

Kossuth County EMS Board

Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2019

1830 The Kossuth County EMS Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Kyle Stecker. Attendance by roll call. Present Walker, Murphy, Albers, Tjaden, Stecker, Davis with Nelson being absent.

Discussion / Decision approval of the meeting minutes for November 19, 2019 and agenda for December 9, 2019. A motion was made by Walker and seconded by Albers. Motion carried.

Public discussion:

Jack Plathe brought to the board that a budget of 2.6 million is unsustainable by the county. He would be in favor of throwing a few thousand towards the current systems.

This number of 2.6 million is a rough estimate based on the “gold standard” that the state of Iowa has set as a system standard.

This public discussion allowed for a transition to the work shop. Much discussion was had regarding what the necessity was for EMS in Kossuth County and whose responsibility it is to ensure this service.

No one denies that EMS is essential but we are not at a point where we are willing to implement an unfunded mandate. Or a mandate where we are unsure as to where the funds will come from.

The work shop led to the EMS Board seeking direction from the County Board of Supervisors present. “We were tasked with looking into the current EMS system in Kossuth County and to make recommendations on its sustainability and improvement. We were never asked to identify funding avenues.” – Kyle Stecker

We would like that assistance as well. It is a tough topic and we are unsure as to how to tax and where possible funding options are. Indicated Jack Plathe.

The County Supervisors present recommended holding a meeting with all jurisdictional stake holders: each city, Kossuth Regional Health Center, and the Board of Supervisors to discuss the funding options. This is essential to get everyone on board.

Mark Davis made a motion to set a meeting for January 7, 2020 1830 hrs. Kossuth County Election Building This meeting will be to discuss budgeting with the cities, county, and hospital. Seconded by Tjaden. No discussion was had.

2011 Stecker called for a 5 min break.

After the break the EMS Board came back together for board discussion. A review of the evening's conversation was had.

Stecker shared an agreement between Kossuth Regional Health Center and Algona EMS indicating that Kossuth Regional Health Center is and should be an invested partner in a system that they depend on to service their facility.

Motion to adjourn by Don Walker seconded Phil Albers. Adjourned 2049.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

David L. Penton, EMS Board Secretary

Kossuth County EMA / 911 Coordinator