

The Board of Supervisors met as a committee of the whole and pursuant to adjournment with Beck, Knobbe, Croken, Kinzer and Maxwell present.

Linda Frederickson, Director of MEDIC EMS, reviewed a proposed Iowa Code Section 28E Intergovernmental Agreement. She said in 1982 Scott County, St Luke's Hospital and Mercy Hospital created MEDIC as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. She said Davenport Medical Center joined in 1987, and public members joined in 1997. She noted that MEDIC EMS is the largest transport service in Iowa, and displayed a map of the MEDIC coverage area and station location map.

She said MEDIC has 160 personnel, which includes 26 volunteers who staff rural operations in Bluegrass, Eldridge and LeClaire, and has a fleet of 20 ambulances. She said that the location in Clinton provides transport from Clinton to the Quad Cities and the University of Iowa. She said that MEDIC transports 190 patients per month outside of the Quad Cities, usually to Iowa City.

She said MEDIC has a 15 member Board of Directors with six members serving on the executive committee. She said in 1996 MEDIC became the first medical transport service in either Iowa or Illinois, and fifty-fifth in the nation, to achieve ambulance accreditation, and in 2011 MEDIC attained medical dispatching accreditation.

She said that since 2003 MEDIC has used a computer assisted dispatch system (CADS), with 16 years of data, and will locate ambulances near where CADS predicts calls will occur. She said in January 2018 MEDIC services in Scott County adopted a priority dispatch system to evaluate responses based on five different determinants. She said of the 24,410 calls, 75 percent are in Davenport and about 15 percent are in Bettendorf.

She said in 2015 Scott County Board of Health representatives met with the MEDIC executive committee to follow-up on a Scott County study on the delivery of emergency medical services in the County. She said the Board of Health suggested that MEDIC consider reorganizing into a 28E organization to ensure MEDIC sustainability due to being able to access additional revenues that MEDIC cannot access as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

She said that a shift in payments to MEDIC from private sources to public sources has led to a gradual decline in revenues. She said that MEDIC employed a consultant to evaluate multiple options for reorganization and the consultant recommended the option of a 28E Intergovernmental Agreement including only Iowa jurisdictions. She displayed a chart showing operational benefits, enhanced revenue opportunities, expense reductions, as well as employee benefits of creating a 28E Agreement. She said revenue opportunities include access to the Iowa off-set program to recoup patient payments from income tax refunds and gambling winnings, and a special Medicaid

program for transport services which bring in up to \$775,000 per year and thereby help reduce the costs passed onto patients. She said expense reductions include better employee retention and reduced training costs, and avoidance of sales and fuel taxes. She said avoidance of fuel taxes alone would save \$43,000 annually.

She said the proposed governance structure would include a board comprised of the Scott County Administrator and Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors, the mayors and administrators of Davenport and Bettendorf, one mayor or administrator from one of the smaller cities in Scott County, and one representative each from the Genesis and Unity Point health systems.

Supervisor Beck asked if there are any downsides.

Frederickson said employee costs would rise a little due to employer contributions for IPERS. Also, she said, based on measured response times, MEDIC could use one more 24 hour ambulance.

Supervisor Croken asked what percentage of MEDIC trips to Iowa City are originating from Mercy Hospital in Clinton, Iowa or outside of Scott County.

Frederickson said it is probably 30 percent and that a lot more of those trips are coming to the Quad Cities instead of going to the University of Iowa.

Supervisor Kinzer asked if changing to a 28E arrangement would benefit the rural volunteers.

Frederickson said that the aging population of volunteers is a concern throughout the state, and that anything which might entice younger volunteers would help.

Beck asked if adopting a 28E arrangement with only Scott County governments would lead to payment problems for services provided in Clinton.

Frederickson said she did not foresee that as a problem due to scheduled transports from Clinton help to offset other system costs and that Clinton Mercy Hospital is a very busy hospital transporting many patients to other hospitals.

Supervisor Maxwell asked what has been the employee reaction to this plan.

