

**ROCK COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Thursday, December 10, 2015
Beloit Health System, Beloit – 12:30 pm

MINUTES

Members Present:

Chair Larry Knuth, Barb Kuska, Nicole Kovarki (alternate), Beth Natter (via teleconference), Cathy Mestan (alternate), Robert Swenarski, Supervisor Terry Fell, Deputy Chief Joe Murray, Shelly McGuire, Chief John Rindfleisch, Dr. Jon Van Roo, M.D., Pastor Bill Wagner, Commander Troy Knudson and Sgt. Shena Kohler .

Members Absent:

Brian Becker, Dr. Jay MacNeal, M.D., Deputy Chief Jim Ponkauskas, Tyler Curtis, Erik Severson, Deputy Chief Peter Mory, Barry Irmen, Rob Lulling, Cindy Kirby, Chief Gene Wright, and Steve Ryan.

Guests: Andrea Hughes, RN.

Call to Order:

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

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Deputy Chief Joe Murray and seconded by Bob Swenarski to approve the December 10, 2015 agenda. Motion carried.

Reading & Approval of Past Minutes:

Motion by Bob Swenarski and seconded by Deputy Chief Joe Murray to waive the reading of and approve the minutes for September 10, 2015. Motion carried.

Old/Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

South Central Health Care Coalition - SCHCC

- Barb Kuska advised that the last SCHCC meeting was held on December 4, 2015. Matt Schwei spoke about active shooter incident in San Bernadino. Paul France did a short presentation on the Fusion Center, Rail Transport and Preparedness in Wisconsin and the "See Something, Say Something" campaign.
- Jon Meiman shared a presentation on the new DHS Ebola concept of operations overview. The discussion was about novel infections and emerging infectious diseases – how they should be handled. There are 2 hospitals that are regional admission hospitals, where

admittance and diagnosis are done. There are three additional hospitals that will treat those patients after admittance and diagnosis. Eventually, there will be a regional treatment hospital, at the University of Minnesota.

- There is a regional exercise scheduled for May regarding something similar to Ebola. It will be a large table top exercise. There is a planning meeting for the exercise in December.
- The SCHCC mini-grant program was introduced and will start to accept applications in the near future – other information will be forthcoming. \$157,000 is the funding available and is open to all organizations, with the exception of Public Health.
- Matt Schwei is looking for regional Hazard Vulnerability Assessment from all of the hospitals in the South Central region. A report compiling the top 5 hazards will be forthcoming in January 2016.
- A few other changes were discussed such as updating WIS-COM within all hospitals in as well as bed tracking changes within WI-track.
- Bob Swensarski added that Tim Weller, an agent from Homeland Security is available (free of charge) to come in and do a presentation about threat assessment for your facility.

State EMS Board Update

- Chair Knuth stated that Image Trend, the vendor for state data collection, is working on the Nemsys change from 2.0 to 3.0, as well as, working on changing from Field Bridge to Elite. There are some EMS services who are currently beta testing the Elite system.
- There have been changes to the billing codes from ICD-9 to ICD-10.
- The Education department is recommending eliminating the 6 hour mini-refresher course and testing required for EMT providers, by the next bi-annual. The board accepted the recommendation and now it moves on to the office.
- The Service Development Committee, in charge of the FAP funding program, is now allowing service providers accepting FAP funding to escrow their funding. They also have moved to accepting the FAP application and funding report in the E-licensing. Additionally, they are looking to start an electronic pay option, direct to the service. The committee was asked to look at the FAP funding and it's guidelines regarding only the EMT services and with the future goal of extending funding to the paramedics that may not have the EMT basics incorporated within their current services.
- The Service Development Committee has decided against being a part of REPLICA. REPLICA is a conglomerate of states that allow the EMT licensure levels to be approved in the reciprocating state, with the same training requirement, to practice within those states. Deputy Chief Joe Murray, said that Wisconsin did not want to participate because it took away some of the authority from the states and gave it to the REPLICA administrative oversight committee. The language that was passed in recent legislation mimics some of the REPLICA language and concept of mutual reciprocity.
- PSAP – Public Safety Access Points and EMS providers will be receiving a letter asking them to adopt Emergency Medical Dispatch templates for the various standard maladies. If a 911 center, for example, does not formally adopt an EMD protocol program, already, that they would accept and adopt the available templates being sent out.
- A bridge course is being developed for an EMR to EMT transition program for struggling EMS providers that may only have EMR's but need EMT's going forward.
- Another issue discussed was special events. Does a service provider from a different jurisdiction need an approval letter to operate outside their own jurisdiction for a special

event. As it stands now, if there was any questions regarding provision rules, the outside provider would simply step out. No conclusions have resulted from this discussion.

Membership – Election of Members

- Chair Knuth announced Chief Mary Beaver's resignation from the EMS Advisory Council. He stated that we are looking for new member nomination. The new member does not need to be from Evansville specifically and does not have to be from a particular EMS provider/field. Beth Natter stated that Evansville is now looking for new leadership for the recently vacated roll and that we may want to reach out to them once this has been completed to invite them to continue their participation in the EMS Advisory Council.

