



Milwaukee County Council on Emergency Medical Services

Chair: Supervisor Deanna Alexander 414-278-4259
 Vice Chair: Chief Robert Whitaker 414-357-0113 x1117
 Admin Support: Kevin Shermach 414-226-7302

8:30a.m. - 10:30a.m.; Friday, December 7, 2018
Wauwatosa Fire Department; 1601 Underwood Ave.; Wauwatosa, WI 53213

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT	MEMBER		GUESTS	
Y	Deanna Alexander	Council Chair	AC Chris McGowan	Milwaukee County Fire Dept
Y	Robert Whitaker	Council Vice-Chair	Capt. Alex Eversum	Hales Corners Fire Dept.
N	Christine Westrich	OEM	Paul Ranch	Paratech Ambulance
Y	Mason Pooler	ALS Fire Chief Rep.	Priyanka Biswas	OEM-EMS
Y	Daniel Mayer	BLS Fire Chief Rep.	Dan Pojar	OEM-EMS
Y	Steven Riegg	MFD Fire Chief Designee	Linda Mattrisch	OEM-EMS
Y	Jerry Biggart	State Rep.	Kevin Shermach	OEM
Y	Daniel Weber	Paramedic Rep.		
N	Ryan Wendt	Paramedic Rep.		
Y	Chris Anderson	Private Provider Rep.		
Y	Larry Knuth	Private Provider Rep.		
Y	Erik Viel	OEM-EMS		
Y	John Hohenfeldt	ICC Rep.		
Y	Steve Olson	ICC Rep.		
N	Russell Spahn	MATC Rep.		
Y	Dr. M. Riccardo Colella	OEM-EMS Medical Director		
N	Dr. Tony Thrasher	Medical Society Rep.		
N	Jim Terrell	Hospital Association Rep.		
Y	Ann Christiansen	Community Rep.		
N	François Riedijk	Community Rep.		
N	Lynn Schubert	Community Rep.		
N	Michael Wright	Community Rep.		
-	<i>vacant</i>	Community Rep.		

Call to Order

Supervisor Alexander called the meeting to order at 0831.

Attendance & Introductions

Supervisor Alexander asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes from October 3, 2018

Mayor Hohenfeldt moved to approve the meeting minutes. Mayor Olson seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Scheduling of 2019 Meetings

Supervisor Alexander asked that all look for potential meeting dates in 2019.

Recurring Reports & Past Business

1) **OEM Updates**

(Director Christine Westrich, Office of Emergency Management)

Dr. M. Riccardo Colella, OEM-EMS Medical Director, reported on behalf of Director Westrich. The five-year medical director contract with Medical College of Wisconsin was recommended for adoption by the Finance & Audit Committee and then, adopted by the County Board of Supervisors. The agreement includes managing the administrative duties of the EMS Division Director (a position vacant since August). This move will gradually shift the cost of the position from OEM to MCW, yielding a total savings of \$350,000 in salary and benefits over the course of the agreement. MCW will hire an administrator for the role.

2) **OEM-EMS Communications, Operations & Performance Collaborative Consortium**

(Erik Viel, interim OEM-EMS Division Director)

Mr. Viel is optimistic on the status of the ISSI gateway between the City of Milwaukee's OpenSky radio system and OASIS. Initial connection was made in September, and both partners are working out the bugs.

3) **EMS Education**

(Dan Pojar, OEM-EMS Clinical Education & QA Manager)

Mr. Pojar reported that OEM has increased part-time special events paramedic staff since signing the new contract with the Fiserv Forum. The Education section's continuing education offerings of 37.5 hours are about a quarter ahead of pace for recertifications (60 hours over 2 years). OEM acquired a new training ambulance to allow for more BLS departments to participate in simulation training opportunities.

4) **Health Information Management (HIM) & Data Analytics**

(Priyanka Biswas, OEM-EMS Analytics Program Manager)

Ms. Biswas reported that OEM has launched an interactive opioid overdose mapping report, which locates ODs where naloxone was administered (based on ePCR data) and offers data layers from the US Census. Since the tool will only improve with the more sources of data included, HIDTA and hospitals (for ED walk-ins) are a potential source for additional data.

