



111 E State Highway 175, Ida Grove, IA 51445 / 712-364-5777

The Ida County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC) met on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 5:30pm at the Ida County Courthouse in the Board of Supervisors' room, in a joint meeting with the Ida County Board of Supervisors.

The meeting was called to order at 1736 hours with the following members present: Dana Goodman, Shelby Ellis, Claire Sohm, Larry Folk, Debra Ulrich, Devlun Whiteing, Megan Wellendorf, Gary Wanberg, Greg Schossow, Rachel Burns, Corey Trucke, Ken Langel. Also present was Ida County Supervisors Creston Schubert and Kyle Rohlk. (Note Devlun Whiteing serves on both the EMSAC and the BOS). Auditor Kristy Gilbert was also present.

Motion by Beth Schossow, seconded by Gary Wanberg to approve the agenda, all voting aye.

The group introduced themselves.

Motion by Devlun to approve last meeting minutes with the addendum reflecting that Deb Ulrich was present, seconded by Beth Schossow, all voting aye.

The meeting was opened to public comments, no public comments were heard.

Building renovation bids that were received at 3pm were presented to the group. Bids received as follows:

<b>Company/Bidder Name</b>	<b>Base Bid</b>	<b>Alternate #1</b>
Efficient Construction, LLC	\$820,025	\$87,004
Jensen Builders	\$871,000	\$105,000
Nelson Commercial Const.	\$795,000	\$79,250
Ladwig Construction	\$585,500	\$72,563
L&L Builders	\$731,000	\$83,000

The group discussed all bids in detail. Motion by Beth Schossow recommend to the Board of Supervisors approval of the building renovation bid received from Ladwig Construction in the amount of \$585,500, but not including alternate #1. Motion seconded by Claire Sohm, all voting aye.

The Council and Board of Supervisors agreed to move item #4: EMS Budget Preview for FY26 to the top of the agenda. Corey reported that packets contain a draft budget for FY26. Corey reported that this budget draft was constructed before the building bids were received and awarded, and that significant changes will need to be made to account for



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decisions made tonight, so this budget is only met to give a preview of FY26 but will be subject to significant changes based on carryover funds and many other unpredictable factors. Corey pointed out that this draft of the budget does not factor in any carryover funds, and in order to balance the budget it was necessary to reduce services support allocation by 20%. Corey anticipates being able to present a more accurate budget now that a bid has been accepted. Corey suggested that the Council plan to budget so that there is a 20% carryover from year to year for unanticipated expenses that may arise.

Corey reported that he had recently learned that since Ida County passed EMS-Essential Services, the overall tax rate had increased in Ida County which had led to increased collection in preexisting TIFs. Corey reported that the County will receive approximately \$174,000 more this year and a similar amount for last fiscal year, but because of preexisting TIFs that money was not coming into the EMS budget and was going to the repayment of bonds. Corey reported that this seems to have been missed by the legislature and does not seem to follow the legislative intent of 422D nor the will of the voters that approved this in Ida County. Corey suggested reaching out to state legislature members to alert them to this issue. Corey reported that the Board of Supervisors has voiced that they agree with this assessment and that the County is looking into options to attempt to rectify this issue locally, but options are very limited.

Corey presented the group with the 2026 Goal for EMS System Standards and reported that he had identified 4.03: Process/Procedure Development for requesting air medical services, addressing/resolving formal complaints related to air medical. The group discussed the benefits of streamlining this process. Corey will work on a process/procedure to present to the EMSAC.

Corey presented a draft policy on interfacility transfers. Corey started the conversation by explaining that this is not an action item for tonight's meeting, and is designed to get the conversation started amongst the Council about how the County employees should handle emergency interfacility requests for patients needing transported from Horn Memorial to other facilities. Claire Sohm stated that she needed to talk to her crew and to her City Council before making any decisions. It was reiterated that this is only a draft, is not an action item, and is intended to be a conversation starter about how to handle these situations. It was also noted that the policy the Council is reviewing is only applicable to County EMS employees and does not in any way apply to the Ambulance services. Corey stated that the EMSAC does not control or dictate policy to the Ambulance services. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding staffing availability from both the volunteer services and the County as it relates to transfers, and overall EMS coverage. Corey requested that

# IDA COUNTY



## EMS

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the services utilize the text group including the EMS duty phone regarding staffing, so that the County employees are aware when an ambulance is out of service. Edits were made to the draft policy, and it will be presented at the next EMSAC meeting. No official action was taken.

Discussion was held regarding Search & Rescue K9. The Council did not take any action at this time.

The Council reviewed the current presumed students at the Ida County EMT class beginning this month. 10 people are registered as of now from the following communities: Ida Grove: 1, Holstien: 1, Battle Creek: 1, Galva: 2, Arthur: 2, Danbury 2, Mapleton: 1. The class maximum is 12 students.

The Council discussed the Ida County EMS Day on March 1, 2025. Corey reported that he will have the schedule completed by the end of this week, but that instructors and topics have been obtained. Corey reported that this EMS Day will be similar to previous EMS days, with a focus on BLS.

Gary Wanberg reported that the Galva American Legion had issued a donation to Ida County EMS for \$1500. The Council thanked Gary and the Galva American Legion for this donation.

Motion to adjourn by Megan Wellendorf, seconded by Beth Schossow, all voting aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:06pm to meet again on February 4, 2025, at 5:30pm at Horn Memorial Hospital.

/s/ Larry Folk, Chair

/s/ Corey Trucke, Secretary