Ambulance Advisory Committee Meeting
January 7, 2013

Call to Order
Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 A.M. by committee member Atchison. Present were: Larry Cassidy, Shawn Wonnacott and Lester Atchison.

Approval of Agenda

Wonnacott made a motion to approve agenda, support was offered by Cassidy. Attachment #1

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Appointment to Ambulance Advisory Committee

Wonnacott made a motion to appoint Dr. Charlton to be a non-voting member of the Ambulance Advisory Committee. Dr. Charlton is the Medical Control Officer at McLaren Northern Michigan.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Cassidy and supported by Wonnacott to approve the minutes from the December 20, 2012 meeting. Attachment #2

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Goals of the Ambulance Advisory Committee

Atchison read the necessary goals of the Ambulance Advisory Committee to help establish and implement an Emmet County ambulance service.

1. To work closely and contract with providers.
2. To set the amount and allocation of EMS millage.
3. To own and manage equipment and facilities to provide emergency services to Emmet County residents.
4. To review and evaluate present facilities and equipment.
5. To employ a part-time or full-time Ambulance Director.
6. To verify election date needed to put millage proposal on ballot.

Summary of Due Diligence

Atchison presented a summary of the Ambulance Advisory Committee’s Due Diligence. Attachment #3

Appearance

George Korthauer, representative of Allied EMS Systems, Inc. appeared before the Committee and discussed three key concerns and suggestions.

A) Facilities

Allied feels that the County is interested in building a facility that Allied would provide service out of and they have an architect’s report that they would like to share regarding that. Allied has also studied possible locations for future facilities and has input on what would be the best spot for their organization to provide service out of to Emmet County residents.

B) Contract

Allied had initially proposed a 15 year contract, but after the last meeting it
Ambulance Advisory Committee Meeting
January 7, 2013

appeared that the County may be considering only a 5 year contract. Allied has a revised service agreement that has been revised and will present it to Kathleen Abbott, Civil Counsel for Emmet County, for review. Allied may need to have a quick turnaround on the contract, due to the expiration of the contract with the Health Department on January 18, 2013.

C) Ambulance Advisory Committee

Allied does not agree with the need to have a standing committee because of all of the expertise available in the community. They would prefer to deal directly with the Board of Commissioners. They would like to use the model that was used in 2010 that would provide seats for the two service providers (Allied EMS and the Village of Mackinaw). In addition to the County Commissioners any additional members should be professionals involved with the delivery of emergency services, McLaren Northern Michigan and North Central Michigan College.

Comments from Audience

1. A member of the audience, stated, “Less is never more and free dirt is not free.”

2. Charlie MacInnis, County Commissioner, addressed the committee stating that he felt there was an oral history of this issue, but not enough detailed written minutes surrounding the issue. He felt that although the committee was called an advisory committee, it was functioning as an oversight Board. He would like to see County staff at the center of this issue, as well as a charter, a legal opinion and a budget. He also thought it was important to determine where this committee is going to reside in the County government. There is confusion regarding the intent of the committee and what Emmet County residents perceive to be the intent.

3. Bill Kanine, County Resident, wanted to reiterate some points. The committee issue is frustrating due to the fact that previous Committees to Study Ambulance have not followed through. He encouraged caution with the make up of the committee and encouraged having professional expertise on the committee.

4. Karla Buckmaster, County Resident, asked if the primary issue was indeed to pass a millage and if so, wouldn’t an Authority need to be established (which she is not in favor of).

5. Jim Tamlyn, County Commissioner, addressed the issue of experts on the Board. He stated that the Board of Commissioners is trying to ascertain what the needs are. The Board is still trying to provide a long term solution for issues of equipment and costs to provide emergency service. Varying amounts have been voiced and the Board wants to provide long-term security for Allied and the residents of Emmet County. Tamlyn stated that no one wants to run Allied’s business; the Board just wants to understand what the needs are.

Committee member Atchison stated that the pros of having these two partners
Ambulance Advisory Committee Meeting
January 7, 2013

Discussion of whether Allied EMS and the Village of Mackinaw City should have a seat on this committee and if so, should they be voting members

as part of the committee is that they have the expertise. The possible con is that they do not have as broad of a perspective. Wonnacott stated that the committee could make a financial decision, but due to lack of knowledge about the topic they would not have input about what they are making the financial decision about.

Dr. Charlton stated that usually the Agency knows the best locations in order to have the best response times, in order to have the best patient outcomes. He fully supports the providers being involved.

The manager from the Village of Mackinaw City stated that Mackinaw City is not only a provider, but also a governmental entity and has constituents which they share with Emmet County, as well as constituents that cross county lines. The speaker stated that they would need to be a voting member.

Mr. Olsen suggested that the committee appointments should be made for a position, not to an individual to ensure continuity. He did not feel that geography should be a consideration.

Motion to Appoint Members to the Ambulance Advisory Committee

Committee member Wonnacott stated that it was important to determine whether or not the committee would have the providers here. Wonnacott made a motion to appoint the Ambulance Directors from Allied EMS and the Village of Mackinaw City to serve as non-voting members of the Ambulance Advisory Committee. Cassidy supported motion.

Mr. Fairbairn stated that he does not see a conflict of interest in having the providers be voting members.

