

John,

Thank you for meeting with me and the information you've provided, looks like I have some homework.

Austin Pritchard

Commander, SCDT

217-343-6265

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 21, 2020, at 9:05 AM, John Kraft <john@illinoisleaks.com> wrote:

Here are a few things to get you started:

Need to find the originating document(s) (County Ordinance or Resolution) authorizing the Dive Team and the power granted it by the County.

Need to find and By-Laws or maybe think about making some.

Need to establish and approve rules for your meetings, which would include any rules applying to public comments.

Identify what part of the Emergency Medical Services Systems Act (210 ILCS 50/3.55) your SOP is referring to because I could not find any mention of Dive or Rescue Team listed in the Act – it might be talking about what different licenses permit certain activities (EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT, etc.) which some of your people might have.

Need to see about establishing a non-profit "friends of..." organization to do the fundraising, etc. so the money raised does not become county (public) funds.

501(c)(4) appears to be one way to go with it: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/other-non-profits/local-association-of-employees-501c4>

Register it with the IL Sec of State, IL AG's Charitable Trust database, and the IRS (which issues a determination letter authorizing you as a (c)(4))

FOIA: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=85&ChapterID=2>

OMA: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=84&ChapterID=2>

Sec. 2.02. Public notice of all meetings, whether open or closed to the public, shall be given as follows:

An agenda for each regular meeting shall be posted **at the principal office** of the public body **and at the location where the meeting is to be held** at least 48 hours in advance of the holding of the meeting.

Water Rescue Act: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=743&ChapterID=11>

This Act permits Intergovernmental agreements, which might be a good idea to establish.

The Counties Code applies (<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ChapterID=12&ActID=750>), since you were established by the county, and all ethics, conflict of interest, purchasing, etc. apply to you the same as it does to the county.

We are not attorneys and this is not legal advice...

John Kraft
Edgar County Watchdogs
217-808-2527