

**ROCK COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Thursday, September 12, 2013 – St. Mary's Janesville Hospital

~ *MINUTES* ~

Members Present: Chair Larry Knuth, Chief Mary Beaver, Asst. Chief Zachory Beaver, Lt. Kent Shea, alternate for Deputy Chief Gerry Luiting, Brian Becker, alternate for Kathren Sukes, Beth Natter, Barb Kuska, Pastor Bill Wagner, Deputy Chief Joe Murray, Shelly McGuire, Dr. Jay MacNeal, alternate for Dr. Michael Kellum; Ivan Collins, Steve Ryan and Dr. Franz Keilhauer.

Members Absent: Sergeant Shena Kohler, Captain Gary Groelle, Deputy Chief Gerry Luiting, Kathren Sukes, Brennon Ruosch, Eric Severson, Chief Loren Lippincott, Dr. Michael Kellum, Chief John Rindfleisch and Rob Lulling.

Guests: Robert Swenarski and Kim Kempken, St. Mary's Janesville Hospital; Patrick Ryan, Ryan Brothers Ambulance; David Peterson and Gene Wright, Blackhawk Technical College; Chief Deputy Peter Mory, Milton Fire Department;

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

Approval of Agenda: Motion was made by Deputy Chief Murray and seconded by Mary Beaver to approve the March 14, 2013 agenda. Motion carried.

Reading & Approval of Past Minutes: Motion by Pastor Wagner and seconded by Shelly McGuire to waive the reading and approve the minutes of March 14, 2013. Motion carried.

Old/Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

◆ **Hospital Preparedness Update –**

- Barb Kuska advised the Council the Wisconsin Hospital Emergency Preparedness Program Meeting was held August 2, 2013 at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison. The Federal Preparedness Grant Application is due on October 31, 2013 whereby hospitals would be eligible for \$10,000.
- WISCOM – Radios have been installed but there is no capacity of talking on them and there has been no training as of yet.
- WI-TRAC communication system has been changed over to a new vendor. Inter-Medic will now be used.
- There will be a Train the Trainer October 8, 2013 in Dodgeville at the Iowa County Courthouse. There is some other training being held on September 26, 2013 in Madison.

◆ **State EMS Board Update**

- Chair Knuth advised the State EMS Board meets but the Committees do not meet. They did elect a new Chair, Jerry Biggart and the Vice Chair is Mark Frederickson. At the working meeting, the Board reviewed the rules. Anyone interested in being elected to one of the Committees should go on the state website to complete an online application for the October Board Meeting. Call-in participation will continue instead of travel.

◆ **Membership – Election of Members**

There was discussion regarding membership changes. From City of Milton Fire Department, Deputy Chief Peter Mory will replace Chief Loren Lippincott as an EMS member with Chief Lippincott being Deputy Chief Mory's alternate. Brennon Ruosch, City of Edgerton Fire Department, will replace David Fonder as an EMS member with Cindy Kirby being his alternate, and Gene Wright, Blackhawk Technical College will be an EMS member with David Peterson as his alternate, replacing Gary Schenck. Kent Shea made a motion to approve the 2013 nominations, seconded by Barb Kuska.

Agency Reports:

◆ **EMS Providers**

Ryan Brothers Ambulance - Patrick Ryan advised they covered Iron Man Wisconsin on Sunday, September 8, 2013. Refreshers for EMS are currently being done.

The State of Wisconsin has a new non-emergency broker. Hospitals can call providers directly and most are signing on. Larry indicated there was a gap between MTM (Medical Transportation Manager) versus what is covered in Forward Health.

- Orfordville Fire Department – Steve Ryan advised there are two interns at the present time and they are looking to add a third intern in January.
- City of Milton Fire Department - Deputy Chief Peter Mory stated they put a LUCAS machine in service.
- City of Beloit Fire Department - Deputy Chief Joe Murray advised that they added five new personnel in July through a grant. A new ambulance is coming September 13, 2013. All four ambulances will have power load services. Two new LUCAS devices donated from Mercy Hospital have been added.
- City of Evansville – EMS – Asst. Chief Zac Beaver advised they completed Evansville Night Out in mid-August. They are hosting Rock County National Night Out in 2014.
- City of Janesville Fire Department – Lt. Shea advised they received a new LUCAS device thanks to Mercy Hospital. They have implemented a new response vehicle and is in its trial phase. It is a 4-door pickup with the same EMS equipment as is on the engines.

Transfers from Mercy North to Mercy Main are going quite well. They are looking at new ambulances.

Paramedics are coming along well with their training.

Kent further stated there are dispatch problems with MDT's (mobile data terminals), radio terminals and connectivity. They believe there may be a couple of towers that are skipping.

- Town of Beloit Fire Department – Assistant Chief Gene Wright advised that Chief Dennis Ahrens retired last month. They anticipate it will be the first of the year before filling the position.

They are finishing up on a feasibility study to move to paramedics starting with the part-time pool. He indicated that it should be ready to go by the first of the year.

- Paratech Ambulance - Chair Knuth advised a first responder was added working with Community Rescue Squads. Paratech will be offering first responder training if the interest is there.

Communications Center

- Brian Becker advised as far as radio structure, they are still going through the budgeting process. He advised Station 4 was having problems with a Milton tower. He said hopefully the repeater issue was addressed in Janesville. Discussion ensued regarding Paramedic Intercept and all agencies have been signed on except for Edgerton. This is only when CPR is actually in progress.

