

BASCOM JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT

P.O. Box 119
Bascom, OH 44809

Kim Wells, EMS Chief **Jessica Funk**, Asst. EMS Chief
James Clouse, Trustee **Kevin Reinhart**, Trustee **Kathy Frankart**, Trustee
Victoria Coppus, Fiscal Officer

August 26, 2021

Dear Seneca County Commissioners and Prosecutor,

The Bascom Joint Ambulance District has partnered with Seneca County EMS for many successful years. Throughout the years we've done many things together from forming the county's first joint ambulance district, encouraging fire department involvement as EMRs, providing a backup squad for times of need, and most importantly, providing patient care for many those that live, work, play, and travel throughout our district.

In the past several years, BJAD has worked to address many changing needs within our district. This includes working with our fire district to provide a centralized emergency services facility that provides areas for staff on site and evolving the manner to staff personnel as calls have increased significantly the past few years.

This past year there has been much discussion regarding EMS throughout this county. These discussions have many varying viewpoints but with everyone having one goal: **"To serve the people"**. During this time, BJAD has evolved to meet the district needs with hiring part time personnel to supplement the volunteers as well as working with the county to provide a west side beta site to use the county's full-time crew as well.

Last month there was discussion, and the decision by the county was made to move forward with a county wide system that utilizes full time crews supplemented by volunteers. It is our understanding that this would dissolve the local boards and there would be a multiple member advisory board. After this meeting, we at Bascom Joint Ambulance District are exploring many different options what would provide that best serves the needs of the Hopewell Township and Loudon Township residents. Through intensive research, the Board as well as the current EMTs of Bascom Joint Ambulance District have the following questions.

The following questions are regarding if Bascom Joint Ambulance District would join the county wide Joint Ambulance District:

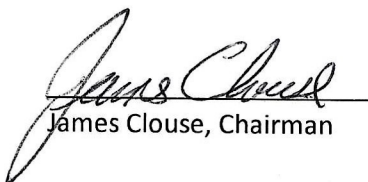
1. Will the commissioners or the joint districts board manage the new system?
2. How and what criteria will be used for the SOG/SOPs of this countywide system?
3. How does this system proceed if the levy doesn't pass?
4. What is the leadership structure and who will do the checks and balances of the Joint Ambulance Districts(JAD)?
5. Will the paid EMTs be county employees or JAD employees?
Who will control the pay and benefits for the EMT's?
6. How are the volunteers going to be implemented within the new system?
Will they only serve in their own community or will they need to serve in other areas as well?
7. How will the stations be staffed and place people in the appropriate stations?
8. Who will own and maintain the stations and equipment?
9. If the commissioners are planning to put \$500,000 into the yearly budget, what contract and or steps can be done to protect those funds to continue if a different group of commissioners want less county involvement and expenses.
10. If Bascom went with the County System will there be a squad at the current Bascom station?
If there are any operational changes and squads had to be cut would Bascom still have a squad?

The following questions are regarding if Bascom Joint Ambulance District would continue as they are and not become part of the county wide Joint Ambulance District:

1. We plan to be a quality mutual aid partner with any and all of the surrounding emergency services providers. At what level would the county lend their services in aid?
Would their Echo unit be available for trauma and other life-threatening situations?
2. If we need additional staffing would we be able to hire JAD/County employees?
3. If BJAD decides to move forward as they are, how long would the county continue to partner with us during the transition time?
4. What is the potential for BJAD to acquire a squad from the county
5. What are the options for acquiring county equipment such as Heart monitor and auto pulse?
6. Is there the potential to acquire supplies through the county?
7. If 5 to 10 years down the road it makes more sense to join the county system, will that opportunity be available to us?

For Bascom Joint Ambulance District to make timely decision we look forward to receiving your written response within a week so we can keep the process moving. We understand this is a timely matter and will keep you updated as we come to a decision.

Sincerely,


James Clouse, Chairman


Kevin Reinhart, Vice Chairman


Kathy Frankart, Trustee