5) **Quality Assurance (QA)**

(Linda Mattrisch, OEM-EMS Quality Assurance Supervisor)

Ms. Mattrisch reported that OEM EMS continues to push the Just Culture model, and EMS providers and other stakeholders have confidence and buy-in which facilitates continuous improvement. The team has developed a robust database which streamlines the data collection phase and allows more time for case review: 250 cases have been reviewed in 2018. As a result, OEM EMS is concentrating its CQIP efforts on cardiac arrest, providing as much real-time information as possible.

6) **Medical Director**

(Dr. M. Riccardo Colella, EMS Medical Director)

Dr. Colella reported on the Performance Collaborative Consortium (PCC), formed in response to the County Executive's request to explore medical outcomes. After fits and starts, the PCC was formed with five likeminded EMS agencies. The group has decided to focus on cardiac arrest, using the data set

reported to the CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival) Registry, which OEM has been fully invested in since 2016. PCC is considering inviting additional systems to join.

7) **State EMS Board**

(Lt. Jerry Biggart, Wisconsin EMS Board Chair)

Lt. Biggart reported that optimism for an increase in Medicaid rates has been dashed. BLS transport rates have been stagnant at less than \$80 for eight years, despite the Board's and DHS medical director's extensive efforts to lobby to keep pace with Medicare reimbursement rates. What was once in the purview of the governor's office—the previous administration made no increases over eight years—is now among the powers being stripped by the lame duck legislature. Lt. Biggart reported the Board feels they've wasted time on the governor's office, which he suspects wasn't negotiating in good faith. With a \$70 million surplus, the answer to the administration's question of "What can we do to help EMS?" has a simple answer.

The Board continues to work on EMS for children with Drs. Kim and Browne.

The Board is working on recommendations on interfacility transfers, which are done by groups ranging from air medical to fire departments. The critical care certification, while important in addressing system-specific issues, requires a mere 80hrs. Being a regular Paramedic (with 1,000 hours) is the biggest part of being a critical care Paramedic. All types of agencies are represented on the committee—fire departments with and without critical care, hospital-based EMS, private ambulances, etc.—and each wants to steer the guidelines to their benefit. The last time critical care was addressed, a new level of credentialing was created, and in the last eight years it's grown without a good, clear, defined set of rules.

The Community EMS issue continues to be a challenge, due to consistent turnover in the DHS EMS executive director position. The Board continues to push to make the Milwaukee/West Allis model the standard, without bridging, because they are proven: runs are down, people are healthier, and that success should not be derailed.

8) **Intergovernmental Cooperation Council (ICC)**

(Hon. John Hohenfeldt, Mayor, City of Cudahy)

(Hon. Steve Olson, Mayor, City of Franklin)

Mayor Hohenfeldt noted the Wisconsin Policy Forum's report on parks and cultural institutions (<https://wispolicyforum.org/research/delay-of-game-an-analysis-of-repair-and-replacement-needs-for-milwaukee-countys-parks-recreational-facilities-and-cultural-institutions/>) and how there's no funding. He noted ICC is reviewing proposed changes to major transportation assets due to Foxconn—public transit, Port of Milwaukee, railroads, etc.—and their impact on local communities. He noted that while the dark store legislation failed, ICC is looking forward to 2019 and waiting to see the impact.

Mayor Olson reported that Glendale Mayor Kennedy replaced Greenfield's Mayor Neitzke as ICC chair. The dark store issue has sparked a desire to be more politically active and believes the EMS funding issue Lt. Biggart raised could be a candidate for the ICC's support. Referenda results were mixed: Greenfield Fire won funding to address frequent flyers by hiring social workers; Franklin Police lost in its request to hire three more officers.

Supervisor Alexander noted that the County is in the best position in her seven years in office, with the Board and Executive setting aside their differences to address major issues such as retaining revenue that would otherwise go to the state. She noted the last budget session was pretty noncontroversial, with the Board and Executive aligned to lobby for the "Fair Deal": increasing the County's share of revenue which had remained flat at best in past years. Mayor Hohenfeldt added that Cudahy has lost \$850,000 in state aid, and Mayor Olson noted that state legislators who boast about "cutting property taxes" are only responsible for cutting municipal budgets.

- 9) **Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition (HERC)**
(Lynn Schubert, Advocate Aurora Health Care)

No report.

- 10) **Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC)**
(Russ Spahn, Associate Dean, MATC)

No report.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

Supervisor Alexander adjourned the meeting at 0934.