

Bayfield-Ashland Counties
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
January 6, 2022

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting of the Bayfield-Ashland Counties EMS Council was called to order by Brett Frierhood, Vice-President of the Council. Meeting was held via zoom.

MINUTES – *Motion made by Joe Schick, seconded by Lyn Cornelius, to accept the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.*

REGIONAL EMS COORDINATOR – Don Kimlicka reported on several issues:

- Social media site for the EMS Section both public and EMS providers being worked on.
- More staff working in the EMS Office:
 - Dan Williams – Rural Coordinator
 - Sadie Aldinger – Office staff
 - James Westover – Communications
- Resuming Town Hall meetings – being held the last Tuesday of the month
- FAP monies are coming.
- State meetings – need ongoing input from rural.
- Workgroup to develop that state EMS Plan. Workgroup participation is open to all stakeholders.
- DHS 110 continues to be reviewed.
- Working with Northwood Tech to offer a Service Director workshop.

Question related to Medicare/Medicaid program will be pushed to Jeff Phillips for review.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR – Jonathan Shultz discussed the following:

- COVID on the increase; PPE accordingly.
- Everyone in health care if frayed and tired.
- Minnesota side – ED divert no longer allowed in the Twin Cities; moving to northern regions. (No statute allows for diversion.)
- NAEMSP (National Association of EMS Physicians) Conference – will be in attendance. Participating on the Rural Health workgroup.
- Protocol group working to have the project completed the first quarter.

Question related to MMC/ER telling ambulance service they cannot bring patients there. Possible off-handed comment. ER will never refuse a patient.

Question related to expired glucagon, not available, on back order. Expired medication may still be lifesaving. Do what need to do and carefully document.

Question related to patients transported and then found to be positive at the hospital. Who notifies the ambulance service? No closing the loop communications.
Assume all patients have COVID.

NORTHWOOD TECH – Lyn Cornelius reported there are 55 candidates for EMR/EMT in the district – 21 in Ashland.

MMC – No report.

FINANCIAL – Steve Cordes reported there has been no activity since the last meeting.

Balance - \$16,292.57.

Dues invoices will go out in February.

Motion made by Jeff Bellile, seconded by Mike Lang, to accept the Financial Report. Motion carried.

WISCOM – Jan Victorson reported that the RFP (Request for Proposal) has gone out for WISCOM as an 800 MHz system. The next committee meeting is January 26th. Please forward any questions or concerns to her for that meeting.

STATE EMS ADVISORY BOARD – The EMS Board met December 7th and 8th. The public comment period before the meeting on December 8th was the largest ever. Although only 20 folks spoke, it seemed like 100. The board was overwhelmed and heard a consistent message about rural issues – flexibility in training, stop scope creep, training hours are killing local services, etc. I detailed time and distance realities in rural areas comparing our service areas to the size of five counties in Wisconsin. We need to keep speaking up in these forums.

COAD PROJECT – Jan is working with the NWWI HERC (Health Emergency Readiness Coalition) on a project to identify community groups who could perform a role in disaster readiness and/or response.

Discussion about education as to how best to augment what is already in place

BA AD HOC EMS COMMITTEE – Directors who were present at the December meeting shared reflections. Consensus that a couple of eyes were opened, no comprehension as to what the EMS system entails, very beneficial. Great presentations by service representatives. To be continued at the January meeting as three services were involved responding to a seven victim transportation

incident. The goal of the committee continues to be identifying common issues and approach local jurisdictions, state office and legislators with a unified, uniform voice.

CMS – Ashland, Barnes, Bayfield, Mason, Red Cliff, and South Shore identified they are among the chosen to participate in supplying 43 pages of data related to Medicare/Medicaid. Is there a way for services to help one another with this project?

NORTH AIR – Nothing new.

BA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Meagan Quaderer reported on several issues:

- Introduced Matt Sherrard, the one male voice heard from the PSAP/Dispatch.
- Reminder that only one dispatcher on; radio etiquette including brevity of message, is important.
- Newsletter for emergency services to enable communications among all agencies is being developed. Consensus to consider quarterly availability.
- Map Booklet is under development almost ready for print.
- N95/KN95 masks available.
- USNG – first training held. Agencies openly excited with no negative feedback. Land Records is working on locating access points to trail locations. Additional training will be coming.'

Red Cliff has a supply of Moldex N95 that could be made available to another service. Ashland volunteered to take them.

FIT TESTING – Red Cliff, Iron River and Washburn do there on fit testing. U-tube video training available.

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, February 3rd via zoom.

Motion made by Jeff Bellile, seconded by Mike Lang, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

IN ATTENDANCE

Brooke Ahlers	Life Link III
Jeff Bellile	Washburn
Kurt Blakeman	Marengo
Jeff Byerhof	South Shore
Sherry Carlson	MMC / Washburn
Steve Cordes	Mason

Lyn Cornelius	Bayfield
Brett Frierhood	Barnes
Ted Gostomski	Washburn
Matt Jakubik	North Air
Don Kimlicka	WI EMS Region Coordinator
Michael Lang	Red Cliff
Stuart Matthias	Ashland
Adam Olson	Iron River
Chris Pribek	Ashland
Rob Puls	Great Divide
Meagan Quaderer	BAEM
Joe Schick	Mason
Matt Sherrard	BA PSAP
Jonathan Shultz	Medical Director
Jan Victorson	Iron River
Jewel Yanko	Mellen

Minutes submitted by Jan Victorson, Secretary.