

Bayfield-Ashland Counties  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 5, 2020

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

## MINUTES

*Erika Kurtz, made the motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Lyn Cornelius. Motion carried.*

FINANCIAL REPORT – Steve Cordes sent a report.

Income:

- \$950 received from Red Cliff/dues
- \$108 cash for taxi fare

No expenses:

- \$15,190 Balance

*Motion by Lyn Cornelius, second by Erika Kurtz, to accept the Financial Report. Motion carried.*

BUDGET – Reviewed.

Motion by Lyn Cornelius, seconded by Cynthia Dalzell, to accept the budget as proposed. Motion carried.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR – Jonathan Shultz was asked about PPE. Donning full PPE - masks, eye protection, gowns not necessarily N95 respirators – on all calls. N95 most appropriate when doing airway management, during CPR, nebulizer treatments, etc.

Things are heating up – hospitals are full everywhere. Doc suggests doing a Zoom call for directors again could be beneficial.

Doc working with Ashland Fire drafting COVID resuscitation protocol. Stop working cardiac arrests that are non-salvageable. Assess if patient has short down time, immediate CPR started, etc. with exceptions for kids.

Started by first responder, continued during ambulance transport – ALS may stop resuscitation during transport based on information received. Protocol will be coming out shortly. Hope to get approval from the state quickly.

Question: Doc was asked about diversion. Service told when paged to a 9-1-1 call by Dispatch that MMC was not taking positive COVID patients. Unless a hospital declares ED divert, 9-1-1 patients

should be brought to the closest/appropriate hospital.

Access to St Lukes – key fobs for garage and entry into ED were sent in the mail.

EMS should never pick and choose to respond to calls based on certain type of patient or condition. Dispatch received a call from MMC; not taking COVID patients being researched.

## MMC

Erika reported:

- Positive cases in the hospital; finding ICU beds is difficult due to number of critical patients.
  - Record testing – 70 per day. 17.2% positive rate. State at 15% positive.
  - Multiple HERC calls – EMS call planned for next week. Interfacility transfers – stress in EMS – quarantine – etc. Trying to assist EMS with issues.
  - MN two weeks behind in COVID numbers.
  - Testing for EMS – Health Department will send order for testing to MMC; exposure for COVID requires four to five days for viral load to occur; may be tested sooner if symptoms; may repeat test at day 11.
  - Trauma reviews will begin again for those who transport to MMC including performance improvement – 20-minute scene time, repeat vital signs, GCS, evaluate interventions. If unable to meet those performance measures, document why not in report.
  - Cover needs to be put on the linen cart in garage to discourage contamination.
  - The van will be parked outside the garage.
- Question: Clarification of exposure – not wearing proper PPE during transport of positive COVID patient. Encourage wearing PPE on all runs.

## HEMS:

LIFELINK III – Nikki Uren from Life Link III. Brooke and Lucas were unable to attend. No news.

LifeLinkIII is transporting COVID positive patients. WISCOM talk group a preference for communications.

NORTH AIR CARE – Matt Jakubik nothing new; sent virtual hugs to everyone.

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Jan Victorson reported:

- COVID continues to be spread throughout our communities. Example: At our last meeting I reported that Bayfield County had 100 positive cases. We are now well over 300 cases, 342 to be exact; Ashland County is reporting 350 cases. 8% of Bayfield County residents tested are positive for COVID-19.

- COVID testing sites: The next testing in the area will be this Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Red Cliff Health Clinic.
- PPE – EM filed a request for PPE yesterday – due for delivery next Wednesday. We are being asked to submit another order next Wednesday in order to develop a schedule that does not conflict with upcoming holidays.
- ERGs have arrived. Please remind me when you pick up PPE to include books for your department. I am trying to develop a review sheet to assist in relearning how to use the ERG as a tool in a hazardous materials incident, especially related to transportation.
- R2R – working with local jurisdictions encouraging expenditure of funds or assignment to neighboring jurisdictions including Bayfield County.
- Emergency Map Book in development. Please offer input on things that will make it better. Landing zone locations will need to be reviewed.
- Trail marking – bike and ski trails; using address system to assign markers.
- Committee (Lyn, Tam, Jeff and Jan) to discuss hours of training met. A letter is in development.

BA PSAP – Meagan Quaderer reminded folks that in situations that involve several agencies, the dispatcher will take directions from the declared Incident Commander.

HEMS requested please identify the helicopter service you wish to respond. Both North and Life Link III will communicate with each other to find a closer helicopter as necessary.

New 9-1-1 equipment in the works.

Testing on Rip-n-Run. Contact email will be needed for each service. Location, comment, narrative info may be forwarded to that email. Hope to get it working after first of the year.

Telephone CPR grants extended for a year. Hope to have training for Dispatchers June of next year.

Contact Meagan with any questions –

[mquaderer@bayfieldcounty.org](mailto:mquaderer@bayfieldcounty.org).

#### BACK-UP/COVERAGE AGREEMENT –

Discussion. Proposed changes.

Additional changes will be made and forwarded to service directors. Ask services if willing to sign.

Delete names from the agreement if not.

EMS in crisis situation. EMT family members no longer supportive / don't want provider to bring the virus home.

Question for ongoing discussion: border issues; service available – not neighboring – okay to call dispatch and offer services?

Discussion. Outside assistance welcomed by other services.

Doc – Approaching crisis standards of care – doing the right thing for the patient at the time.

If service member listening to radio, hears page, and knows they are unable staff, please let dispatch know in order to expedite a response.

ASHLAND COUNTY EMS – Great Divide cannot find people to work, no longer able to staff to service additional communities in Ashland County. Putting all their resources into the Cable area.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6:00 pm via zoom.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Lyn Cornelius, seconded by Erika Kurtz, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Jeff Byerhof	South Shore
Lyn Cornelius	Bayfield
Dan Clark	Washburn
Cynthia Dalzell	Madeline Island
Brett Frierhood	Barnes
Tam Hofman	APIS / South Shore
Erika Kurtz	MMC/Ashland
Stuart Matthias	Ashland
Rob Puls	Great Divide
Meagan Quaderer	BA PSAP
Joe Schick	Mason
Jonathan Shultz	Medical Director
Nikki Uren	Life Link III
Jan Victorson	BAEM / Iron River
?	Mystery Guest