

Gage County EMS Advisory Committee
Beatrice, Nebraska
January 8, 2009
8:00 a.m.

Minutes

Present:

Larry Stanoscheck
Jane Witthoff
Brian Daake
Rex Adams
Gary Williams
Danny Hawkins
Ron Miller
Don Harmon

Absent:

Mark Meints
Dawn Hill
Dee Fitch
Dennis Byars
Alan Fetty

Staff Resources:

Robyn Henderson
Dean Cole
Richard Mettler

Guest:

Dave Battiato

Call Meeting to Order

Don Harmon called the meeting to order and asked members to introduce themselves.

Approve Minutes

Motion made and seconded to accept minutes, with corrections. Motion approved

Ambulance District

Don urged, and the group concurred, that a decision needs to be made about how to proceed on developing an ambulance district. It was suggested to look at models from other states, as there are only a couple in Nebraska: Jefferson County formed an AD in 1960s that is run and administered by County Board; Sherman County has an AD that is managed by a separate board. City of Plattsmouth also is looking at developing an AD.

Several members of the group support the idea of looking at the airport authority model as a reference for a Gage County AD.

Dean discussed the conversations he has had with lawyer, Jill Jensen of Cline, Williams firm in Lincoln. Her rate is \$240/hour; the estimated cost of this project is around \$10,000 - \$15,000. Funding for contract will run through Southeast Nebraska AHEC

A motion was made and seconded to move forward with forming an AD. Motion carried

***Motion:** to move forward with forming an AD, using Jill Jensen at Cline Williams for legal counsel as needed. Funding will flow through SE-AHEC and state funding will come from the FLEX program.*

Jane Witthoff will be official contact point for Jill for substantive information; Robyn will work with Jill on logistics.

Next steps:

Dean, Robyn and Jane will work out agreement with SE-AHEC and Cline Williams

A meeting with Jill and the Structure Subcommittee – Ron Miller, Brian Daake, Jane Witthoff – before the next meeting in February.

AD Questions

Is it inside or outside the lid?

Are there alternative processes, options, structures?

Will the county board provide oversight or would it be a separately elected board?

What should be the make-up of governing body?

Would departments (Cortland, Wymore, Beatrice, etc) continue as individual entities inside the AD?

Does creation of the AD need to be approved by vote of the people?

Can real estate transfer tax be used to fund AD?

Comments from Sub-Committees and Others

Dean announced that Don Harmon was appointed to the State EMS commission as the PA representative.

Jane: AED grants – perfect for areas that have problems with access. Group will write letter of support. Work with departments as Partners

Adjourn

Motion made and seconded to adjourn

Next meetings:

March 12, 2009

April 9, 2009

May 14, 2009

June 11, 2009