

Kossuth County EMS Board  
Meeting Minutes  
1/21/20

6:30 pm Meeting was called to order at the Kossuth County Election Building by Chairman Stecker.  
Present: Stecker, Nelson, Murphy, Walker, Davis, Albers, Tjaden  
Absent: Penton  
Tjaden volunteered to act as Secretary, Stecker made motion to accept, Walker second, carried.

6:35 pm Public Discussion & Topics discussed:

Jack Plathe addressed the board requesting that the EMS Board have a budget to the Board of Supervisors by the end of February. The BOS need to know figures so they can work together with the City and Hospital. Working together, the City, BOS and Hospital can all kick in more funding to work together on a budget. As mentioned at the past BOS meeting, the small towns are maxed out and not able to contribute additional funding. The BOS are moving ahead with funding the System Administrator position for at least three years.

Newly hired System Administrator will put together a County-wide roster.

Hospital cannot tax for ambulance service, but they realize the need for funding and are willing to come up with temporary funding for up to a couple years to support the transfers out of KRHC.

Question was asked, "what are the next steps after the budget is set"? Administrator hired, Staff in place, one service under one umbrella, capable of rotating staff, 2 locations. Hiring an additional paramedics and EMT's.

Question asked, why not Bancroft for the North hub, rather than Swea City. A few years ago, an outside group came in to discuss county-wide System and at that time Algona and Swea City were the logical sites due to geography and response times.

Potential of a regional system in the future could be a possibility.

7:05 pm Davis questioned why the wording of his motion made at the 1/7/20 meeting was changed when it was presented to the Board of Supervisors.

Walker made a motion to accept the agenda and minutes, second by Nelson. Motion carried

Stecker reported on the status of the EMS System Administrator position. There were twelve applicants, the Board chose their top five applicants to be offered an interview. The board felt there were several very good applicants for the position. Interviews will begin next week, with plans of the System Administrator being hired within the month.

Discussion on Public outreach, suggestions for the most effective way of getting the word out to the public on what we are doing and the need for moving forward. Several ideas were mentioned, such as facebook, radio, newspaper, notes on city utility bills, WENS system (Dave), local TV stations. Taking part in a newspaper article rotation, approximately every 5-6 weeks and this article could be done by the new System Administrator.

7:25 pm Stecker made a motion to go into closed session 21.5i, Nelson second. Motion carried

No decision made following closed session. The following discussion was that the Board will continue on with their current structure until the County Attorney has the by-laws to us. At that time, we request that the BOS approve the Kossuth County EMS Board by-laws. Once approved, the Board will hold election of officers.

8:25 pm Walker made a motion to adjourn, Nelson second. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Tjaden, Secretary Pro Tem