Frederickson said the reaction has been very positive.

Maxwell asked what action the Supervisors need to take.

Mahesh Sharma, County Administrator said Frederickson is making this presentation to all of the affected governments and will come back to the Board for approval of a 28E Agreement at a later date. He said that many details need to be worked out before an agreement can come before the Board.

Chairperson Knobbe asked what financial responsibility Scott County has toward MEDIC.

Sharma said that Scott County is responsible for covering up to \$200,000 in operating deficits per year.

Croken asked what the responsibility is in the current fiscal year.

David Farmer, Budget Director, said that there have been years when Scott County covered up to \$90,000 in deficits and that currently the operating deficit is \$129,000.

Jon Burgstrum, County Engineer, and Angela Kersten, Assistant County Engineer, reviewed a resolution approving bridge postings. Burgstrum said that this was a timely topic because the Governor had just proclaimed an increase in bridge weights limits to accommodate the fall harvest. He said that recent legislation has affected ratings on Scott County bridges and that the department and its consultant performed a load analysis of all Scott County bridges.

Kersten said twelve bridges require new postings due to the law allowing an increase in weights for construction vehicles. She said the department posts signs on bridges that conform to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). She said that the sign currently in use limits semi-trailers to 40 tons when these trucks can legally carry 48 tons. She said the department is recommending that the 40 ton limit be raised to 48 tons to allow for fall harvest operations. She said the department is reviewing the best way to sign the bridges and may return with new or additional recommendations for signage.

Burgstrum said these laws have required the counties to incur additional expense for bridge analysis and signage for special vehicles, such as those in the logging industry.

Croken commented that the situation creates an unfunded mandate onto the counties and the Governor offers no financial assistance to cover costs involved in this.

Knobbe asked if the Governor's proclamation to increase weight limits for fall harvests occur at the same time each year.

Burgstrum answered yes, and said that the department has considered proposing an ordinance which would allow the department to automatically adjust weight limits when there is a special proclamation.

The Board recognized 11 employees for years of service, including the retirement of Matt Walker for 18 years of service. The Board welcomed new employees and honored long time County Administrator Glen Erickson, who recently passed away. Three employees were recognized as Leadership Summit Recertification Program Graduates and a presentation was given for a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by GFOA for Scott County's FY18 Comprehensive Annual

Financial Report (CAFR) and for the Certificate of Achievement for Popular Annual Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for Scott County's FY18 Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR). The Board also recognized Justin Dusil, Corrections Officer, as Employee of the Quarter.

Tammy Speidel, Facility and Support Services Director, reviewed approval of plans and specifications for the Administrative Center Window Replacement and Exterior Cladding Project. She said the Board previously reviewed this item in July 2019 and that the bids were much higher than expected. She said the Board chose to postpone the project to allow for some value engineering and get the project back to the budgeted amount.

Kirsta Ehmke from Wold Architects, said that customizing panels, such as for size or special cuts, increased the costs, therefore panel customization was removed from the specifications. She displayed renderings of standardized panels in the project.

Speidel said from a facilities aspect the County does not lose anything as far as insulation, warranty and maintenance with these changes.

Croken asked what the cost difference was between the original plan and the new one.

Ehmke said the difference could be \$30,000 or more.

Kinzer asked if the materials would be made in Canada.

Ehmke said it would depend on who won the bid on where the materials would be sourced.

Speidel said that the bids would be opened on October 29, 2019 and the completion deadline would be June 12, 2020.

Mary Thee, Human Resources Director, reviewed the hiring of Mary Wells for the position of Senior Office Assistant in the Conservation Department at the entry level and the hiring of William Thomas for the position of Investigator in the Attorney's Office at step 7 (midpoint).

Mahesh Sharma reviewed a tax suspension request.

Matt Hirst, IT Director, reviewed renewal of a maintenance and support contract for the Judicial Dialog software used in the Attorney's Office to track and manage 150,000 cases annually.

