

# **Dane County**

# Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

# **Emergency Medical Services - Medical Advisory Subcommittee**

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Monday, January 11, 2021

12:00 PM

Virtual Zoom Meeting: See top of agenda for instructions on how to join the webinar or call in by phone.

#### A. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:05pm.

Present 15 - SCOTT ALLAIN, CHRIS CARBON, KRISTEN DRAGER, KACEY KRONENFELD,

STEPHANIE LEHMANN, MIKE LOHMEIER, MIKE MANCERA, MEL PEARLMAN, LISA SCHIMELPFENIG, TINA STRANDLIE, MEGAN GUSSICK, CORY

HROMOTKO, ERIC LANG, JEFF VANBENDAGOM, and DR JOHN AGUILAR

Absent 16 - SHERRY CASALI, DREW DEAN, TERESA FIEDT, PAUL HICK, AMANDA

KITA-YARBO, ERIN POLKINGHORN, JEFF POTHOF, ERIN RYAN, DAN WILLIAMS, DAVID PENA, ABIGAIL DAHLBERG, BRANDON RYAN, GREG

BAILEY, AURORA LYBEK, JOSH ROSS, and CHRIS WALTERS

Guests: Jerry McMullen, Joe Pulvermacher, Brian Goff

Staff Present: Carrie Meier, Eric Anderson

#### **B.** Consideration of Minutes

2020 MAS NOVEMBER 2020 MINUTES

MIN-301

**Attachments:** November Minutes

#### C. Action Items

### **COVID** update

Meier shares that weekly public safety testing numbers have declined; used to get 30-40 people through, now only getting upper teens for attendance. Will finish out current schedule, but will make the test kits available to agencies to keep at their station. Vaccinations started a couple weeks ago for providers in 1a. Definition is blurry, but DCEM and Public Health has been advocating state to include EMS. Law enforcement and fire are currently in 1b. Public Health signed vaccination agreement with state that we will adhere to their guidelines to ensure the appropriate people receive the vaccine first. Vaccinating has gone well after the first day. DCEMS is hiring more LTEs to assist department with PPE and assist Public Health from a vaccinating perspective. Have hired 4 new LTEs. Anderson adds that if members haven't yet to take a look at Public Health data dashboard; it includes in-patients and ICU numbers. Over last couple weeks numbers have gone down quite a bit, but ramifications of holidays is yet to be seen. Kronenfeld thanks hospital partners as well for collaborating with Public Health to get through 1a quickly and get to 1b and rest of public safety agencies.

#### Portable Vent Protocol - FitchRona

Dr. Mancera shares that Fitch-Rona has been eager and pleased to get a transport vent for their service rigs. They have the capability of using ventilators for advanced airway patients. Have submitted to state a vent procedure to be added to Dane County protocols on behalf of Fitch-Rona service. Patrick Anderson shares that they used Covid funds they got back in April to help purchase the transport ventilators. They came in October and the agency did training for about 2 months, including working with MATC to get video training together. Hands-on component was mostly troubleshooting. They just went on to trucks the previous week. The protocol that was submitted to the state can be shared. Mancera adds they worked in collaboration to make sure it looks as consistent with other protocols that already exist. Pulvermacher asks how this benefits other surrounding agencies, and Anderson answers that it has not changed the general response plan at all. It is just an added tool in Fitch-Rona's toolbox, but it is not something that can be requested by other agencies. VanBendegom asks which services have this now and if anyone has used it in transport yet. Anderson answers that his understanding is no 911 responding agency has them in this county. Private agencies that do inter-facility transports do have them. Fitch-Rona has only had them active for a week and has not used them yet. Kronenfeld confirms she is not aware of any other agencies that have it. Dr. Mancera says there is definitely a benefit especially for longer transports. Anderson says they will continue to train every two months. Kronenfeld asks to get an update in about three months to evaluate their experience, and Patrick Anderson agrees.

# MEP Physician Medical Control update - Aguilar

Gives overview of the program offered to agencies. They can call for medical direction in the field as a resource, it is not required. A recent example was a patient who refused transport. Allows medical directors to forge relationship with the providers on scene and help them provide best health care possible. Team is Dr. Kacey Kronenfeld, Dr. Liz Robinson, Dr. Aurora Lybeck, and Dr. John Aguilar. They use Ring Central which is a recorded line. It is one number that all agencies can call, the number is just forwarded to whichever physician is on call. Go-live date was September 1st with a slow roll out. It is currently staffed 7 days a week from 8am-10pm. Covers all agencies with MEP medical direction. Over last four months have had a total of 10 calls, 1 call in September, 4 in December. 1 out of 10 was from Sauk County and the rest within Dane County. Types of calls included consults, field terminations, and refusals to transport. Shared data from different EMS Systems' Physician Resource program that has been active about 10 years. Average 1.2 phone calls a day, majority being refusals. Pulvermacher asks if there's been discussion about having a one-stop phone number for other cases such as incidents where a translator is needed. Suggests this as a future topic to discuss.

## Subcommittee Goals and Objectives

Meier shares list of members on MAS. Dr. Kronenfeld shares that the goal is to evaluate the needs of the subcommittees and any kind of restructuring that may be more beneficial. Eric Anderson adds that there has been discussion that several groups and committees have the same people trying to accomplish similar things. Medial Advisory Subcommittee is subcommittee of EMS Commission with members appointed by the Commission. Asks if there are any specific recommendations regarding both missions and committee make-up. Lang asks who sets membership of subcommittees. He reflects on the constant hurdle of getting quorum. Dr. Kronenfeld believes it would be up to the EMS Commission. Patrick Anderson says that MAS is probably the one that has the clearest focus and gives MDs and hospital representatives a place at the table to interact with EMS personnel. Pulvermacher suggests agencies that don't typically transport patients may have a place being represented in one of the committees. Carbon says Operating Practices struggles to find agenda items and committee is made up of several of the same people as MAS. He continues to say that there have been several MAS-driven programs that really needed input from all of the hospital services to be accomplished. Patrick Anderson echoes what Carbon said and adds that it seems redundant to have two separate groups when one is accomplishing most projects. Lang asks how it would look if there was one advisory committee to the commission and if the EMS Commission would have to completely re-write the structure and how long that would take. Dr. Kronenfeld believes EMS Commission would be the decider, but there may be some things in legislation that would need to be changed. It would take longer if legislation was changed. Carbon adds that if there would be a single EMS Commission Advisory Subcommittee that there would need to be discussion on who would be on that attendance; adds point about quorum being an issue and thinks having the correct, committed members would help drive projects. Pulvermacher shares they it would make sense to have someone from this group available to go to Fire Chiefs meetings to discuss what is going on with Dane County. Dr. Kronenfeld will go back to EMS Commission and share what has been discussed.

#### D. Presentations

- E. Reports to Committee
- F. Future Meeting Items and Dates
- G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

Pulvermacher will be reaching out regarding possible agenda item for future meeting.

# H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

Dr. Lohmeier shares his experience on the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee. The last six months has been surrounding Covid and vaccines. Ethics Subcommittee has been working with them throughout the process and helping guide decision. Thinks rollout for vaccine group 1a has gone well, will continue to advise for 1b. Also adds that everyone has been stressed out by the pandemic and that its scope of affect has yet to be fully realized. Acknowledges the low transmission rate in our county and thanks everyone for their diligence and PPE usage. Adds that the vaccine is not an instant fix and that due diligence must still be maintained following vaccination until there is enough evidence of herd immunity. Dr. Kronenfeld thanks him for his continued effort and work on the committee.

# I. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Courtney Wassertheurer.