

**ROCK COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Thursday, December 9, 2010 – Beloit Memorial Hospital

~ *MINUTES* ~

Members Present: Larry Knuth, Mary Beaver, Dennis Ahrens, Gerry Luiting, Shirley Connors, Beth Natter, Pastor Bill Wagner, Barb Kuska, Dr. Michael Kellum, John Rindfleisch, Jude Maurer, Bryan Northrop, Kathren Sukus, Kristina Jordan, Brennon Ruosch, alternate for Dave Fonder, Gary Schenck, alternate for Kristina Jordan, and Karen Greene, alternate for Shelly McGuire.

Members Absent: Jeff Ropicky, Ivan Collins, Loren Lippincott, Dave Fonder, and Shelly McGuire.

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

Approval of Agenda: Motion was made by Karen Greene and seconded by Bryan Northrop to approve the December 12, 2010 agenda. Motion carried.

Reading & Approval of Past Minutes: Motion was made to approve and waive the reading of the September 9, 2010 minutes by Pastor Wagner and seconded by Bryan Northrop. There was a correction on Page 3 of the minutes. American College of Hospitals should have read “American College of Surgeons.” Motion carried.

Old/Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- ◆ **Hospital Preparedness Update** – Barb Kuska advised the Committee:
 - Patient tracking using WI-Tracking and that this system is and has been worked on for some time. Wristbands with removable bar codes can be put on patient charts when a patient goes to ex-ray or surgery. The bar code scan is used to track patients in the system or if they move from one hospital to another. There are several glitches, however, to be worked out yet. The pilot will continue until all of the glitches are worked out. Expansion of other functions of WI-Tracking will continue.
 - Wisconsin Hospital Association Board is moving forward to recommend having the same codes for EM alerts. They would like to see clear text alerts instead of codes that were used in the past. All hospitals are urged to use clear language/plain text by January 1, 2012. There will be a webinar on January 5 & 6, 2011, regarding these codes.
 - Radio Systems – All hospitals are to have the capability of operating P-25 radios. Beloit Memorial Hospital will not be participating. They have not budgeted for the technology. Narrow banding is to take affect by 2013.
- ◆ **State EMS Board Update** – Barb Kuska advised the Committee:
 - She is not on a committee. There was a memo that was sent out to apply for a sub-committee to serve on the EMS Board.

- Larry Knuth advised that he could report on the State EMS Committee in the future. He has to send out a EMS plan asking each committee member what is pertinent to their charter for their a two and five year strategic plan as far as their work goes.
- There is a sample written versus verbal report on their website. Discussion ensued regarding the importance of reports being in written format and easily obtainable. Per “Order of Department of Health Services”, it states “if emergency medical services provider is an ambulance service provider, a written report is to be submitted to the receiving hospital upon delivering a patient and a complete patient care report within 24 hours of patient delivery. A written report may be a complete patient care report or other documentation approved by the department and accepted by the receiving hospital. A non-transporting EMT service provider or first responder service provider shall hand a written report to the ambulance service provider at the time of the patient care transfer.” Larry stated this becomes effective January 1, 2011.

Gerry Luiting brought up the question of whether information regarding the patient is faxed to the hospital, is that HIPPA compliant? It was reiterated that the ambulance service provider is required to give a written report at the time the patient is delivered to the hospital.

This is a for-discussion-only issue on the part of the EMS Committee.

Agency Reports:

- ◆ **Communications Center** – Kathy Sukus advised the Committee:
 - Update on original policy on hospital diversion – Agencies did not wish to be notified by pager every time hospitals go on diversion. The policy will be reworded to reflect the change. Only MABAS agencies will be notified via paging. Rock County agencies will be notified individually if or when they receive calls for service in the afflicted hospital’s area.
 - Gerry Luiting stated he felt that the ambulance service should be notified ahead of time of the diversion before coming to the hospital. He stated that he felt it should be standard protocol for each agency.
- ◆ **Emergency Management** – Shirley Connors advised the Committee:
 - There are two upcoming E-Sponder Training Classes scheduled on February 10, 2011. The Basic class is scheduled for 9 AM in the Health Care Center EOC. The Advanced class is scheduled for 1 PM in the Health Care Center EOC as well.
 - March 15, 2011, a Tornado Spotters class is being held in the afternoon in the Rock County Health Care Center Auditorium. The evening class’s location has not been determined as yet.
- ◆ **Blackhawk Technical College** – Kristina Jordan advised the Committee:
 - National standards for first responders are changing. More educational classes will be necessary for educational training.

- ◆ **Hospitals** – Barb Kuska – Karen Greene – Beth Natter
 - Barb Kuska advised that they are replacing flooring in the new emergency room. The flooring was flawed. She thought that would be done December 10, 2010.
 - Karen Greene advised that 40% of the new Edgerton Hospital is finished. The contractors are trying to finish the outside as quickly as possible due to the winter weather.
 - Beth did not have anything to report.

- ◆ **M.A.B.A.S.** – Nothing to report.

- ◆ **Sheriffs Office** – Nothing to report.

- ◆ **Clergy** – **CISM** – Pastor Wagner advised the Committee:
 - There will be a Pastor Crisis Intervention II Class January 27-28, 2011 at Town of Beloit Fire Department.
 - There will be a Pastor Crisis Intervention I Class March 28-30, 2011 at Mercy Hospital.

- ◆ **Other Announcements**
 - Chair Knuth asked Brennon Ruosch, City of Edgerton Fire Department, how the May 11, 2010 training summit went. Brennon advised that they have decided to put this on hold as attendance has been very poor. Gerry Luiting questioned whether this would have better reception at the EMS Advisory Meeting and perhaps this could be an agenda item. He further stated that there should be more items pertaining to pertinent information on the agenda rather than the same items listed on each agenda.

 - Gerry Luiting brought up the topic of Medicare, agencies and mileage. Effective January 1, 2011, ambulance services are required to report loaded mileage to the nearest tenth of a mile for all Medicare claims with mileage totaling up to 100 miles. He expressed concern about noting the mileage before and after each trip. Bryan Northrop stated that with the new law, City of Beloit Fire Department would use a trip odometer.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Bryan Northrop and seconded by Gerry Luiting to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:10 P.M.

The next meeting will be held March 10, 2011 at Beloit Memorial Hospital.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Klipstein