



## Meeting Agenda

### Milwaukee County Council on Emergency Medical Services

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Thursday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

9:00 AM

Virtual Meeting: [Meeting Link](#)

Phone: 1-312-626-6799

Passcode: 823-1893-1607#

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**Public Notice: PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: Members of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors who are not members of this committee may attend this meeting to participate or to gather information.**

#### **Call to Order – 9:00 AM Attendance & Introductions**

Present: Robert Whitaker, Jerry Biggart, Kim Litwack, Mason Pooler, Benjamin Weston, Ann Christiansen, Dan Pojar, Daniel Weber, Alyssa Cahoon, Steve Olson, Ulla Pinion, Ben Thelen, David Hensley

Excused: Felesia Martin, Cassandra Libal, Ryan Wendt, Chris Anderson, Wanda Montgomery, Tony Thrasher, Alison Lopez

#### **Public Comment**

No members of the public wishing to speak.

#### **Approval of Minutes from prior meeting**

Motion to approve by Jerry Biggart, seconded by Ulla Pinion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Recurring Reports & Past Business (7-min maximum unless chair or vice chair allows extension):**

##### **1. Old Business**

###### **a. Distribution of By-Laws as adopted May 10, 2022**

Chair Whitaker confirmed that the new by-laws were distributed to members prior to today's meeting.

###### **b. Meeting Report Format from Executive Committee**

Chair Whitaker summarized discussion from Executive Committee. Consensus was that future EMS Council meetings should have at least one item of substance that could be shared with the public, with the goal of EMS Council meetings being more for interaction and gathering feedback rather than just sharing reports.

###### **c. Present and possible action on recommended changes to Chapter 97 of County Ordinances from the Executive Committee**

Chair Whitaker shared process for amending Chapter 97. EMS Council is not able to make changes, but members may make official recommendations to the Milwaukee County Board. Members of Executive Committee plan to meet with Office of Corporation Counsel (OCC) and Research & Policy office to determine whether recommended changes (discussed at prior meeting) are doable.

Members reviewed potential changes to Chapter 97 that were discussed at prior EMS Council meeting.

Steve Olson recommended double-checking unnecessary capitalization throughout the document, as well as standardized punctuation.

Ann Christiansen asked whether the recommendations were structural or just wording changes. Chair Whitaker replied that the recommendations were for the most part intended to bring Chapter 97 in line with other County documents. Ann Christiansen requested that any potential structural changes as a result of the recommendations be pointed out to the EMS Council.

Mason Pooler asked if the state statutes referenced throughout Chapter 97 are still current. Chair Whitaker replied that he checked the state statutes, but he will double-check them just to be sure before the recommendations are submitted to the County Board.

Motion to recommend changes by Mason Pooler, seconded by Jerry Biggart. Motion passed unanimously.

**d. Update on appointment of Public Liaison for EMS Council**

Motion to appoint Jerry Biggart to the position of Public Liaison by Ann Christiansen, seconded by Benjamin Weston. Motion passed unanimously.

**2. Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs**

Chair Whitaker: Cudahy is adding a new paramedic unit, expected to go live around October 1<sup>st</sup>. Hales Corners and St. Francis are also engaged in this process.

**3. EMS System Medical Director**

Dr. Weston: Cudahy, Hales Corners, and St. Francis are progressing well in their transition to full-practice paramedic status. Mental Health Emergency Center opened recently and has been largely successful so far, EMS System will continue to monitor.

**a. EMS Dashboard Introduction and Feedback**

Several other dashboards currently under development in addition to diversion dashboard, hope is to make these all public-facing in the near future.

As discussed previously, recent changes to diversion policy have not yet been reflected on diversion dashboard.

Ann Christiansen asked whether hospitals that were not included on the diversion dashboard are missing because they had zero diversions or because they opted out of inclusion. Dr. Weston responded that hospitals receiving less than 100 patients per year are not included, otherwise a lack of inclusion is due to hospitals having zero diversions for the selected time range. Ann Christiansen recommended making a note of this

practice somewhere on the dashboard itself.

**b. Follow up to Diversion Discussion from May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Meeting**

Steve Olson shared that he met with the director of EMS Services for Franklin and found the explanations “satisfactory,” they are working on the issues addressed in a prior EMS Council meeting.

Dr. Weston added that Franklin had not had any diversions so far in the quarter.

**4. Milwaukee County EMS Division**

**a. Electronic Patient Care Record Project**

Dan Pojar: effort to consolidate patient records from different systems is still underway. Agreement has been sent out for signatures and funding has been allocated. Focusing first on consolidating records related to acute disease and will then move on to chronic disease.

**5. Private EMS**

No report.

**6. State EMS Board**

Jerry Biggart: updates from recent State EMS Board meeting. Board members are aware of flex grants approved by Governor Evers, grant total was \$12M but grant requests totaled \$65M. Grant funding may be increased soon to accommodate requests.

Next State EMS Board meeting is scheduled for December 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> via Zoom, anyone is welcome to join.

Still openings on the Human Resources Committee if anyone has an interest.

**a. Ground Emergency Medical Transport**

Hope is for municipal partners to get GEMT up and running by the first quarter of 2023.

**7. Health Systems and Emergency Departments**

No report.

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

Steve Olson: ICC is occupied with Act 26 (consolidation of dispatch services in rural systems). More updates will be provided once available.

**9. Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition (HERC Region 7)**

No report.

**10. Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC)**

Alyssa Cahoon: paramedic program has settled in nicely at Oak Creek campus. Augmented reality technology is a new addition to the program, increasing fidelity and realism of instruction. Program is continuing to grow, with three full-time faculty positions being added to handle growth.

**11. New Business**

**a. 2023 Milwaukee County Budget Discussion and possible recommendation**

Note: quorum lost during discussion, preventing any action being taken.

Members discussed asking the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) for information on what effect (if any) the 2023 County Budget may have on OEM and EMS and making recommendations based on this.

**12. Items from EMS Council Members**

No items.

**13. Items from Non-Members**

No items.

**14. Announcements**

Chair Whitaker requested that any items for the next EMS Council meeting be sent a few days ahead of time so they may be placed on the agenda.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Ann Christiansen, seconded by Jerry Biggart. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM.

ADA accommodation requests should be filed with the Milwaukee County Office for Persons with Disabilities, (414) 278-3932 (voice) or 711 (TRS), upon receipt of this notice.