the Affiliate Agreement was reviewed, and delineation of responsibilities were discussed and clarified.

Phil Albers discussed the cost of work comp coverage for combined EMS/Fire personnel versus EMS only personnel and demonstrated a large cost savings by keeping EMS separate, or by making all EMS personnel county employees. The Board discussed the options of having volunteers kept as employees of the individual cities or if they would become county employees. Funding issues and challenges were also discussed. Dave Penton showed the funding model that has been implemented in Wright County.

Various taxing abilities were discussed including local option sales tax and property tax levies.

The Board was in agreement that the direction of the county and the cities should be to move forward with a countywide EMS system, and consider a county tax to fund the system.

A motion was made to redraft the Affiliation Agreement based on the evening's discussions by Mark Davis. Seconded by Ryan Nelson. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Phil Albers to hold a work session with Jim Lester (Wright County) and Kerrie Hull (Calhoun County) to discuss their EMS systems at 6:30PM at September 19. Seconded by Ryan Nelson. Motion approved unanimously.

Further discussion involved staffing of paramedics in the northern part of the county.

No other discussion was brought up.

Gib Buscher moved for adjournment, Seconded by Rick Murphy. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 21:02.