



SOUTHERN WINNEBAGO EMS AMBULANCE BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE:
September 24, 2025

TIME:
6:00 p.m.

LOCATION:
Omro Town Hall, 4205 Rivermoor Rd.

Attendance

Chairman Frank Frassetto, Vice Chair Len Schmick, Secretary Brian Noe, Commissioners Pat Kafer, David Wiese, Marty Johnson Ryan Koch, and Mike Bouras were present, as was Assistant Secretary Dana Woods. Commissioner Glen Barthels was excused.

Regular Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Frassetto called the Ambulance Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said in unison.

Public Comment

None at this time.

Meeting Minutes from September 10, 2025

MOTION by Commissioner Bouras, second by Vice Chair Schmick to approve the September 10, 2025 minutes as presented.

Motion approved on an 8-0 voice vote.

County Executive Gordon Hintz (invited)

Not present at this time.

Update on Mutual Aid Agreements

Mike Krueger from Lifestar EMS provided an update on the status of mutual aid agreements.

- Waushara County is completed
- City of Ripon has emailed and should hear back at end of week.
- City of Oshkosh was sent two different samples to choose from last week since they don't have any such agreement currently for only EMS. Fire Chief said their legal team was out this week and next, but still needs to review. Fire department seems agreeable to it, but not sure how the city administration will handle it.
- In Fond du Lac County, all providers sign an agreement to work together - same in Dodge County - but hasn't heard of that being an arrangement in Winnebago County.
- North Fond du Lac was also sent two sample draft agreements to consider. They are expected to follow-up shortly.
- Planning to meet with Nick from Gold Cross next week as well.

Discuss Potential Funding Opportunities

- Asst. Secretary Woods shared that last week another potential grant opportunity was announced – a program continued through 2025 Wisconsin Act 15. It is specifically offered to help fund organizations with capital infrastructure projects. It would require us to have 50% of the cost in hand to match funding. The 50% match cannot be another type of state funding. State would retain ownership interest in the building for 20 years. Application deadline is October 31. City of Omro Administrator Brandon Hennes was also looking to this and he and Woods communicated on it. He commented that if the ambulance board chooses to go with the city lot, the city could possibly take out the debt for the 50% but has not gotten a clear answer on whether or not a promise of lending would suffice for having the 50% “in hand.” They’ve also learned that of all the funding awards made through this program this year, almost all went to private non-profits and only one went to a municipal project. So, while the parameters of the program seem promising, the recent award selection history is not encouraging. Either way, would require the ambulance board to decide firmly on a building project and get a budget for it in time for the application deadline of October 31, 2025.
- Both Hennes (today) and Chairman Frassetto (last week) had meetings with County Executive Hintz. Seemed to indicate he would be open to having the county support the effort in some way, however there’s no direct vehicle to do so at this point. County budget development is taking place in these coming months. Perhaps something can come of it there.

Discuss and Consider Potential Facilities for Ambulance Equipment and Crew Quarters

Mike Krueger indicated he is still working on the south location; met with Folske again last week and is confident they will have a place January 1. Still has a possible location and 41 and 26. Folske is working on a what a lease agreement would be for the property at 4304 County Road N in Nekimi. He’s willing to make temporary space for immediate housing if Lifestar is willing to sign a lease for a unit to be built next year.

Discussion took place pertaining to response time zone, which will be more solidified when the facility is chosen.

Discussion also took place pertaining to the location in the Omro area with more desire to avoid construction expressed. Krueger was aware of a space on Industrial Drive that could be leased – hopefully within budget.

Asst. Secretary Woods mentioned Bob Albright expressed some willingness to consider building and owning a new station, and leasing it to Lifestar, but he wasn’t sure he could do it economically enough to bring it in budget in terms of the lease amount.

Direction given to Krueger was to pursue lease agreement for Industrial Drive location in City of Omro, and if Albright came back with favorable news, he could pursue that instead.

MOTION by Vice Chair Schmick, second by Commissioner Johnson to authorize Mike Krueger to negotiate lease agreements as necessary.

Motion carried on an 8-0 voice vote.

Review Next Steps

- Mike Krueger met with Sheriff’s Dept last week. It was productive in preparing for the changeover.

- Staffing and equipment acquisition is underway.
- Commissioner Johnson suggested it was time to start thinking about creating a Capital Fund based on a \$1/capita (casual suggested amount) payment to set aside for future use. There was agreement it would be good to start building something in the near future so it can be added to gradually. Woods will add the item to the next meeting agenda, and also reminded everyone that we will all be paying for ambulance service twice in 2025 due to the timing of the payments due to Oshkosh and the monthly payment schedule for Lifestar. Some might want to delay the start of any Capital Fund fee until 2026, but it was starting the discussion soon anyway.

Select Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, October 15 at 3 p.m.

The alternative time was selected since the board felt it necessary to meet by Mid-October, but no other evening seemed to work for most/all.

Adjournment

MOTION by Commissioner Bouras, second by Commissioner Kafer to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Motion approved by an 8-0 voice vote.

Submitted by Brian Noe, Board Secretary

Approved by Ambulance Board October 15, 2025