



To our respective municipalities,

It is once again a privilege to submit the Lodi Area Emergency Medical Services proposed budget for FY 2023. The priority of this budget is to be fiscally responsible with assessments received from the municipalities while also utilizing revenues we receive from the citizens of the EMS District. This budget balances an enhanced level of EMS services with a prudent level of financial responsibility that maintains the long-term fiscal integrity of the District.

This year we saw several opportunities to offset costs that would otherwise be the responsibility of each municipality. With these grant opportunities we have been able to successfully obtain over \$135,000 in funding that supports our mission in retaining our current staff, recruiting new staff, and maintaining provider safety through current, industry standard equipment. The importance of caring for our staff has never been more important, and this funding will aid in those efforts that must be displayed.

As you will notice, nearly all of our focus was directed to compensation of our staff. The services we provide are essential; The public we serve has an expectation; that when they call 911 and need an ambulance that one will respond. It is our duty to provide that, and sadly in many communities that is not the reality. Our commitment to our communities is to never have that become a reality in the Lodi Area EMS district, so we must invest into our most valuable resource, our staff.

As the Chief, I am responsible for ensuring that State of Wisconsin rules and regulations as well as departmental policies are being followed while managing the annual EMS budget and capital improvement plan in a way that ensures the utmost fiscal responsibility is being taken. We also continue to uphold the expectation of every department member to participate in a continuous and complex training program that meets the demands of our licensing requirements.. This in turn affords the City of Lodi, Town of Lodi and the Town of West Point and their residents with the best advanced care and experienced providers possible.

Our operations are not possible without the support, guidance and strategic direction from the Board with respect to fiscal policies and development of the budget. With their cooperation and commitment to providing the best possible service within available funding constraints, we continue to appreciate stable finances, enhance the delivery of essential emergency services and keep the District on a fiscally sustainable path moving forward.

We have a unique opportunity afforded to us in the work we do to truly change lives and I believe we accomplish that every day through their services we provide.. Thank you for putting your trust in Lodi Area Emergency Medical Services; it is well placed, we will handle it with care.

I am humbled everyday by the commitment, pride and professionalism exhibited by the members of Lodi Area EMS and I am honored to be part of something so, in my opinion, unrivaled.

With respect,

Russell Schafer, Chief of EMS