

EMS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

April 2, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m.

River Falls City Hall
Council Chambers
222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI

Call Meeting to Order 6:30 p.m.

Advisory Board Members Present:

Gary Donath, Ken McNiff, Jeanne Wespetal, Jeff Bjork, Kent Kittleson, Judy Edgar

Also Present: Julie Bergstrom, Asst. City Administrator, Dave Matteson, Interim EMS Director

Advisory Board Members Absent:

Carole Mottaz

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes from February 5, 2018.

MSC Kittleson/Donath to approve minutes. UNANIMOUS

1) Update on EMS Director Recruitment Process

Acting Chair Wespetal opened the discussion of the recruitment for EMS Director.

Bergstrom updated the Board on the process to date, including two Skype interviews. One candidate was offered an in-person interview, but declined for family and personal reasons.

Options considered to date include reposting the position for EMS Director or reposting for a modified combined Fire/EMS position. It was felt that based on the labor market, there would be very few applicants that would meet the requirements of the position. Matteson stated that all services are having difficulty in recruitments, as EMT is still considered a trade instead of a profession.

Bergstrom stated that Allina will be offering a proposal to continue management services, and this might be the best option for now. The proposal could be for a director as is currently in place, or for a lesser role of management with some existing or current staff stepping up to a supervisory position.

Kittleson liked the idea of a mentorship program. McNiff questioned whether anyone on the service could move into the supervisor role. Matteson liked bringing on two supervisors to share the tasks. Donath stated it would be important to define the functionality and administration of the new roles.

Other discussions are taking place in the City of Hudson and St. Croix County to look at establishing a regional EMS service, as all are having the same problems with recruitment and funding.

2) Discussion of Prescott Contract for Ambulance Services for 2019

Bergstrom reviewed the current Prescott agreement for services, which was extended for 2018. Recommendation is to extend for one additional year before making any major changes.

Matteson discussed the need for three crews with a paramedic and EMT, and the goal is to have at least one person in the Prescott station.

McNiff would like Prescott staffed with two people at all times.

Wespetal asked the status of the Narcan training in Prescott, Matteson will check and report back.

MSC Bjork/Edgar to approve the Resolution Recommending Extension of Contract for Services-Prescott Area Fire and Ambulance Association for 2019. Unanimous.

3) Other items:

- A. Bergstrom advised EMS Advisory Board members may be notified of a special meeting in May to discuss the issues with EMS, including funding, available staffing and proposed contract with Allina.
- B. Matteson discussed the status of the medical dispensary, including equipment set up and programming of background software.
- C. Wespetal asked about the IV pumps. Matteson is working with Jeff Rixmann to request donations for the Allina grant match.
- D. Matteson reviewed the new online training system, and the discontinuation of EMS training with CVTC. Wespetal would like to recognize those employees who have completed training, either by having them attend the EMS Advisory Board meeting or through other means.

Adjournment: MSC Donath/Bjork 7:20 p.m.

Next meeting date June 4, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Bergstrom
Asst. City Administrator