

Ambulance ready to go for QVMC

Rig was purchased for \$23,700

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When EMTs Brian Williamson and Mel Lutz went to pick up Quincy Valley Medical Center's newest ambulance last month, they took it on a long test drive — 2,685 miles to be exact. That's the distance between Newark N.J., which is where the ambulance was located, and Quincy.

The medical center was looking for a used ambulance with low miles to purchase as its front-line unit and they were looking for a good deal. They found what they were looking for in the 1998 Ford, which had 45,000 miles on it. The asking price was \$23,700, less than a quarter of what a brand-new ambulance costs. (Another \$4,600 was spent to outfit and add decals and trim to the ambulance.)

"It's in great shape and it's a great deal,"



Chuck Allen/Post-Register

The recently purchased ambulance is ready to roll out as Quincy Valley Medical Center's new first-response unit.

said Williamson, who is the training officer for the ambulance service.

Williamson said the ambulance, which is built by the Road Rescue company on a Ford frame is "the Cadillac of ambulances."

"They build them by hand and they don't make a ton of them," he said. "The finish is real nice."

The rig is being worked slowly into the ambulance services location.

"We took it out a few times last week," Williamson said. "We want to make sure everything is working right and we're used to it and then we'll make it our first-run vehicle."

The old first-line vehicle is a 1999 ambulance that has 140,000 miles. The service has two other vehicles, one will be used for transports to other area hospitals, the other — a 1989 four-wheel drive Ford — will taken out of the regular rotation.

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