

**Tama County Essential Services Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
May 21, 2026**

The Tama County Essential Service Advisory Council held a meeting on May 21, 2026, at the Toledo Fire Station and via Zoom, which Chair Scadden called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Member's present: Billie Van Egmond (Dysart EMS), Alicia Lidtke ( Elberon EMS), Sharon Knoop, (Clutier First Responders), Mike Buchanan (Montour First Responders), Ryan Goodenbour (EMA Coordinator), Jacob Reineke (911 Director), Jesse Brown (Toledo EMS), Lori Johnson (Public Health), Randie Brodigan (Dysart, Alt), Ronda Edwards (Clutier, Alt), Delrae Hennessy (Toledo Alt.), David Turner (Tama County BOS), Sherry Parks (Garwin EMS), Luther Heller (Montour Alt.), Donnie Wietzell (Tama EMS), and Jacob Patterson (Gilman).

Member's Present via Zoom: Dwight Gliem (Grundy Center EMS),

Member not present: Todd Baines (Elberon, Alt.), Greg Johnson (Treasurer), Shaun Kennedy (Traer EMS), Kern Kemp (Gladbrook-Lincoln EMS), Kathy Vavroch (Gladbrook-Lincoln EMS, Alt.), Debbra Stamp (Garwin, Alt.) Alea Dvorak (Traer, Alt.).

Public present: Rhonda Staker

**Approval of Agenda**

Brown made the motion to approve the agenda. Second by Reineke. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

Knoop made the motion to approve the minutes from April 23, 2026. Second by Van Egmond. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments Opened 6:07 p.m.

Weitzell stated that Le Grand has only 40 acres of land in Tama County. It is not worth pursuing or seeking inclusion on Le Grand's behalf.

Public Comments Closed 6:08 p.m.

**28E Agreement**

Scadden stated that all the agencies sign the 28E agreement. Scadden submitted the 28E agreement for approval by the Tama County Board of Supervisors. The 28E agreement is on the Secretary of the State's website for official documentation. Any out-of-county agency can submit reimbursement claims.

# **Tama County Essential Services Advisory Council Meeting Minutes May 21, 2026**

## **Distribution to Date**

Scadden stated that the end of the fiscal year is coming up. The funds cannot be used from the last fiscal year. The new fiscal year starts July 1, 2026. Scadden encouraged everyone to use it for wages and volunteer stipends for each month or quarter. Grundy Center has used \$4,516.88 of its funds. Tama has used \$52,082.73 of its funds. Toledo has used \$51,437.85 of its funds. Dysart has used \$34,566.41 of its funds. Agencies need to assess at least quarterly to determine how they can use the funds. This money can be used for a grant match. The agencies give the Essential Service Council a plan for the funds if they are holding on to them.

## **Reimbursement Process**

Scadden stated that administration and operations line items have been added to the claim blank. The city must pay for everything and then get reimbursed. Scadden is working on getting a new blank claim with the updated administration and operations line item. Scadden also demonstrated what the agencies should be putting in the claims for documentation. All claims need an invoice or proof of purchase. June claims need to be submitted by June 12<sup>th</sup>. The county does not have to keep a record of the denial claims.

## **New Business**

### **Projected FY 27 per Service**

The dollar amounts were based on the computer-Aided Dispatch software at the Tama County Communications Center. The calls are from the calendar year 2025. Service Area counts for most of the dollar amount for each service. Reineke stated he had a report of EMS calls on the settlement, totaling 226 calls. That totals roughly \$12,000. The \$12,000 is subtracted from Tama EMS. Tama EMS also receives \$25,000 from the Meskwaki Bingo & Casino, which is allocated to the City of Tama's general fund. Scadden will send out the totals for each service for fiscal year 27. Scadden stated that each year, 10% of the funds will be allocated to a reserve until the reserve reaches \$500,000.

### **Current Trust Fund Total**

Scadden stated the current total in the fund is \$774,865 as of May 5, 2026.

### **Develop an Assessment Tool**

Scadden stated that we need to develop a tool to assess the EMS system in Tama County and show the Board of Supervisors how the funds are being used. This tool

**Tama County Essential Services Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
May 21, 2026**

needs to show how the funds are benefiting the EMS services. Scadden presented a draft survey to distribute first to EMS services and eventually to the public. The survey should be sent not only to the service directors but also to the staff and volunteers. This will serve as a service assessment tool. A question should be added: if you haven't used your funds, why haven't you? The survey will be sent out on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Report to Board of Supervisors FY 26**

Scadden stated the report will go to the Board of Supervisors on September 1.

**Other business**

Goodenbour asked if the tax reform bill would affect EMS Essential Service funding. Scadden stated it will not affect the funding.

The next meeting will be on July 16th, 2026, at 6 p.m., at Otter Creek Lake & Park Nature Center.

Van Egmond made the motion to adjourn. Second by Reineke at 7:05 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by

Ryan Goodenbour

Essential Service Advisory Council Secretary