

**ROCK COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Thursday, September 09, 2021  
Zoom Conference Call – 12:30 pm

**MINUTES**

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**Members Present:**

Sgt. Shena Kohler, Chief Jamie Kessenich, Chief Jim Ponkauskas, Robert Swenarski, Lt. Addison Sennett, Alison Hanaman, Brian Becker, Curt Fell, Erin Ryan, Rob Balsamo, Michael Niles, Deputy Chief Joe Murray, Dr. John Aguilar.

**Call to Order:**

Chair Joe Murray called the meeting to order at 12:34 PM.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Motion was made Interim Chief Ponkauskas and seconded by Robert Swenarski to approve the September 09, 2021 agenda. Motion carried.

**Reading & Approval of Past Minutes:**

Motion was made Robert Swenarski and seconded by Rob Balsamo to approve the June 10, 2021 minutes. Motion carried.

**Old/Unfinished Business:**

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup> Terrorist Attack- Chair Murray discussed a ceremony taking place at Town of Beloit fire station #2 at 9:00a on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Chief Ponkauskas reported there will also be a ceremony taking place at Firehouse Park in Janesville at 8:00a.

**New Business:**

Sgt. Shena Kohler went through expiring memberships indicating the following positions up for renewal: Chief Jamie Kessenich, Dr. Jay MacNeal, Jodi Moyer, Deputy Chief Peter Mory, Deputy Chief Joe Murray, and reported one hospital and one licensed ambulance membership vacancy. Chief Jamie Kessenich and Deputy Chief Joe Murray both advised they would like to renew and continue their membership. Sgt. Shena Kohler will reach out to those not represent at today's meeting.

**Agency Reports:**

**State EMS Board Update**

Deputy Chief Joe Murray discussed the board is working on DHS-10 changes along with updates to statewide EMS protocols.

**EMS Providers – Municipal and Private**

- Chief Jamie Kessenich, Evansville, reported no updates.
- Chief Jim Ponkauskas, Janesville, discussed placing a fifth ambulance into service around the first of the year.
- Lt. Addison Sennett, Town of Beloit, discussed newly added staff and upcoming delivery of their new ambulance.
- Michael Adams, Ryan Brothers, discussed the arrival of a new ICU ambulance.
- Deputy Chief Joe Murray, City of Beloit, discussed the continuation of their mobile COVID 19 vaccination clinics.

### **Fire and MABAS**

- Deputy Chief Joe Murray discussed the County Fire Officers Association are working on standard operating guidelines. He also advised state fire chiefs are looking for input on Wisconsin Task Force 1 funding that should be coming available.

### **Hospitals, Clinics, and Health Department**

- Bob Swenarski from SSM Health St. Mary's Janesville discussed upcoming EMS education on pre-hospital cardiac care and reported they have been very busy with both COVID and non-COVID patients.
- Alison Hanaman from Edgerton Hospital reported their emergency room staff have recently completed ride-a-longs with Edgerton Fire. She also discussed they are also seeing an increase of patients.

### **Rock County 911 Communications Center**

- Brian Becker reported no updates.

### **Rock County Sheriff's Office – Emergency Management**

- Sgt. Shena Kohler reported emergency management is performing updates to Annex H of the Rock County Emergency Plan and will be sending to signatories shortly for review. She also discussed the EOC still has PPE available to those in need. Discussion ensued regarding support needed for agencies in the current fight against COVID-19.

### **Blackhawk Technical College**

- Rob Balsamo discussed clinicals starting in two weeks and ongoing construction at their facility.

### **Wisconsin Healthcare Coalition**

- Robert Swenarski reported the coalition is putting together a meeting for an ongoing after-action report for COVID. He also discussed the coalition is considering being the central hub for hospitals to find beds for patients.

### **Rock County Public Health**

- Michael Niles discussed current data metrics in regard to COVID. He reported that the county has completed a milestone recently of achieving 50% of the county population is now vaccinated. He also discussed upcoming flu/covid vaccination clinics. He also explained that public health is also looking at community COVID testing possibilities.

### **Public Input:**

None.

### **Other Announcements:**

None.

### **Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Chief Ponkauskas and seconded by Robert Swenarski to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:17pm.

**The next meeting will be held on December 9, 2021  
via Zoom conference call.**