

Crawford County Board of Commissioners

Special Board Meeting of January 3, 2012

Special Board Meeting of the Crawford County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman, Dave Stephenson, at 10:30 a.m. in the Crawford County Building, Grayling, Michigan on the 3rd day of January, 2012.

Invocation by Chairman Stephenson.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Anderson.

Roll Call: Stephenson, Anderson, Munsey, Pinkelman and Rogers.

Absent – Beardslee and Hanson.

Sandra Moore, County Clerk - Present.

Paul Compo, County Controller - Present.

Others present at various times: Doug Pratt, Ed Goscicki, Jason Dasho, Dave Pratt, Matt Holtcamp, Dana Swander, Sue Luck, Laurie Luck, Doug Baum, Rick Harland, Brian Ashton, Vivian Balmes, Sharon Hartman, Brian Hulbert, Gary Neuman, Bill Johnson and other unidentified individuals.

Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Pinkelman, second by Munsey, to accept the agenda as presented. Ayes (5) five, nays (0) none, absent (2) two, Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comment – None.

Public Discussion of County Emergency Medical Issues

Chairman Stephenson explained that the County has an Ambulance Service Contract with MMR and a Memo of Understanding (MOU) with Mercy Hospital. Chairman Stephenson opened the floor for dialog from county residents.

Frederic Township Supervisor, Bill Johnson indicated he approached Grayling Township in November for services through Frederic Township, as Frederic, Maple Forest and Lovell's each use Frederic Township ambulance services and requested they (Frederic Township) be included in the MOU.

Beaver Creek Treasurer, Vivian Balmes inquired if Frederic officials could show her a projected budget and asked if they could provide an ambulance specifically for Beaver Creek Township. Frederic Fire Chief Doug Pratt advised the department has a budget and will do what is necessary to be sure Beaver Creek Township is covered.

Frederic Township EMS employee Ed Gosciecki advised there have been several incidents that township residents have been denied the right to use Frederic Township Ambulance Service from Mercy Hospital.

Chairman Stephenson indicated North Flight didn't make it in the community and he fears that the county can't fiscally sustain two (2) ambulance services.

City Manager Doug Baum advised he listened to both presentations from MMR and Frederic EMS and advised the City has not made a decision yet and will meet next Monday.

MMR Manager Matt Holtcamp advised the Memorandum of Understanding is defined as the patients choice and may need to be updated.

Chairman Stephenson advised the entire county must have coverage for no additional costs. The Medical Control Board monitors ambulance coverage. This issue with the ambulance coverage puts the hospital in a tough spot.

A Hospital Representative advised the patient is their (hospital's) top priority.

Lovells Township Supervisor Gary Neuman advised Lovells has a mutual aid agreement of 2.05 millage which collects \$95,000 for emergency coverage. Mr. Neuman advised this is a County and Hospital issue and a solution needs to be in the best interest of county residents.

Beaver Creek Township Supervisor Brian Ashton advised MMR has provided great ambulance service for eleven (11) years.

Beaver Creek Clerk Sharon Hartman indicated she is ~~applauded~~ **appalled** at the action of Frederic Township and requested the County work with the Hospital for a solution.

Grayling Charter Supervisor Rick Harland advised he has learned more about EMS in the past two (2) months and a viable solution needs to be made. Supervisor Harland invited members to meet more often to educate us.

Frederic Township Trustee Brian Hulbert expressed support for MMR.

MMR Manager Matt Holtcamp advised MMR has Advisory meetings but no one attends. County Board Chairman Stephenson advised both ambulance services provide a great service to residents and suggested the issues be placed before an advisory counsel. EMS Employee Jason Dasho requested the county continue to monitor services' as our county needs better care and understanding for emergency care. Commissioner Anderson suggested the Planning Commission may be an avenue for discussions. Frederic Supervisor Bill Johnson thanked Commissioners for calling the meeting. Chairman Stephenson advised a new transfer policy that Mercy Hospital is developing is forthcoming ~~to the County Board soon.~~

New Business – None.

Any Other Business that May Legally be Conducted - None.

Public Comment – None.

Announcements – None.

Adjournment

Motion by Rogers, second by Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 11:36 a.m.
Ayes (5) five, nays (0) none, absent (2) two, Motion Carried.

Dave Stephenson, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Sandra Moore, County Clerk