

AMBULANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES: APRIL

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Date of Meeting: **April 30, 2020 / Virtual - Via GoToMeeting.com**

Member Attendance: Joyce Stenklyft, Jerry Steele, Wayne Kling, Brede Sorenson, Barb Cram

Absent: Rick Murray, Remy Gomez

Others Present: Director Dunford

Meeting called to order at 5:17PM

- **Approve Minutes:** February Minutes Mistakenly Not Included In Packet. Will Approve At May Meeting.
- **Persons Desiring to Be Heard:** None
- **Director's Report:** • Monthly statistics and invoices presented for March and April, 2020
 - **See Attached Director's Report**
 - Discussed current staffing.
 - Director provided full update of COVID-19 Response by Department
 - No update on land purchase from the Railroad. Director and Chief Adler working with Architects. Hope to have presentation for the Council at the June meeting.
 - TAAS and Crew Leader Paramedic Brandon Sibert were recognized by Wisconsin Coverdell Stroke Program. TAAS received a \$1,500.00 Grant from Coverdell for community education.
- Motion to approve Director's Report by Barb Cram and seconded by Wayne Kling. Motion Carried
- **Other Such Matters By Committee Member:** None
- Motion by Wayne Kling and second by Barb Cram to adjourn. Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 5:50PM

Minutes Taken By: Joyce Stenklyft

Minutes Typed By: Randal Dunford 5/14/2020





Ambulance Committee Meeting – April 30, 2020

Director's Report For: MARCH, 2020

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1. STAFFING: Staff continues to be in good spirits and is diligently trying to keep on top of the changes coming down from Federal and State DHS Offices. In an effort to protect our staffing levels, we are keeping our daily crew to 5 people (2 trucks & fly-car).
2. COVID-19 DEPARTMENT UPDATE:
 - We implemented a new procedure requiring our crews in route to the location to make phone contact with the caller requesting an ambulance and get more detailed information regarding the patient condition to ensure there is no flu-like symptoms. When possible our crew will have the patient (if ambulatory & able) to meet them at the front door to keep our crew from having to enter a dwelling. This will allow our crew the ability to gear up with personal protection equipment (PPE, i.e. eye protection, gown, N95 masks, and gloves) if they need to. This practice also saves our supplies of PPE. If we have to go in, only one crew member will enter and make the patient assessment and determine what other resources/personnel are needed.
 - TAAS has no reserve stock pile of equipment or personal protection equipment (PPE). Captain Daly and I have been working hard to increase our supplies to prepare for the possibility of having to gear up in PPE for every call. We have received the following locally:
 - Oakdale First Responders had a large supply of surgical masks and some N95 masks that they shared with us. We did in turn supply the police department with 200 surgical masks for the officers.
 - ACE Hardware contacted me and is attempting to get us more N95 masks and disposable painter's coveralls which can be worn as PPE.
 - Artic Heating & Cooling offered to donate N95 masks that he had on hand. Due to Federal assistance, we did purchase them from him for \$20.00.
 - Queen of Apostles Church gave us a large quantity of sanitary wipes and cleaning supplies
 - We immediately applied for PPE supplies from the Federal Stock Pile from Wisconsin Department of Human Services and received a case of pediatric surgical masks, 20 N95 masks, and a case of blue surgical gowns.
 - Should TAAS be forced to gear up with full PPE on every call, we estimate to have approximately 3 week supply.



- I have ordered a second UV Light that we can use throughout the ambulance to kill all live viruses that may be on surfaces. This unit is now used after all calls throughout the day. TAAS will allow this equipment to be used to decontaminate the cab or interior of any City vehicle or office if needed.
 - We had two incidents involving patients with flu-like symptoms. In effort to protect our building and employee work area, our crew was forced to undress in the garage and get their uniforms in the washer. We currently have no privacy area or decontamination room to do this. I purchased a portable hunter's pop-up blind that can be used for such tasks along with scrubs that they can put on while their uniforms are being cleaned.
 - MECCA Sportswear assisted us with the purchase of duty t-shirts to be worn by our staff during this emergency event. T-shirts allow the crew to wash them easily if they get contaminated in any way on a call.
 - Due to the Pandemic, Tomah Health has advised our Police Department that in an effort to protect their Emergency Department, they are considering discontinuing blood draws for O.W.I. arrests. TAAS Paramedics are fully trained and able to perform this task for them. We have obtained approval from our Medical Director and have implemented a procedure for the staff to perform this needed function. The ambulance service will follow the same procedure as the hospital and bill the police department and subsequently the Court mandates the individual arrested to pay for the procedure.
 - We have daily briefings with Monroe County law enforcement and EMS Services, weekly briefings with City Department heads, Wisconsin Department of Health and Human Services, and Wisconsin Regional Hospital Emergency Response Coalition (WHERC).
 - Captain Daly and myself are alternating work from home days to comply with state & federal mandates regarding workplace distancing. We both work out of the same office which could become problematic and compromised.
 - We did lose one employee to a 14 day quarantine due to contact with a patient that was deemed to be a medium to high risk. We have subsequently ordered our crews to wear N95 masks on all calls.
 - The ambulance department will continue to work closely with all departments and department heads to give them whatever equipment/supplies we can spare for their personnel.
 - As of the date of this report, we have handled 7 possible COVID-19 Patients, with 4 of them confirmed.
3. **BUILDING UPDATE:** Negotiations with the Railroad are continuing. We hope to have an answer within the next 30 days. Director Dunford and Chief Adler were advised by Mayor Murray that it has been discovered that the City is currently in a difficult situation relating to its ability to borrow. Due to this situation, we have been advised that the building project will have to go to a voter referendum this fall. If the voters accept the project, it will then proceed in 2021. Mayor Murray has gone over the plans as presented by Keller Architect and has expressed his approval/support of moving forward.



4. RECOGNITION: On March 10th TAAS was recognized by the Department of Health Services and Wisconsin Coverdell Stroke Program for our efforts public education relating to strokes. Crew Leader and Paramedic Brandon Sibert wrote and administered the \$1,500.00 grant within the Department. Paramedic Sibert was recognized for achieving 100% documentation in last known well time with patients. TAAS placed second overall with all departments participating in the state. Job well done.


Randal Dunford
Director

