

Rusk County Emergency Services  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
Wednesday, October 14, 2020 - 8:00 AM

Present: Pedersen, Schmitt, Schneider, Stout, Sarah Rands, and via video conferencing Lisa Dobrowolski

Others Present: Tom Hall, Jim Rassbach, Jerilea Hendrick and Sheriff Wallace.

1. Meeting called to order by Schmitt at 8:00 AM.
2. Pedersen/Schneider motion to approve the September 9, 2020 meeting minutes, motion carried.
3. Rusk County Emergency Management/Ambulance Director presentation
  - a. Tom Hall presented the Monthly EMA/Ambulance report which included EMA/AMB, training, meetings and end of year stats. PPE inventory is in good shape.
  - b. Training request – None. All current staff except 2 EMRs finished their relicensure work. 6 EMTs have done training to help PH with contact tracing. The EMS association conference will be held online and some courses will count for EMT hours needed for licensing.
  - c. Payment of bills – \$28,432.08 dated 10/08/2020 – Stout/Schneider motion to approve payment approval report, motion carried.
  - d. Collections – nothing new.
  - e. 2020 Budget review – the budget is good.
  - f. Community involvement/recruitment – not much happening with COVID.
4. Rusk County Medical Examiner presentation
  - a. Monthly report – Rassbach presented the monthly report for September. There were 11 natural deaths, 1 accidental death, 0 suicide, 9 cremations, 2 pending death certificate related to death determination and/or toxicology and 1 forensic autopsy. Had 2 State funeral pays which the county doesn't receive any funding for state pays. Pathology SC continues to be temporarily closed. Autopsies go to MN while closed which increases the costs. Rassbach advised the committee that the Autopsy transport DME addition was declined by the Personnel Committee and Corp Counsel. Rassbach advised the committee that this comes up 6-7 times per year during transports and that he is working on a way to cover the vacancy during the transport. Schneider/Pedersen motion to take the request for Transport DME back to Personnel, motion carried.
  - b. Training requests – none at this time.
  - c. Payment of bills – \$3,509.66 dated 10/08/2020 – Pedersen/ Schneider motion to approve Payment Approval Report, motion carried. Gloves have doubled in cost and hard to obtain.
  - d. 2020 budget review – budget is on track. Will be over in autopsy budget.

5. Rusk County Sheriff presentation
  - a. Monthly report – Sheriff Wallace presented the September monthly reports which included inmate population, training, meetings, calls for service, inmate housing A/R and overtime. Average daily inmate population was 26 in September and average daily EMP was 1. The average daily number of inmates housed out of county was 2, in a treatment facility at no cost to Rusk Co.
  - b. Training requests: Ohmstead 10/27/20 – Patrol Rifle, WITC, Rice Lake and Neal 12/7-9/20 – Reid Interview & Interrogations, Waukesha. Motion by Schneider/Stout to approve training requested, motion carried.
  - c. Payment of bills –\$139,820.63 dated Oct. 8, 2020 – Pedersen/Stout motion to approve payment approval report, motion carried.
  - d. 2020 budget review – Attached report from Finance for review. Overtime costs are coming down as staff is getting trained and we are fully staffed.
  - e. Long-range planning [New Jail] – nothing new, on hold since COVID.
  - f. 2021 budget – 4 squad car replacements were removed from the 2021 budget and levy. The Sheriff stressed his concerns for the safety of the officers and the need to keep the squads on a replacement rotation and discussed the mileage and idle time on a squad after four years. Questioned whether 8 squads will be replaced in 2022. This issue will need to be discussed at the County Board budget hearings.
  - G, Jail Equipment – food warmer/pans replacement – \$1,431.60 - This equipment was approved by the Property chairperson and was purchased with commissary funds and not county levy funds.
6. The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 11, 2020 at 8:00 AM.
7. Pedersen/Schneider motion to adjourn at 9:36 AM, motion carried.