

**ROCK COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Thursday, March 11, 2010 – Beloit Memorial Hospital

~ *MINUTES* ~

**Members Present:** Larry Knuth, Mary Beaver, Dennis Ahrens, Gerry Luiting, Shirley Connors, Loren Lippincott, Beth Natter, Pastor Bill Wagner, Barb Kuska, Dr. Michael Kellum, John Rindfleisch, Jeff Ropicky and Shelly McGuire,

**Members Absent:** Jude Maurer, Rob Calhoon, Steve Ryan, Kathy Sukus, Kristina Jordan, Ivan Collins, Bryan Northrup and Dave Fonder.

**Guests:** Jenifer Keach, County Coroner; Michelle Walworth, Coroner's Office; Tom Beaver, Evansville EMS; Gary Schenck, Blackhawk Technical College; Nathan Breu, Curtis Ambulance; Brennon Ruosch, City of Edgerton Fire Department.

Chair Larry Knuth called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion was made to approve the March 11, 2010 agenda by Loren Lippincott and seconded by Gerry Luiting. Motion carried.

**Reading & Approval of Past Minutes:** Dr. Kellum made a motion to waive the reading and approve the September 10, 2009 minutes. Motion seconded by Barb Kuska. Motion carried.

**Old/Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

- ◆ **Hospital Preparedness Update** – Barb Kuska advised the Committee:
  - The Wisconsin Hospital Emergency Preparedness Program is conducting a hazard vulnerability analysis. Region 5 is participating in this program. The purpose is to improve and assist community and hospital preparedness for public health emergencies. Included are pandemics, bombs, cyber attacks, tornadoes, floods, etc.
  - Eligible hospitals are required to attend one of two H1N1 After Action Conferences. Employees and the public are invited. One conference is May 4, 2010 in Madison and the other conference is May 6, 2010 in Wausau.
  - There are still issues regarding PPE shortage and the inability to order from regular companies. Beloit Memorial Hospital has a stockpile and has used from that stockpile.
  - State of Wisconsin has funds available for the availability of a Hospital Communication System. They will come out with the top three hospitals that have the ability to install this type of system. If any hospital already has a communication system, there will be no reimbursement.

- ◆ **State EMS Board Update** – Barb Kuska advised the Committee:
  - CDC (Center for Disease Control) is pushing SALT triage as the standard triage. SALT triage is based on existing triage systems. Patients are prioritized through voice command. Reassessment is done on patients early on and allows providers to focus on potentially salvageable patients. This also allows re-evaluation of patients and enables providers to re-sort and refine triage decisions.
  - EMT refresher training classes have been approved. There are currently some training classes being provided by Blackhawk Technical Institute.
  
- ◆ **EMS Re-Licensing (E-Licensing System)** – Larry Knuth advised the Committee:
  - There was a WARDS/E-Licensing training session at the Madison Sheraton Hotel on March 8, 2010. Many questions that were not addressed in the first meeting were addressed at this meeting. E-Licensing can be with multiple service providers. Stated if there were problems, the State office should be contacted.
  - Went on to state that there should be one license instead of many. Jeff questioned whom the State was holding responsible. The answer to that question was the employee. Service providers require each provider be licensed and to provide a copy of that license.

### Agency Reports:

- ◆ **Communications Center** – Tabled until next meeting.
  
- ◆ **Emergency Management** – Shirley Connors advised the Committee:
  - Tornado Spotters March 23, 2010 from 1-3 PM at Rock County Health Center Auditorium and 6:30-8:30 at Town of Clinton Fire Department. She indicated that pre-registration for either of these classes would be appreciated.
  - Tornado & Severe Weather Awareness Week is April 19-April 23, 2010. Wisconsin Emergency Management will send out a final package. Standard drill is April 22 if weather permits, otherwise April 23. If weather is not conducive on either of these days, there will not be a drill.
  - Siren testing resumes April 7.
  - ICS 300-400 classes are available. Information sent out via email. Courses are not being filled up in this area.
  - March 30-April 2 are the dates for the Governor's Conference on Homeland Security. March 30 is pre-training. The lodging for that evening is free of charge. April 1-2 the registration fee is \$175.00. It is being held at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, WI.
  - Rock County Hazard Mitigation Plans are being done. This involves fire, EMS and law enforcement. Thus far, plans received are from Town of Milton, Town of Fulton, Town of Spring Valley, Village of Footville and Newark Township.

- ◆ **Blackhawk Technical College** – Gary Schenck, guest speaker filling in for Kristina Jordan, advised the Committee:
  - Final interview for Loren Lippincott 's position as Dean of Public Safety is March 26.
  - There is new testing for refresher courses. They are as follows: King Airway; CCR; Critical Thinking and C-Pap.
  - Temporary permits and State switched to all E-Licensing. State requires temporary applications only in paper format.
  - Fall, 2010, EMS classes, contact Blackhawk Technical Institute as soon as possible.
  
- ◆ **Hospitals** – Shelly McGuire - Beth Natter – Barb Kuska
  - Shelly McGuire advised Edgerton Hospital is waiting for HUD for final approval of the new facility.
  - Beth Natter advised the Level II Trauma Center's accreditation went through late January 2010. Mercy Hospital is now working on the Paramedic Training Center. They have until 2013 to be accredited.
  - Barb Kuska advised that Beloit Memorial Hospital is continuing with construction. The construction is to be totally completed by July 2010. There may be ten more rooms that will open in early May.
    - She stated the nursing staff is physically spread out and that more medical staff is being put on duty to cover the territory.
    - Beloit Clinic has been acquired by Beloit Memorial Hospital. The new venture is being called Beloit Health Systems. They are working on integrating staff for both. For the most part, separate staffing is not necessary.
  
- ◆ **M.A.B.A.S.** – Tabled to next meeting.
  
- ◆ **Sheriffs Office** – Tabled to next meeting.
  
- ◆ **Clergy** – CISM – Pastor Wagner advised the Committee:
  - May 11, 2010 there will be a Police Memorial at Blackhawk Technical Institute. County Sheriff's Office is responsible for the memorial.
  - There has been an interest for chaplaincy services within the fire departments. Wisconsin State fire chiefs will be recruiting chaplains in June, 2010.
  
- ◆ **Other Announcements**
  - Gary Schenck advised the Midwest Planning Conference is coming up May 5-May 7 in Rockford. He stated that they have had excellent outside speakers with excellent topics. Shirley Connors said she would email information to the EMS members.
  - Gerry Luiting stated EMS Week is May 16-22, 2010. In the past, County Board did a resolution regarding this event. Mary Beaver introduced that concept to the County Board and will introduce it again.
    - The 2009 Assembly Bill 724 relating to creating an ambulance operator safety program within the Department of Transportation, rules of the road applicable to the operation of ambulances, requiring the exercise of rule-

making authority and making an appropriation. There was a hearing on March 11 regarding this Bill. Representatives should be contacted for information. This training is unfunded and would mean extensive costs to the ambulance providers.

- Dr. Kellum stated cardio-cerebral resuscitation is moving along and the State is considering developing statewide protocol. National Red Cross has been given the go-ahead to begin training for chest compression. Badger Chapter of the American Red Cross will be training lay people.
- Brennon Ruosch stated that all departments in the county get together for training ideas. He suggested perhaps sending a couple of people from each department. He also suggested a date of May 11, 2010 for a possible training summit. More information will be disseminated at a later date.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Gerry Luiting and seconded by Pastor Wagner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 P.M.

The next meeting will be held June 10, 2010 at Mercy Hospital, Janesville.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shirley Klipstein