

**ROCK COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Thursday, September 8, 2011 – Beloit Memorial Hospital

~ *MINUTES* ~

**Members Present:** Larry Knuth, Mary Beaver, Shirley Connors, Beth Natter, Dennis Ahrens, Pastor Bill Wagner, Gerry Luiting, Barb Kuska, Bryan Northrop, John Rindfleisch, Kristina Jordan and Ivan Collins.

**Members Absent:** Jude Maurer, Shelly McGuire, Dr. Michael Kellum, Loren Lippincott, Dave Fonder, Jeff Ropicky, Kathren Sukus and Steve Ryan.

Guests: Kevin Wernet, EMS Preparedness Coordinator, Blackhawk Technical College; Joe Murray, Adam Mauel and Scott Formankiewicz, City of Beloit Fire Department.

Chair Larry Knuth called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion was made by Barb Kuska and seconded by Bryan Northrop to approve the September 8, 2011 agenda. Motion carried.

**Reading & Approval of Past Minutes:** Motion was made by Barb Kuska and seconded by Dennis Ahrens to approve and waive the reading of the June 9, 2011 minutes. Motion carried.

**Old/Unfinished Business:**

- ◆ Countywide Protocols – Carried over to next meeting. Dr. Kellum was not present.

**New Business:**

- ◆ **Nominations & Elections** – Motion by Ivan Collins and seconded by John Rindfleisch to approve the reappointment of the EMS members and their alternates for another three year term. Motion carried unanimously.

Bryan Northrop requested that once the Police and Fire Commission approve Joe Murray as Deputy Chief for the City of Beloit Fire Department, he would like to recommend Joe as his replacement on the EMS Committee. Shirley Connors advised that she would need a letter from Bryan with that recommendation which she will forward to the Chair of the Rock County Board of Supervisors for his approval.

- ◆ **Hospital Preparedness Update** – Barb Kuska advised the Committee:
  - Distributed a handout regarding OSHA Awareness.
  - WI Trac - Beloit Fire and Janesville Fire Departments are using the new patient tracking pilot program paid for by Department of Justice and Hospital Preparedness. The hospital initiates the alert. The fire department starts scanning patients. They then can click on EMS Service Transporting

patient to determine which hospital will receive them. Hospitals are required, when requested, to post their available bed capacity on WI Trac. All hospitals in the State that have WI Trac can activate as many hospitals as well as EMS Systems. She indicated so far, two EMS systems are signed into WI Trac, they are Janesville and Beloit in the Rock County area. WI Trac can be activated by going on line to be authorized. Users of WI Trac are required to do a certain number of exercises.

S.A.L.T. versus S.T.A.R.T. was discussed. S.T.A.R.T. is a triage tag system for multi-victim accidents to tag patients. S.A.L.T. triage is based on existing triage systems. Barb also advised there are peel off wrist bands with bar codes and passed them around to the Committee members to look at.

◆ **State EMS Board Update** – Larry Knuth advised the Committee:

- The Coordinator position is changing at the State Office. The Intermediate Coordinator and Paramedic Coordinator will be changing positions effective August 29, 2011. It is uncertain at this time when the EMS Board will have a full schedule of meetings, which is dependent upon budgets.

◆ **Wisconsin Concealed Carry** – Chair Larry Knuth advised the Committee:

- Most hospitals in the region will post the conceal and carry information. Rock County is ready. There are policies out there.
- Bryan Northrop advised that the law is too vague to really determine ethics.  
Larry Knuth read aloud Kenosha's EMS policy regarding concealed carry and passed an example out to the Committee.
- Kevin Wernet, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Blackhawk Technical College, advised that conceal and carry training could be made available at Blackhawk Technical College. Blackhawk Technical College could be made aware of hospitals' needs and courses will be set up.

**Clergy – CISM** – Pastor Bill Wagner advised the Committee:

- There are 2 new CISM members making a total of 8 members. There are more calls for CISM, more traffic fatalities and several suicides. There will be CISM training in Sparta September 13-14, 2011.
- Also advised of the Firefighters Memorial in Roscoe, IL on October 22, 2011. More information will be forthcoming.

- ◆ **M.A.B.A.S.** – Bryan Northrop, City of Beloit Fire Department, advised that the system is being used. He further stated the time to look at cards is now. Cards will be updated. Pastor Wagner inquired how chaplains would be included. Bryan stated there are special requests on cards for chaplain services.

## Agency Reports:

### ◆ EMS Providers

City of Janesville - Gerry Luiting:

- Advised he is working on a pilot program for WI Trac. Working with the new St. Mary's Hospital in Janesville to get them up and running.
- Also advised that the City of Janesville Fire Department has a new bariatric ambulance that will be kept at the Station. He stated it is an effort to better manage patient care and to prevent injuries to EMS personnel. The bariatric ambulance initiative includes new equipment designed to make it easier to load and transport patients in a safer way.
- Announced a Paramedic Systems of Wisconsin Conference on September 21, 2011 at The Tundra Lodge Resort and Conference Center in Green Bay, WI. Twenty-one starts will be recognized for their contribution to emergency medical services.

◆ **Communications Center** – No one present from 911 Communications.

◆ **Hospitals** – Beth Natter – Barb Kuska

➤ Mercy Hospital:

Beth Natter advised Mercy Hospital is still under construction. Mercy Hospital, Northeast Side of Janesville, is supposed to be ready for opening the first quarter of 2012. The chest pain center will be accredited this fall.

➤ Beloit Memorial Hospital:

Barb Kuska advised Beloit Memorial Hospital is working with Mercy Hospital on Stemi patients which have been very successful.

➤ Fast track area of Emergency Room is open from noon to 10:00 PM.

◆ **Blackhawk Technical College** – Kevin Wernet - Kristine Jordan advised the Committee:

- Two EMT basic classes were cancelled due to budget concerns.
- There will be no inter-tech classes next summer.
- There will be no EMS classes in Green County next year.
- Kevin stated Blackhawk Tech could meet educational opportunities due to low enrollment.
- There is an 8-hour study course for chiefs and emergency room staff.
- There are ICS 300 and 400 courses that could be scheduled from grant money. Twenty students are needed.
- On August 25, 2011, a tabletop exercise was scheduled at Blackhawk Technical College. There were 55 in attendance. This exercise will evolve into a functional exercise in June, 2012.
- Drug & Alcohol Awareness Event – Kevin asked if anyone wanted to participate.
- Kristina advised that refresher courses are vital and important to the taxpayers for the VOAD district.
- Discussion ensued regarding online versus in-house training.

- ◆ **Emergency Management** – Shirley Connors advised the Committee:
  - In 2012, Emergency Management Office will be required to have 3 or 4 exercises that require participation.
  - On October 12, 2011, there will be a tabletop exercise entitled “Agricultural Ingestion Emergency Response Training and Exercise” from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM in Beloit. This workshop will focus on agricultural issues surrounding a nuclear power plant accident.
  
- ◆ **Sheriff’s Office** – No one present from Sheriff’s Office.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Bryan Northrop and seconded by Ivan Collins to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:52 PM.

The next meeting will be held December 8, 2011 at Mercy Hospital, Janesville.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shirley Klipstein