Agency Reports:

EMS Providers – Municipal and Private

- Deputy Chief Joe Murray stated that their EMS providers were given a tablet and running a beta test on a new patient tracking system, in Image Trend's decision to move away from the current patient tracking system.
- Chair Knuth announces that Paratech ambulance is the ground unit for UW and that they have recently replaced their old unit. The new unit has a better overall safety design, from forward facing seats for the caregivers in the back, better signal lights on the outside and better safety features for equipment storage, equipment placement on the inside, including hands-free and fire communications.
- Chief John Rindfleisch stated that they are continuing to work on Clinton's active shooter exercise. The next phase of exercise will incorporate more of the outside agencies and their involvement. Deputy Chief Joe Murray asked Chief Rindfleisch if their agency was using Rescue Task Force (RTF) training. Chief Rindfleisch affirmed that they had been trained for RTF response but that they did not currently have any of the appropriate equipment and would rely on other agencies until they had the equipment necessary to respond in-line with the RTF methodology. DC Murray responded that those needs might be met through the SCHCC's funding.
- Patrick Ryan stated that the new UW American center was up and running, and that Ryan Brother's ambulance has been regularly running transports through that new facility.
- The new Community Paramedic legislation has gone through several drafts and the senate side is still working with the current draft. The plan mirrors the Minnesota model, the primary care physician model. It has both the community paramedic and community EMT language included in order to accomplish, what is 7-8 pieces of Minnesota legislation, a single piece of legislation here in Wisconsin. Feedback from legislative stakeholders was to remove Medicaid language from the draft in order to get it moved forward. Rural hospitals did not like the clause that required a community paramedic to be part of an EMS service, they might like to employ their own community paramedics, so that language was changed. Most pushback has been from WHA, because they don't like the educational requirements. The community paramedic's moniker is being used across the state but the educational/training requirements are not universal. This legislation would provide a 300 hour training/education standard.

Communications Center

- No representatives were in attendance. No news reported.

Rock County Sheriff's Office – Emergency Management

- Sgt. Shena Kohler announced upcoming training. ICS/EOC interface training will be held at the Rock County EOC on January 12th and the two following days will be the G-775 EOC Operations course. This is available through the Wisconsin Emergency Management training portal.
- The Governor's Conference for Emergency Management will be on March 8 -10, 2016 and is available for sign-up through WEM's training portal. More news about the pre-conference training will be forthcoming. WEM will pick-up the pre-conference training lodging night, March 8th, if you attend the entire conference.

Blackhawk Technical College

- No representatives from Blackhawk Technical College were in attendance. Nothing to report.

Hospitals

- St. Mary's Janesville Hospital
 - Bob Swenarski stated that St. Mary's has ongoing construction for a new radiology/oncology center for a proposed opening in spring of next year.
 - Additionally, they have completed their level 3 Trauma Center, chest-pain re-certification. They are working on their Stroke certification next.
 - Parking lights have been installed in the garage in the ambulance bays, to help driver's see how far they can back in, using the green, yellow, red notification system.
 - St. Mary's recently completed a pediatric education course, as part of the hospital's continuing education training and will work on obstetrics emergency training in February.
- Mercy Hospital & Trauma Center
 - Beth Natter stated they are finishing up the Rescue Task Force training for Rock and Walworth counties.
 - The tactical training center continues to grow and is offering the TECC classes every other month in 2016.
 - As part of the merger with the Rockford Health System, approval for has been given to build a new referral hospital in Rockford.
 - I-99 training provided by Mercy for the Green county EMT group is ongoing, with an estimated completion date for fall of 2016 due to the part-time nature of the program.
- Beloit Memorial Hospital
 - Beloit Memorial's fourth floor cardiac center is under construction, which has resulted in the relocation of the many of the administrative and education offices.
 - Construction for North Pointe's ambulatory surgery center will begin as early as December and should be completed sometime next year.

o Edgerton Hospital & Health Services

- o Shelly McGuire stated that Edgerton has received their Trauma Center, level 4 designation and are currently putting together their Stroke Ready program for certification next year.

Fire and MABAS

- o Chief John Rindfleisch announced that the MABAS cards are done with the exception of one department. The cards should be ready for dissemination before January.

Clergy – CISM

- o Pastor Wagner stated that the CISM team has been busy within the last couple of months, Rock, Walworth and Green counties. They have been referred by 911, MD-1 as well as other agencies needing CISM teams.
- o Individual peer support, CISM training held in Ninah, WI on March 2-3 for anyone interested.
- o The Beloit Police Chaplains are participating in the Cop's Blue Light Support Law Enforcement, if you would like a blue light, they are asking for a \$5 donation for the lights.

Other Announcements:

- o There is a large-scale disaster exercise planned for June 5-9, involving Wisconsin Emergency Management, simulating a large scale tornado in the Fort McCoy and Volk Field area. There will be multiple activities and exercises throughout the 4 days for multi-agencies from around the area. They are looking for strike teams for our area for 72 hour deployments. More information will be forthcoming to the local EMS, Police and Fire agencies.
- o Bob Swenarski updated the council regarding the Hands-only CPR initiative for Rock County. The group is looking to get buy-in from the local Fire departments and EMS groups. The goal is to have more community members trained in hands-only CPR for better, out-of-hospital cardiac arrest resuscitation rates. The training for community members will be minimal and can be offered by non-certified instructors, using the American Heart Association's, training model.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 1:42 pm.

**The next meeting will be held on March 10, 2016
At Edgerton Hospital & Health Services, Edgerton.**

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Respectfully submitted,

Beth Kline
12-14-15