Bill Drake, a paramedic from Allied stated that he thought it was important not just to consider management from the providers to be on the committee, but also to consider ambulance workers that have years of experience that could be a valuable resource.

Jim Tamlyn stated that he thought that Allied EMS and the Village of Mackinaw City should be allowed a representative, but it should be their decision on who would best represent them and not be a specific position.

Wonnacott rescinded the motion to appoint the Ambulance Directors from Allied EMS and the Village of Mackinaw City to serve as non-voting members of the Ambulance Advisory Committee.

Discussion regarding Representatives and Members on the Ambulance Advisory Committee

Public Comment

1. Tom Fairbairn stated that North Central Michigan College should be represented and that McLaren Northern Michigan should be represented. Dr. Charlton stated that he was advising from the standpoint of several medical
Ambulance Advisory Committee Meeting  
January 7, 2013

organizations and from the patients’ best interest.

Public Comment

2. An audience member encouraged the Ambulance Advisory Committee to go slow when determining these issues.

3. Another audience member stated that there was a deadline for applications and that the committee should follow the money, make sure they understand all the costs of running the ambulance and the income and where it goes before making any decisions.

4. Alyce Conrad Stated that there needs to be more staff on the Ambulance Advisory Committee.

5. Karla Buckmaster asked the committee to keep the public in mind.

Committee member Atchison stated that he would like to table the issue until the next meeting until after it was discussed with Emmet County’s Civil Counsel to determine whether or not there would be a conflict of interest to have a provider as a voting member.

Announcements

The next Ambulance Advisory Committee meeting will be on Monday, January 21, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners room, 200 Division Street, Petoskey, MI 49770.

Adjournment

Wonnacott made a motion to adjourn the meeting with support from Cassidy. The motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.
Ambulance Advisory Committee Meeting
January 21, 2013

Call to Order
Roll Call
The Ambulance Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by committee member Atchison. Present were: Larry Cassidy, Shawn Wonnacott, Lester Atchison and Dr. Thomas Charlton.

Approval of Agenda
Approval of Minutes
Wonnacott made a motion to approve the agenda and the minutes of the January 7, 2013 meeting, support was offered by Cassidy.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Election of Officers
The committee decided to wait to hold the election of officers until the full committee was in place.

Goals and Duties of the Ambulance Advisory Committee
Committee member, Atchison read the goals and duties of the Ambulance Advisory Committee:

The Ambulance Advisory Committee (AAC) is charged to establish and implement the capital needs of Emmet County’s EMS, making recommendations to Emmet County Board for final approval, by:

A. Working closely and contracting with providers.
B. Setting the amount and allocation of EMS millage.
C. Owning and managing equipment and facilities to provide EMS for Emmet County, establishing ongoing oversight committee similar to DPW, Parks & Recreation, with Emmet County staff Director included.
D. Reviewing and evaluating where to best locate facilities and equipment.
E. Employing part-time or full-time EMS Service Coordinator.
F. Clarification on date needed for millage ballot proposal.

Voting Rights of Providers
Atchison made a motion to not allow providers to have voting rights on the Ambulance Advisory Committee. Support was offered by Cassidy.

Motion carried in a roll call vote, with Atchison and Cassidy voting yes, and Wonnacott voting no.

Providers/Institutions Invited to Attend Meetings
Wonnacott made a motion to invite the four providers/institutions to have representation at the Ambulance Advisory Committee meetings, in a non-voting capacity: the Village of Mackinaw City, Allied EMS Systems, Inc., North Central Michigan College and McLaren Northern Michigan. Cassidy supported.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Review of Applicants
The committee reviewed the applicants and there was much discussion about what factors should determine recommendation to serve on the committee, such as geography, experience and profession. After much discussion four individuals were chosen to be recommended to the Board of Commissioners.
Ambulance Advisory Committee Meeting
January 21, 2013

Recommendations for Committee Member Appointments

Wonnacott moved to recommend William Marvin, Randy Bricker, Louis Fantini and Dennis Keiser to the Board of Commissioners at the February Board Meeting, as possible appointees to the Ambulance Advisory Committee. Cassidy supported.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

A thank you letter will be sent to all applicants that were not appointed to the committee, in appreciation of their commitment to serving Emmet County.

Public Comment

Karla Buckmaster stated that the public should have a voice in how the money should be spent and not be a source of income only. She expressed that she does not understand why Emmet County needs to be so involved with the education component; the County should find the provider.

Announcements

The next Ambulance Advisory Committee meeting will be on Monday, February 25, 2013 at 8:30 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners room, 200 Division Street, Petoskey, MI 49770.

Cassidy made a motion to adjourn the meeting with support from Wonnacott. The motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.
February 12, 2013 (Draft Minutes)

The AAC Committee of Shawn Wonnacott, Larry Cassidy, & Les Atchison met for an informational gathering with Jay Peck, EMS Director of East Jordan, and associates.

We congratulated them on doing their due diligence, and were pleased to know they had met with Allied just prior to our meeting.

We advised them to continue to plan by keeping all the Cities, and Townships involved, and to become a public entity for easy taxpayer access to operation. You will have good story to tell, and an informed electorate will support you.

Larry Cassidy wrote our AAC purpose statement to be presented to BOC on February 19\textsuperscript{th}, 2013 for their continued endorsement and support of this committee’s charge.

The purpose statement was approved unanimously.

Respectfully,

Les Atchison