

LINCOLN COUNTY EMS/JUDICIAL COMMITTEE
Wednesday, August 10, 2011 @ 8:30 a.m.
Lincoln County Service Center – 801 N. Sales St., Merrill WI

MEMBERS PRESENT: Caylor, Giese, Krueger, Mittelsteadt, and Lee.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: None

VISITORS: Sheila Pudelko, Doug Duchac, Dan Leydet, and Bob Odegard.

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman Lee called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes – July 13, 2011:** M/S Caylor/Krueger to approve. Motion carried by unanimous consent voice vote.
3. **Change of Ambulance Billing:** At the previous meeting, under the Clerk's report, the Clerk indicated, as a cost savings measure and for better continuity and efficiency, we were exploring the possibility of moving ambulance billing to one centralized medical billing department, under the direction of the Finance Dept., done through Pine Crest because they already have medical billing staff. Mr. Leydet spoke to the Committee about this proposed change. With the billing being done by the medical billing department at Pine Crest there would be continuity of billing. Right now there is only one person in the Clerk's office doing the ambulance billing. Because the Clerk's office has been short-staffed basically since the previous Clerk's passing, and before that because of illnesses, we are still about 1½ months behind in billing. With multiple people being trained in medical billing there would be continuity, thus eliminating the backlog in billing. The accounting side would be done by the accountants in the Finance Dept. which would give backup on the accounting side. The savings would come from not having to fill the fiscal clerk's position in the County Clerk's office, and Pine Crest feels they would only have to hire a half-time person which would not affect the tax levy. Chief Odegard suggested we look into the private company of Life Quest as an alternative to our doing the ambulance billing. M/S Caylor/Giese to have Mr. Leydet contact Life Quest and have them at our next meeting. Motion carried by unanimous consent voice vote.
4. **Tomahawk Report:** Mr. Duchac gave Tomahawk's monthly report. Placed on file.
5. **Merrill Report:** Chief Odegard gave Merrill's monthly report. Chief Odegard stated he was not too happy that the Rodeo Association had a private ambulance service at their event at the fairgrounds. It was stated there is no requirement that people have to use our ambulance service for those types of events. Chief Odegard would like permission to use his judgment as to when to charge the ambulance stand-by fee and when not to. He would like to not charge when there is a community service event where he can use regular staff that will be able to leave the event if there is a call rather than scheduling overtime. This item will be on the next agenda, and Chief Odegard was told no, he had to charge for the events per the established fee schedule. Placed on file.
6. **Clerk's Monthly Charge Report, Write-Off List and YTD Budget Report:** None at this time.
7. **Review YTD Budget Reports:** All budget reports were received and placed on file.
8. **Next Meeting Date:** Wednesday, September 14, 2011 @ 8:30 am at the Service Center, Room 248.
9. **Adjourn:** M/S Krueger/Caylor to adjourn. Motion carried by unanimous consent on a voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:03 am.

Minutes prepared by Sheila Pudelko