

Bayfield-Ashland Counties
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
January 7, 2021

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

Motion made by Dan Clark, seconded by Lyn Cornelius, to accept the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

NO FINANCIAL REPORT

EMS VACCINE – Don Kimlicka, Regional Coordinator state EMS, reported on a meeting WEMSA held reviewing how EMS providers could obtain the vaccine. It appears EMS providers are getting vaccine earlier in this region than other areas of the state.

TOWN OF MARENGO – Don is working with Town of Marengo to establish an ambulance service. At this point they have no ambulance service.

REPORTS

MMC – Erika Kurtz reported:

- COVID-19 vaccine being given to Ashland County EMS providers.
- Tara Klevgard is doing trauma reviews. As they are completed they are being sent out to services.
- Matt Jakubik mentioned an audit of landing zones at hospitals. He will forward to Erika.
- Trauma registry questions – email Emma Brown at the EMS Office.

NORTH AIR

Matt Jakubik reported they have transported 400 COVID positive patients with no issues with staff. PPE works.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR – Dr. Shultz signed on and asked if any questions for him.

- Question about key fob for St. Luke's. Information shared related to ED Director contact.
- Questions about PPE on calls. Patient fails COVID screen, full PPE (N95, gowns, etc.). No symptoms, pass COVID screen, procedure masks.

AMBULANCE CRASH – Washburn's second ambulance enroute to call on January 1st caught lip of road and sent into ditch; rolled and stopped. Roads were very icy. If attendant had been in back without seatbelt buckled most likely would have been badly injured. Reminder! Scary situation. Insurance company has approved the replacement of airbags. Washburn will continue to operate with the two ambulances ready to respond.

ASHLAND COUNTY EMS

Marengo reported they are working thru lots of stuff. Madeline Island has been very helpful. Dorothy Tank encouraged Marengo to be talking with the PSAP as things develop.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Jan Victorson reported:

- COVID-19 cases continue to rise but more slowly: Ashland County = 1036; Bayfield County = 951. State testing at 11% positivity rate.
- Testing continues for COVID-19 in conjunction with the National Guard. Schedule was sent to service directors and others on the email list. Next testing in Bayfield County tomorrow, January 8th in Iron River.
- Bayfield County ordered 80 BinaxNOW (antigen) rapid test kits for use if positive exposure in the jail or with emergency responders. Contact thru emergency management until procedure developed.
- Still retiring as of March 15th. If okay will continue to serve as secretary to the Council until October. Consensus: yes.
- I currently represent the northwest on the state WISCOM committee. I am willing to finish my term of two years if the Council is okay with me continuing to represent them/this region. Consensus that Jan continue with WISCOM committee.
- I have two volunteers to review the EMS PLAN/Annex to the Emergency Operations Plan – Tam Hofman and Mike Lang. I will be sending a copy to each yet this week.
- MITIGATION PLAN – Approved by the county board at meeting tonight. This updated plan opens the door to mitigation grant funding as is it available.
- RECREATIONAL TRAILS – CAMBA (Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association) has agreed to adopt the USNG (US National Grid) signage for access points and along their trails. The signage will work in conjunction with GPS units. Information will be

available thru PSAP and is intended to assist responders in locating the site of a reported emergency.

Meggan Traaholt
Jan Victorson
Jewel Yanko

Mason
BAEM / Iron River
Mellen

COVERAGE/BACK-UP AGREEMENT

Survey of services demonstrated they will be signing the final agreement.

EMS ISSUES

From December minutes:

“Always assure an adequate and safe crew. “DO THE RIGHT THING FOR THE PATIENT.”

Suggestions:

- Talk with legislators about being an “essential service”.
- Advocate for adding EMTs from BAC-EMS Council to drop down to make a legal crew.
- Approach insurance agency about response to other service area during COVID as “special event” coverage.
- Temporary license to practice in each other’s jurisdiction.
- Research “crisis standard of care” for EMS. (Do the right thing and ask for forgiveness.)”

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for Thursday, February 4th – 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

Kurt Blakeman	T/Marengo
Jeff Byerhof	South Shore
Dan Clark	Washburn
Lyn Cornelius	Bayfield
Cynthia Dalzell	Madeline Island
Brett Frierhood	Barnes
Tam Hofman	APIS / South Shore
Matthew Jakubik	North Air Care
Don Kimlicka	State EMS Office
Brian Kline	Red Cliff
Erika Kurtz	MMC/Ashland
Jay McDonald	Red Cliff
Chris Pribek	Ashland
Meagan Quaderer	BA PSAP
Lance Ritola	T/Marengo
Joe Schick	Mason
Jonathan Shultz	Medical Director
Dorothy Tank	Ashland County EM