

**ROCK COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Thursday, March 12, 2014
Edgerton Hospital & Health Services – 12:30 pm

MINUTES

Members Present:

Chair Larry Knuth, Barb Kuska, Beth Natter, Pastor Bill Wagner, Deputy Chief Jim Ponkauskas, Chief Mary Beaver, Deputy Chief Joe Murray, Shelly McGuire, Kathy Dobson (alternate), Cindy Kirby (alternate), Chris Wistrom, D.O. (alternate) Jon Van Roo, M.D., Robert Swenarski, David Peterson (alternate) and Nicole Kovarik (alternate).

Members Absent:

Chief Gene Wright, Supervisor Terry Fell, Kathren Sukus, Dr. Jay MacNeal, M.D., Medical Director, Gene Wright, Deputy Chief Peter Mory, Steve Ryan, Tyler Curtis, Sergeant Shena Kohler, Eric Severson and Chief John Rindfleisch.

Guests:

Rick Barney, M.D., Evansville EMS, Jason Steinke, St. Mary's Hospital, Janesville, Barry Irmen, Director of Ops. Medical Examiner's office, Patrick Ryan – Ryan Brother's Ambulance, Cori Marsh – ADRC.

Call to Order:

Chair Larry Knuth called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM. He asked the attendees to introduce themselves.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Robert Swenarski and seconded by Chief Joe Murray to approve the March 12, 2015 agenda. Motion carried.

Reading & Approval of Past Minutes:

Motion by Barb Kuska and seconded by Pastor Bill Wagner to waive the reading of and approve the minutes for December 11, 2014. Motion carried.

Old/Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

Hospital Preparedness Update

- Barb Kuska advised that Region 5 met on February 17th, in Madison. Hospitals have been mandated to move to Health Care coalitions by July 1, 2015. The committee is working on hiring a Coalition coordinator for help in forming the new coalition, hiring a new medical advisor and also looking for a new RTAC coordinator. Everyone is welcome to attend but the committee is looking to form a smaller governing body.
- A tabletop is scheduled for some time in May.
- Chief Joe Murray stated that EMS was underrepresented in the committee forming the coalition and felt strongly that EMS should be involved/have a voice, especially in regards to future grant opportunities.

State EMS Board Update

- Chair Knuth advised that PAC met on March 4th. PAC met to unanimously recommend nitrous oxide for ambulance services at the EMT-Intermediate Tech level and higher. PAC and the EMS office are currently working on a best practices document before any approval is given to current ambulance service
- Chair Knuth advised that PAC is recommending replacing RSI with Paralytic Assisted Airway that can be administered by two airway trained providers, of which one must be a paramedic. Additionally, PAC recommended all new intubating ambulance services have wave form ET_{CO}₂ capabilities and all existing intubating services must have it by 2021.

Membership – Election of Members

- The resolution for the County Medical Examiner's Office membership to the EMS Advisory Council has been submitted and will be voted on during the next PS & J board meeting.

Agency Reports:

EMS Providers – Municipal and Private

- Chief Joe Murray voiced his concerns on the Mutual Aid/MABAS C out of state providers having issues because of licensing requirements. There are concerns about the providers, providing service over the state border because of a lack in certification (required by the state requesting aid). IL service providers in particular will not become Nationally Certified because they lack the funding. Chief Murray stated that he will continue to pursue this matter and work with the appropriate legislative bodies to resolve this issue. Patrick Ryan volunteered to help speak to Legislatures regarding this concern as well.
- Patrick Ryan advised that members of their group have attended clinics and training to become a billable provider, in particular, in regards to care coordination with other community paramedics, EMT and fire services. Chief Murray responded that DHS won't support this type of payment through Medicaid, stated in agreement that there was a definite gap in the number of Home Health Care providers, those who do not

qualify for Home Health Care and those who need services. Chief Murray stated that re-admission rates are going to be a problem for hospitals in the future and agreed with Patrick Ryan that EMS could be the providers to assist in resolving this issue. Federal funding would need to be resolved.

Communications Center

- Brian Becker was not in attendance, however, Dr. Chris Wistrom advised that Edgerton's Communications tower is up and running. CALEA certification evaluators will be in March 24th.

Rock County Sheriff's Office – Emergency Management

- No announcements at this time. (Sgt. Kohler was not in attendance)

Blackhawk Technical College

- David Peterson disseminated a new EMS/Fire course offerings list for Summer & Fall 2015 – Spring 2016. Stated briefly that the EMS class has been split over two semesters, as that seems to be a more practical schedule for students taking more than one EMS and/or Fire training class at one time.

Hospitals

- St. Mary's Janesville Hospital
 - Dr. Van Roo introduced Jason Steinke Emergency Department Director and advised that St. Mary's will have a Chest Pain Accreditation site visit at the end of April.
 - Robert Swenarski advised that the Ebola drill done with Janesville Fire Department was not without its challenges but overall went well.
- Mercy Hospital & Trauma Center
 - Beth Natter stated that the nursing simulation lab is now open and is being utilized by all departments for their hands on training.
 - Dr. Chris Wistrom stated that classes and training are up and running well and that Rick Barney has returned.
 - Casualty care is continuing its work on an aggressive plan for the first 30 minutes. Looking at possible replacement of combitubes with i-gels down the road.
- Beloit Memorial Hospital
 - The hospital in conjunction with Beloit Fire and Police Department will be conducting a disaster drill on April 28th.

- The hospital continues to work on their school kits. The roll-out for teacher training and distribution of kits is scheduled for this fall. Merrill, has been chosen as the pilot school for this training and equipment.
- Edgerton Hospital & Health Services
 - Shelly McGuire stated that the volumes have been picking up, they have hired a new director of nursing, Matt Clemens, and that recruitment for the new CEO is winding down.
 - Have hired many new board certified staff in the continuing efforts to support Hospice and ER services. Additionally, the hospital is working towards providing Telemedicine in the future. (Partial information provided by Jim Schultz – Interim CEO during introductions).

Fire and MABAS

- Chief Joe Murray advised that the new MABAS cards for 2015 have been distributed and went into effect January 1st.

Clergy – CISM

- Pastor Wagner advised that he recently returned from a Police Chaplain training held in Ft. Wayne, IN. Basic and Peer CISM will be offered as a three day class in Beloit, May 21-23. There will be an Essentials of Fire Chaplaincy class offered in Effingham IL April 30 - May 1 and at the Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association pre-conference in Milwaukee June 25-26. Additionally, there will be a Mass Casualty Chaplain training April 1, in Beloit.

Other Announcements:

Cori Marsh, Dementia Care Specialist, from the Aging & Disability Resource Center came and presented briefly the services/training provided regarding basic information about Alzheimer's disease. This training is provided free of cost and partners with community agencies and facilities to provide the needed education and outreach.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Chief Mary Beaver and seconded by Chief Joe Murray to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:40 pm.

**The next meeting will be held on June 11, 2015
at Mercy EMS Health Center.**

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Respectfully submitted,

Beth Kline
03-16-15