

# MEDIC EMS

## 28E Stakeholder Talking Points

Item #2

10-1-19

Founded in 1982, MEDIC EMS is a 501(c)(3) not for profit emergency medical services corporation, dedicated to providing emergency and non-emergency ambulance transportation, dispatching, and electronic patient care record services.

Headquartered in Davenport, Iowa, MEDIC EMS is integral to public safety in the Scott County infrastructure, serving a population base of approximately 175,000 people. MEDIC's primary 9-1-1 ambulance coverage area is approximately 406 (89%) of Scott County's 456 square miles, and in addition to ambulance transportation, MEDIC has maintained an ambulance dispatching division for the past 25 years. An award-winning agency known for a high level of quality service delivery, MEDIC EMS was the first Iowa ambulance service accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) in 1996, and in 2011, its dispatch center was the 150<sup>th</sup> agency accredited by the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch in the world. Delivery of services is accomplished by a highly trained staff of 160 emergency medical services professionals, 20 ambulances, 3 command and 2 support vehicles.

While MEDIC EMS continues to operate efficiently, a shift in payor mix has contributed to a gradual reduction in revenue. In 2018, the MEDIC EMS Board of Directors began a strategic initiative to evaluate the sustainability of both the current, as well as future corporate structure. Following a comprehensive review, the MEDIC EMS Board of Directors unanimously approved the restructuring of our current 501(c)(3) not for profit status to a 28E Agency, which is a government body created by two or more government bodies. Section 28E of the Iowa Code is a useful tool for cities, townships and counties, which can (1) provide authority, requirements and guidance in methods used to share resources, services, and (2) develop new agencies for providing services.



# BENEFITS OF A

## 28E INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

### ARE MANY, AND INCLUDE:

#### Operational Benefits

Improved ability to configure the organization to better respond to surge events	Enhanced integration with the Scott Emergency Communication Center	Capacity to determine and deploy placement of ambulance stations in response to population shifts	Maintain, protect, and improve the Scott County EMS infrastructure, allowing for continued effective and efficient out of hospital patient care and treatment
Improve response in rural areas, with reduced dependence on out-of-county volunteer organizations for coverage of the northwest section of Scott County	Improved ability to recruit and retain valuable EMS personnel	Ability to enter into agreements with other jurisdictions for mutual aid response	Facilitate the enhancement of county-wide EMS

#### Enhanced Revenue Opportunities

Iowa Offset Program participation will provide predictable, balancing revenue through recovery from personal income tax returns and casino winnings from those with outstanding debt	Potential for Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) funding, which could increase revenue by \$775,000 annually	ET3 Demonstration Project funding: 5 year program geared towards governmental providers
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#### Expense Reduction

Sales tax exemption (5% on vehicle purchases and 7% sales tax)	State and Federal Fuel Tax exemption, estimated at \$40,000 savings annually	Stabilization, with a goal of ambulance rate reduction for patient transport
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#### Employee Benefits

Enrollment in the Iowa Public Employment Retirement System (IPERS), a defined benefit, vs. current defined contribution program
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**Responding to challenges over the years, MEDIC EMS has become a de facto county EMS system, and, in performing 98.5% of ambulance transports originating in Scott County, is in fact the county's EMS infrastructure. A structural change to a 28E Agency would allow control of the MEDIC EMS operation by its founding governments, concurrent with public interest.**