



Scott County Health Department

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To: Mahesh Sharma, Scott County Administrator
From: Amy Thoreson, Health Director

On December 21, 2023, the Scott County Board of Health discussed Scott County Code of Ordinances Chapter 28 – Emergency Medical Services considering the transition of MEDIC EMS to a unit of Scott County Government and based upon recommendations from the Scott County transition team as well as consultants from Public Consulting Group (PCG). Following the discussion, the Board of Health unanimously approved a recommendation to repeal Chapter 28 be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for consideration after January 1, 2024; one BOH member was absent.

As a result of the ordinance repeal, the following would occur:

- Scott County issued EMS licenses would become null and void. All license holders would be notified of the change and future Scott County licensing activities would cease. The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services requires EMS service providers to be licensed currently and would become the only licensing authority for EMS in Scott County.
- Dispatch of EMS for emergency events will continue to be the responsibility of Scott Emergency Communications Center (SECC) according to its policies and procedures.
- Assignment of exclusive service areas to individual emergency medical services serving Scott County will end. Currently, MEDIC EMS is assigned to the majority of Scott County, with Durant Ambulance, Bennett Ambulance, and Wheatland Ambulance assigned to small portions of Northwest Scott County. These relationships will remain with SECC continuing to dispatch the EMS service with the quickest response time to serve Scott County residents in these areas. Scott County will continue to provide limited financial support to these entities for their role in maintaining the Scott County EMS infrastructure.
- Non-emergency transports will be governed by contracts and agreements maintained between private entities and individual EMS entities.

Chapter 28 was established during a challenging time for EMS service delivery and later revised to provide assurances that emergency transport services were available for all of Scott County. At this time, the infrastructure that has been built at the state and local level is in place to provide these same assurances without another level of oversight.

In consultation with Scott County Assistant Attorney, Kristina Lyon, I recommend that the Board of Supervisors set a public hearing for the repeal on February 1, 2024 or a date determined by the Board of Supervisors. I will be at the Committee of the Whole meeting to answer questions.

