

# EMS Partnership of Kent County Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2015  
10:30 a.m.

Riverview Building  
678 Front NW, Suite 200  
Conference Room

**Members Present:** City of East Grand Rapids: Brian Donovan  
City of Grand Rapids: Tom Almonte  
City of Grandville: Ken Krombeen, Andy Richter  
City of Kentwood: Steve Kepley  
Plainfield Charter Township: Cameron Van Wyngarden, Ruth Ann Karnes  
City of Rockford: Michael Young  
City of Wyoming: Curtis Holt, James Carmody

**Members Absent:** City of East Grand Rapids: Mark Herald  
City of Grand Rapids: Eric DeLong  
City of Grandville:  
City of Kentwood: Rich Houtteman  
Plainfield Charter Township:  
City of Rockford: Dave Jones  
City of Wyoming:

**Also Present:** Jen DeHaan, Fire Chief Laura Knapp and Mark Fankhauser (City of Grand Rapids), Mike May (City of Grandville), Dale Pomeroy (Plainfield Township), Damon Obiden (KCEMS), Gregg Ginebaugh (City of Kentwood), Bob Waddell (KCEMS), Marvin Helmker (State of Michigan EMS Officer)

Meeting called to order at 10:40 by Ken Krombeen

1. Minutes - The minutes of the February, 2015 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Kepley with support by Almonte to approve the minutes. Motion Carried.
2. Finance – Ken Krombeen reviewed the finance report. Krombeen remarked he would like to see more detail in the financial report and would speak to Chris Brown. A motion was made by Kepley and supported by Donovan to accept the finance report. Motion Carried.

### 3. Project Manager Report

Since the last meeting, Ken Krombeen & Jen DeHaan met with each EMS agency and brought their feedback back to the group. Through those discussions, there are four significant issues that were identified as concerns by the EMS agencies and Chair Krombeen is seeking input from the Consortium on possible options that might be available to address the concerns. The following is a brief summary of the remaining significant issues which were communication by the EMS agencies.

- Mandatory RFP in 11<sup>th</sup> Year.
  - The current draft of the Agreement requires that the Consortium issue an RFP in the 11<sup>th</sup> year. Much discussion ensued regarding the RFP. Krombeen stated the group should weigh the cost / benefit of using the word “Shall” vs “May”. Various options were discussed including changing the wording to “May”, as well as instituting benchmarking to gauge the satisfaction and performance of the EMS agencies and the communities which are being served. Kepley maintained an RFP is necessary to ensure the best cost and quality for residents. It was determined this issue would be revisited at a later date as consensus was not forthcoming at this meeting.
- 180-day Termination clause w/out Cause.
  - The current draft of the Agreement enables a municipality to terminate participation in the Agreement without-cause and at any time with 180-day notice. After discussion it was agreed to explore the option to maintain 180-day termination clause, but require the municipality to demonstrate that the Agreement is being terminated for cause rather than at any time without cause. It was also discussed that the Consortium bylaws and intergovernmental agreement needed to be reviewed to ensure that a for-cause requirement would be consistent with those terms.
- Performance Bond / Forfeiture of 50%
  - The current draft of the Agreement requires an EMS agency to secure a \$500,000 performance bond and to forfeit 50% of that bond immediately upon a change of providers. It was noted by one provider that due to the automatic forfeiture of 50% it may be difficult to obtain a bond. Following a discussion, the Consortium agreed that other options may be available and agreed that the Chair could work to find a solution that achieved the objective of the Consortium.
- Penalties
  - The current draft of the Agreement assesses penalties in .1% increments and implements them after 9-months in which the Agreement is effective. The Consortium discussed the challenges with the current data and acquiring data that can be aggregated and analyzed to assist in

providing data on medical outcomes. It was noted that KCEMS is currently working with the EMS Providers to work through the data challenges and identify solutions. One option available, due to the data challenges, is to allow six months to develop consistent data collection and then suspend penalties for 12 months better understand the current delivery of service. After discussion it was agreed to allow six months for development of data collection and criteria, and suspend application of penalties for an additional 12 months after that (for a total of 18 months) unless performance falls below a minimum standard.

4. Update on State Effort Toward Medical Control Authority Regionalization  
Marvin Helmker, State EMS officer, updated the group on the efforts to consolidate the medical control authorities in Michigan.
  
5. Other Business  
Service Area Review – In the last version of the draft Agreement language was added to enable the service areas to have minor changes. During that meeting, the Consortium desired to clarify the process for any changes to the Service Areas. It was noted, that there is a current discussion on-going with KCEMS and the three EMS providers to examine the current service area and that there may be a desire to make changes. Given the potential desire to make changes, language would be clarified that this could be done in coordination with the Consortium and KCEMS and at the request of the affected local unit of government.
  
6. Public Comment  
Dale Pomeroy commented that it was important to Plainfield Township to ensure that an ambulance would arrive on scene and that an EMS Supervisor vehicle would not be used to “stop-the-clock.” Pomeroy commented that this is a very important issue in Plainfield Township and that some areas are only receiving a response from a Supervisory EMS Vehicle with an ambulance that follows.
  
7. Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at 12:30.