David Farmer, Budget and Administrative Services Director, highlighted items from the 4th Quarter FY19 Budgeting for Outcomes report for County departments and authorized agencies. He said Administration/Strategic Plan had 105 overall goals and

75 were on schedule. He said the Community Services - MH/DD Services goal was to have an evaluation cost under \$1,400 but it ended up actually being \$1,852. He said in Conservation/Recreational Services Scott County Park pool attendance, West Lake Park beach boat rentals and Buffalo Shores were down. He said Health/Correctional Health we are still at 99 percent of inmate contacts within the jail facility due to the higher volume.

He said in DHS the outcome shows DHS is under budget due to the need to move an expense from FY19 to FY20 due to the delivery date of when the goods were received.

He said in JDC/Home Detention Program there are some alternative sentencing programs.

He said in Sheriff/Traffic Enforcement several outcomes relate to traffic enforcement by monitoring traffic accidents and the ability to react to those accidents.

He said in MEDIC EMS/911 Ambulance Response Times shows how the county monitors the response times for the different codes and the area of the county involved.

Farmer reviewed actual expenditures and revenues for FY19. He said actual expenditures were 94.3 percent used when compared to budgeted amounts for the operating budget (net of debt service, capital projects, and golf course operations), compared to 93.5 percent used in FY18. He said the total Scott County budget including non-operating costs was 83.1 percent expended, compared to 90.7 percent in FY18. He said two budget amendments were adopted during FY19. He said the current year total budget reflects 2019 debt issuance and SECC funding, which did not occur until FY 2020. He said the amendment accounts for 9.3 percent of the variance below budget. He said that total governmental actual revenues for the period are 80.1 percent received when compared to budgeted amounts, compared to 100.0 percent for FY18.

He said the personnel quarterly summary report shows the total authorized FTE level of 490.07 FTE's. He said the Health department added a 0.80 FTE nurse, the Planning and Development Department exchanged an enforcement aide for a full time building inspector, the Auditor's Office added a 0.35 FTE clerk and the Sheriff Department added a reimbursable deputy to cover Scott Community College.

Farmer also presented the kickoff to the FY21 budget process. He said County-Wide Goals include Financially Responsible County Government, Local and Regional Economic Growth, High-Performing Organization = Exceptional County Services and Great Place to Live.

He noted future budget issues for FY20 amendments for mental health services, capital requests, organizational changes, local option sales tax, inflation, jail and juvenile detention out of county placements, strategic plan efforts, unfunded mandates from the state, back-fill dollars from the state, and conservation services and revenues.

Croken asked about the amount spent on out of county placements for juveniles.

Farmer said that the original FY19 budget had \$200,000 for out of county placements but the final number was close to \$700,000 for these placements.

Farmer also reviewed the FY19 revenue analysis and general fund budget variances. He said the county had an increase of about \$3,000,000 in revenue compared to FY18. He said \$2,800,000 of the increase came from increased property tax revenue due to new construction, increased valuations and other factors. He said that revenues were 99 percent of the projected amount, and expenditures were 95 percent of the projected amount.

He said that revenue capacity for mental health services was \$5,300,000 but that expenditures including crisis services was \$6,000,000. He said that members of the Eastern Iowa MHDS Region are requesting legislators to rebalance the revenue cap for Scott County to better reflect the services needed.

Croken asked if other actions, including legal actions, are needed to address the funding issue.

Beck said that efforts are already underway to address this issue with the legislature. He said these efforts include a reanalysis of the distribution of state money which should result in increased funding for the Eastern Iowa MHDA Region.

Farmer said the Scott County urban property tax rate of \$5.99 was the fourth lowest among the eight urban counties in Iowa, and the rural rate of \$8.91 was the third lowest. He said the per capita rate of \$324 was the tenth lowest of all 99 counties in Iowa.

Moved by Kinzer, seconded by Beck at 11:16 a.m. a motion to adjourn. All Ayes.

Tony Knobbe, Chair of the Board
Scott County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: Roxanna Moritz
Scott County Auditor