

Bayfield-Ashland Counties
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
October 23, 2008

The October meeting of the Bayfield-Ashland Counties EMS Council was called to order by Gary Victorson, Vice President of the Council. The meeting was held in the Twin Island meetings rooms of Memorial Medical Center, Ashland.

MINUTES – *Motion made by Teresa Gunderson, seconded by Lyn Cornelius, to approve the August minutes as distributed. Motion carried.*

Motion made by Teresa Gunderson, seconded by Mary Ross to approve the September minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT – Steve Cordes reported a balance of \$2,763.62 at present. A check of \$19.82, the quarterly rebate based on member purchases, has been received from NCEMSC (North Central EMS Cooperative).

Motion made by Teresa Gunderson, seconded by Mary Ross, to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

MDAC – Gary Victorson reported that the Medical Director Advisory Committee (MDAC) is getting close to having a final document. They reviewed the MCI policy for wording changes before the Council meeting. The reformatting continues with the commitment to provide the document at the next meeting.

RTAC – Jan Victorson reported on the Lake Superior Regional Trauma Advisory Council (RTAC) meeting. The current objectives outlined by the state were reviewed with brainstorming as to how best to accomplish those objectives during this contract year.

Jan also reviewed the current Lake Superior Regional Trauma Advisory Council (RTAC) injury prevention and education project related to distribution of high visibility vests for public safety responders. These vests meet both the new federal standard as well as the public safety standard. They are available for distribution after the meeting – two vests per service with educational materials to use with service membership.

Discussion about doing a bulk purchase for services. Jan will do an email to service directors asking if they are interested in purchasing vests, how many, color and size. Douglas County is Vacationland Fire Association is also considering a mass purchase effort. We may be able to combine efforts for an even better price.

Merrilee Carlson reviewed statistics from the RTAC based on information compiled by hospitals in the region. Minutes from the May 2008 Performance Improvement Committee meeting documenting that information are available.

FAP FUNDING – Jan reported that the state EMS Board was pleased that over 160 ambulance services had responded to the Funding Assistance Program (FAP) survey. The surveys indicated that 40+ persons were not allowed to be trained as EMTs due to funding shortfalls locally. She urged services to fill out the survey if they have not already done so.

SPECIAL EVENTS – Local events, Apple Festival and Whistlestop were pretty uneventful. Help was provided from throughout the area. Thank you to all.

SYSTEM ISSUES – Tom Walters reported that he was not familiar with any changes in policies related to intercepts. He was aware that their Medical Director has requested additional documentation when an intercept is cancelled. Information could be provided via radio as to reason for cancellation. In addition, Ashland Fire is committed to having representation at the Council meetings.

Discussion about intercepts continued with concerns expressed that EMT skills are not being recognized. All of us are in the business to improve patient outcomes.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Jan distributed pictometry information and a memo written by Mark Abeles-Allison. This pictometry grant project involved four counties – Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas and Washburn. She asked the membership to consider possible benefits and uses within the EMS field. She will update the Council as the project continues.

HELICOPTER – The Lukes ONE helicopter program is being terminated sometime mid-November. Hibbing is the new location for Life Link III. SMDC/Lifeflight is aware that they may be doing more scene flights in order to fill the needs of the region. They are committed to conducting training, landing zone as well as clinical, to providers in the area. Ed Hofstrand asked services to consider what kind of training needs they have and let them know.

RADIO REPORT SHEET – Merrilee will check on the availability of the short radio report reminder form.

RUN FORMS – Mason has developed a run form that is a copy of the current state form on one side with signature sheets and narrative on the other. If others would like to use the form the service name could be removed and a bulk printing could be done.

Merrilee distributed an EMS field sheet that can be used as well. They are available at MMC.

MDAC ELECTION – Gary reviewed the elected members of MDAC – currently Ron Brendalen, Steve Cordes, Chuck Elton, Tam Hofman and Gary Victorson. Others on the committee include the WITC, MMC and ALS provider currently Ashland Fire. All EMT members are willing to continue serving except for Chuck Elton who has retired from Washburn Ambulance.

Motion made by Teresa Gunderson, seconded by Mary Ross, to elect Lyn Cornelius to fill the vacancy on the MDAC. Motion carried.

Motion made by Teresa Gunderson, seconded by Mary Ross, to maintain the other four EMT members of MDAC. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for the first Thursday in December – 7:00 PM, Thursday, December 4th at MMC.

ADJOURNMENT – *Motion made by Teresa Gunderson, seconded by Mary Ross, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.*

Jan Victorson and Keith Kesler, Douglas County Emergency Management, delivered the “Rural Is...” presentation as presented to the state EMS Board at their August meeting.

IN ATTENDANCE

Merrilee Carlson	MMC/Ashland
Steve Cordes	Mason
Lyn Cornelius	Bayfield
Jim Dahlstrom	APIS
Robin Frierhood	Barnes
Viola Frierhood	Barnes
Teresa Gunderson	Mason
Tam Hofman	South Shore
Ed Hofstrand	SMDC/Lifeflight
Mary Ross	Madeline Island
Gary Victorson	Iron River
Jan Victorson	BAEM
Tom Walters	Ashland