◆ Rock County Sheriff's Office – Nothing to Report.

◆ Blackhawk Technical College

- David Peterson introduced himself. He is the Fire and EMS Coordinator for Blackhawk Technical College filling Gary Schenck's position. He distributed course offerings for spring 2014. He indicated that he heard there weren't a lot of refresher courses and would be happy to get feedback regarding refresher courses.

He stated Blackhawk Technical College is working with Mercy's paramedic degree program accepting Mercy paramedic students. They are offering Paramedic and Fire Paramedic Degrees in addition to their paramedic certificates. There is a question if any paramedic certificate will be accepted. That will be decided in the near future. It is a two year degree and no one else in the State of Wisconsin is offering this type of program.

Regarding the Fire Medic Degree, Blackhawk Technical College is offering 4th year students internship opportunities. He would like to see internships that operate under fire departments with 24-hour shifts and would give them EMS and fire experience as well. Student health care and liability coverage should be wrapped up by the end of this year. There will be a \$6.00 charge for this insurance. .

He spoke about "Chief's Chats". That would entail speakers to appear around districts to speak to emergency medical services and fire. On October 24, 2013 in

Brodhead, the first speaker will be retired Battalion Chief from Madison. The one hour presentation will be in an informal setting.

They are also planning on having a national speaker in February. That will be through the Rock County Fire Officers Association.

◆ **Hospitals -**

- St. Mary's Janesville Hospital – Robert Swenarski, Emergency Preparedness Administrator, advised St. Mary's Janesville Hospital has achieved Level III Trauma Destination.

Working with Blackhawk Technical College, St. Mary's Janesville Hospital is now a clinical site for EMS students. Students are more than welcome to come to St. Mary's.

St. Mary's now has a TVI decon tent and staff as well. There are 23 people at the operations level at present. St. Mary's next goal is chest pain accreditation.

- Beloit Memorial Hospital – Barb Kuska stated her role at Beloit Memorial Hospital has changed. She is still the EMS Coordinator for Beloit Memorial Hospital and is working with Mercy Hospital regarding training for outlying EMS services.

The hospital has a LUCAS cooling device in the Emergency Department and the 24 / 7 Cath Lab is now open. There is a committee working on Beloit Memorial Hospital becoming a stroke center.

The hospital finished up Level III trauma certification. They have not received their official letter as yet. Barb stated she was told unofficially Beloit Memorial Hospital has been approved.

- Mercy Hospital – Beth Natter advised Phase I training center expansion finished last May. Phase 2 portion should be done by year end. In January, 2014, Mercy Hospital will start their part time and full time paramedic program, applications are on line. Mercy is formally accredited.

Dr. MacNeal advised that Mercy Hospital also has LUCAS devices available throughout the County and will also start cooling patients pre-hospital very soon.

He also advised the Destination Determination Protocol assures that patients have the ultimate decision on a hospital destination but also be taken to the most appropriate facility. State Trauma Field Triage protocol was also set up with those same requirements in mind. Dr. MacNeal stated it does all come down to patient preference. He indicated all of the protocols will be rewritten in February or March.

There was discussion on critical pediatric patients. Dr. MacNeal indicated that if a patient is critical, they should be stabilized but then taken to a pediatric trauma center.

He stated research shows that children under the age of 15 should go to a pediatric trauma center. Further discussion ensued.

- Edgerton Hospital and Health Services – Shelly McGuire advised they had received TJC (Joint Commission) certification in addition to state certification. They have also added the services of 3 pulmonologists and a full service pulmonary function lab testing facility.

◆ **M.A.B.A.S. - Fire**

- Deputy Chief Murray stated that MABAS cards are being updated. He said that those who have cards update them and get them turned back in by the November 12th meeting.

Zac Beaver stated the MABAS Group is looking for more members to go through the cards. There will be a meeting on September 24, 2013, 4:00 PM, at the Town of Beloit Fire Department. He is asking anyone who is interested, please attend.

Clery – CISM –

- Pastor Wagner announced a Suicide Prevention Grant was received for program trainers. The Grant will cover the cost of the training. There are 11 new chaplains out of Fire Chaplain training last June. There are approximately 30 chaplains trained throughout the state.

He stated there are a lot of opportunities for classroom training for chaplains but not a lot of opportunities for scenarios. Pastor Wagner asked to be notified if anyone is doing any training that these chaplains could become involved in to gain experience to see how things work. Kent Shea stated that Brodhead was doing a full scale disaster on October 5, 2013.

Pastor Wager further advised they attended MABAS training in Wausau and encouraged meetings with chaplains. They also met with a group of chaplains in Winnebago County. The goal is to build a chaplain unit or corp across the border just as MABAS does.

Other Announcements – Brian Becker stated there were some problems with old Highway 26 in that roads were renamed and there was some confusion finding these addresses. 911 Communications is forwarding maps to local agencies.

Chair Knuth announced a golf outing at the Sharon Fire Department Saturday, September 21, 2013. He also announced the Star of Life has 13 stars that will be honored at the September 25, 2013 conference. He stated it is important to recognize members.

Beth announced a South Central Regional Trauma Advisory Council meeting on November 7, 2013. She will forward information. This is for any agency in the State of Wisconsin.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Chief Deputy Murray and seconded by Pastor Wagner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.

The next meeting will be held December 12, 2013 at Beloit Health System.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Klipstein