

Tama County Essential Services Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes December 5, 2024

The Tama County Essential Service Advisory Board Meeting held a meeting on December 5, 2024, via Zoom, that was called to order by Chair Scadden at 6:30 p.m.

Member's present: Julie Scadden, (TCEMSA), Billie Van Egmond (Dysart EMS), Greg Johnson (Toledo EMS), Mike Buchanan (Montour First Responders), Randie Brodigan (Dysart Alt), Kern Kemp (Gladbrook-Lincoln EMS), Ronda Edwards (Clutier Alt), Sharon Knoop (Clutier First Responders), Jeremy Cremeans (911 Coordinator), Sharon Knoop, (Clutier First Responders), Alea Dvorak (Traer Alt.), Ryan Goodenbour (EMA Coordinator), and Shaun Kennedy (Traer).

Members not present: Kathy Vavrock (Gladbrook-Lincoln EMS, Alt.), Jesse Brown (Toledo Alt.), Luther Heller (Montour Alt.), Polly Hineman DO, (Public member, south), Ken Tanner (Public member, north), Shannon Zoffka (Tama County Public Health), Alicia Lidtke (Elberon EMS), Jimmy Hicklin (Tama EMS), Sherry Parks (Garwin EMS), and Todd Banes (Elberon Alt).

Member of Public: David Turner and Heather Knebel

Minutes were approved from October 3, 2024 meeting with corrections, Motion made by Johnson, Seconded by Knoop. Motion Carried.

Scadden opened the floor for public comments: There were no public comments.

Scadden congratulated the group for getting the tax levy passed with great county support to pass the tax levy. Scadden spoke at the Benton County EMS Day. The Benton EMS Association mentioned in discussions is the hardest steps are after the tax levy passes.

Scadden talk to the Tama County Auditor and the Tama County Treasurer regarding the collection will start in September of 2025 and the distribution will start in October of 2025. The discussion was directed to how will the funds will be distributed through out the county and how the services will receive those funds. Johnson will be reaching out to Wright County to see how they have been distributing those funds. Scadden asked others to reach out to other counties to see how they are distributing the EMS essential Service funds

Scadden mentioned during the conversation with the Tama County Auditor mentioned the Advisory Board to reach out to the County Attorney for legal advise on guidelines on appointments to the board and if bylaws are needed for the board. Also stating what the funds are being used for.

Cremeans mentioned the association should keep some of the funds for administrative cost for county wide trains and keeping the website running.

Scadden mentioned Dysart Ambulance is under the Public Safety budget. A question arose about how the cities will be reporting the funds being spent.

Johnson mentioned about tracking funding by invoicing or stating what the money is going towards. Scadden wanted to ask the County Attorney on if the board would been to have this process in writing. The process would need to be done by September before the county funds are distributed.

Cremeans mentioned having a subcommittee to discuss the ways of funding.

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Johnson discussed Wright County has based the funds off coverage, land area, and call volume. They split between equipment and training. Johnson stated we should adjust it to what fits Tama County the best.

Scadden stated we must look at the funds and what would be the best way to fund the EMS for the improvement of the county. There will be some hard decisions going to be made regarding the needs and not wants of each service.

Scadden stated she will email a list of the county and services to reach out to that have the EMS essential tax levy regarding the funding process.

Van Egmond mentioned a question to be asked to the county attorney or the treasurer if the funds should be spent down to zero.

Scadden mentioned reselling the "vote yes to EMS" to other counties that could be used for other counties voting on the EMS Essential Service bill. The funds from the reselling of the signs would go back to the EMS Association. Marshall and Buchanan Counties might be interested in the signs since their vote did not pass this pervious vote.

Johson made a motion to have the next meeting in person at the Toledo Fire Station at 6:00pm on January 16.

Adjourned at 7:05 pm Motion by Johnson, seconded by Cremeans. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be held December 5, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryan Goodenbour, Secretary

Tama County Essential Services Advisory Board