



Sedgwick County...
working for you

District 2 CAB

Haysville Community Library

September 13, 2022

Meeting Minutes

Board Members in Attendance: Martha Pint, Dr. William Hammers (on Zoom), Spencer Dean, Tabitha Lehman, Susan Norton (on Zoom), Ashlie Brockleman (on Zoom), Tony Martinez, Jeff Hersh, Jessica Atherton

1. Call to Order:

- a. Martha Pint called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. Roll Call Vote:

- a. Board members in person and on Zoom identified themselves by saying, "Here."

3. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Tabitha Lehman made a motion to approve the August 9 meeting minutes. Spencer Dean seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Agenda:

- a. Gage Hunt introduced himself and said he's interested in becoming a District 2 CAB member. He is married, has two sons and has lived in District 2 for about five years.

5. New Business:

a. Sedgwick County EMS presentation by Chief Kevin Lanterman and Deputy Chief Angela Hamilton

- i. Kevin Lanterman has been Chief since June 2022 and was Interim Chief before that since August 2021. He started working for Sedgwick County EMS in 1987.
- ii. Angela Hamilton is the new Deputy Chief of Operations. She started working for EMS in 2001. Before she was hired, she worked as a volunteer from 1999 - 2001.
- iii. Sedgwick County EMS started in 1975. Crews now run about 70,000 calls/year with 19 ambulances at peak times. SC EMS also has two Community Response Vehicles that work in Clearwater and Cheney.
- iv. Staffing is a challenge. When Kevin took over in August 2021, SC EMS had 24 paramedic positions open, perhaps because of COVID-19 concerns.
 - 1- 15 Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) are now in class training to become paramedics. In December, 3 will graduate, and 2 more will graduate in March 2023.
 - 2- Currently there are 12 paramedic positions open on SC EMS so staffing is improving.
- v. Call volume keeps increasing so SC EMS will need even more paramedics and ambulances in the future.
 - 1- Chief Lanterman wants to increase ICT-1 to run 24/7, but needs more paramedics and vehicles to do that.
 - 2- The Chief also wants to do more follow-up calls with clients considered "high utilizers" of SC EMS.

- 3- The purchase of 7 new ambulances was approved in 2021. The new vehicles will arrive by the end of 2022 and early 2023.
- vi. Tabitha Lehman asked if the City of Wichita had started using a private service for transfers? Chief Lanterman said Wesley Medical Center did that.
- vii. Angela Hamilton demonstrated how the EMS dashboard on the Sedgwick County website displays their call volume, types of calls, and response times for different towns. It also shows the number of cardiac arrest calls they make, how often they administer Narcan, and patient condition scores when transported.
- viii. Jessica Atherton asked how calls are prioritized when SC EMS is understaffed?
 - 1- Angela Hamilton said dispatchers take many factors into account like the severity of the call (emergency or non-emergency) and the location of crews available. She says EMS works with other first responding agencies and other towns, and another first responder may arrive on scene first and downgrade the severity of the call. Angela says EMS is always moving resources around to try to achieve the best possible response times, but if someone has a concern or complaint, they should reach out to SC EMS leadership.
- ix. Commissioner Sarah Lopez asked how EMS handles calls from Clearwater and rural areas.
 - 1- Chief Lanterman says a CRV is assigned there, but sometimes it needs to leave to answer other calls in the County or it may need a transport vehicle to take someone to the hospital.
 - 2- The Chief would like to devote an ambulance to Clearwater, but it's not possible with the increasing call load in the County.
 - 3- EMS's average response time to Clearwater is 16 minutes with lights and sirens.
- x. Gage Hunter (nominated as future CAB member) asked how EMS handles calls from Peck which is on the border of Sedgwick and Sumner Counties.
 - 1- Chief Lanterman said EMS does not have a unit to answer calls by the Sumner County line so they rely on Mulvane to cover those calls.
- xi. Jeff Hersh asked how long does training take for the different staff levels?
 - 1- EMT's can take classes at community colleges that take about 3 months to complete. A person must be at least 18 years old to take the exam and get certified.
 - 2- Advanced Medical Technicians takes about 250 class hours. They get advanced life saving skills but no clinical training.
 - 3- Paramedics need an associates degree that requires some basic college courses in addition to the paramedic classes.
 - 4- Jeff Hersh said he's wondering if the Haysville school district could offer an EMT course for high schoolers. He, Sarah Lopez, and Susan Norton discussed meeting about this and learning what USD 259 and other districts offer.
 - 5- Maize is another school district that offers an EMT course.

- xii. Spencer Dean asked if ICT-1 could operate with an aide, if a paramedic is not available?
 - 1- Chief Lanterman said ICT-1 has responded to calls without a paramedic on the team, but it's not ideal because a key part is assessing someone's physical condition as well as mental.
- xiii. Bill Hammers said he couldn't hear the presenters very well. He asked if there was any chance EMS would fully staff an ambulance in Clearwater (where he lives) in the future?
 - 1- Chief Lanterman said probably not for awhile because staffing is a challenge across the County. On busy days, EMS struggles to cover all areas.
 - 2- Right now, even a CRV is assigned to Clearwater, it's often called away to other calls. If a transport vehicle is needed in Clearwater, an ambulance often comes from Haysville or Goddard.
 - 3- Angela Hamilton says the average response time to Clearwater is 16 – 17 minutes.
- xiv. Jeff Hersh asked how an ambulance crew decides which hospital to transport a patient to, if it's not specified?
 - 1- Angela Hamilton said most of the time, it's up to the patient to choose which hospital. If the patient is unconscious or cannot say for some reason, the ambulance crew picks the hospital that is closest and can provide the appropriate care.
 - 2- Wichita is lucky to have two Level - 1 trauma centers.
- xv. Martha Pint described being at an E-R when EMS brought in someone who was drunk and disorderly and having to stay with that patient until there was enough medical staff to take over. It occurred to her that EMS could have been seeing other patients in need at that time instead of playing babysitter to someone.
- xvi. Commissioner Lopez mentioned that the Board of County Commissioners recently approved an improved EMS pay plan designed to recruit and retain more paramedics to ease the staffing problem.
- xvii. Angela Hamilton said EMS has great community partners like ComCare, WPD and SCSO to help take care of the community.

b. Future Agenda Items

- i. Stephanie Birmingham reminded CAB members that October's regular meeting time conflicted a Sedgwick County candidates forum so it is rescheduled for October 4 at 6pm at the Haysville Community Library. Adrienne Byrne, Director of the Sedgwick County Health Department, is scheduled to do a presentation.
- ii. November 8's CAB meeting conflicts with the general election so it was rescheduled to November 1 at 6pm in the basement conference room of the Sedgwick County Public Works building, 1144 S. Seneca. Public Works Director, Jim Weber, will give a presentation.
- iii. Stephanie Birmingham said Election Commissioner, Angela Caudillo, was too busy to speak at the September CAB meeting and asked whether members wanted her to come in December. Several said she would welcome anytime!

- iv. Commissioner Lopez suggested setting up a behind-the-scenes tour of the Sedgwick County Zoo for CAB members. This would take the place of a meeting. Other members suggested NOT doing it in the winter when it might be too cold.

6. Other

- a. Commissioner Lopez said she will miss the February and March CAB meetings because the birth of her twin girls is expected then!
- b. Susan Norton said she will not be at the October CAB meeting because of a trip to Canada.

7. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.