

Rusk County Emergency Services
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 11, 2020 - 8:00 AM

Present: Pedersen, Schmitt, Schneider, Stout, Dobrowolski, Sarah Rands, and via video conferencing Sheriff Wallace and Jim Rassbach.

Others Present: Tom Hall, Kitzie Winters and Jerilea Hendrick

1. Meeting called to order by Schmitt at 8:00 AM.
2. Pedersen/Dobrowolski motion to approve the October 14, 2020 meeting minutes, motion carried.
3. Rusk County Emergency Management/Ambulance Director presentation
 - g. County to absorb credit card fees – Winters explained the credit card fees. Schneider/Stout motion to waive credit card fees for ambulance collections only, motion carried.
 - 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 and Hall is distributing what he knows he can get replacements on. OT expenses are in transfers and COVID pay.
 - b. Training request – None. The EMS association conference in January will be held online and some courses will count for EMT hours needed for licensing.
 - c. Payment of bills – \$7,346.25 dated 11/3/2020 – Dobrowolski/Schneider motion to approve payment approval report, motion carried.
 - d. Collections – nothing new.
 - e. 2020 Budget review – the budget is good. EM hasn't received grant money yet.
 - f. Community involvement/recruitment – There have been a few requests for donations and some interest in the program.
 - h. Begin bid process for a rig in 2021 – Schneider/Dobrowolski motion to begin the bid process for an ambulance in year 2021, motion carried.
4. Rusk County Medical Examiner presentation
 - a. Monthly report – Rassbach presented the monthly report for October. There were 11 natural deaths, 0 accidental death, 1 suicide, 9 cremations, and 2 pending death certificate related to death determination and/or toxicology. 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 will not be pursued. Nash-Jackan billing for decedent storage is 38 days at \$40 for storage but was reduced to \$1,000. Quarantines are affecting ME staffing levels. Rassbach expressed the increased work load due to the finance department and would like this to be restructured. Rassbach will restructure the ME department around weekends and nights.
 - b. Training requests – none at this time.
 - c. Payment of bills – \$2,956.04 dated 11/03/2020 – Pedersen/ Dobrowolski motion to approve Payment Approval Report, motion carried.

- d. 2020 budget review – Will be over in autopsy and inventory. Will receive CARES money for COVID supplies.
5. Rusk County Sheriff presentation
- a. Monthly report – Sheriff Wallace presented the October monthly reports which included inmate population, training, meetings, calls for service, inmate housing A/R and overtime. Average daily inmate population was 24 in October and average daily EMP was 2. The average daily number of inmates housed out of county was 3, in a treatment facility at no cost to Rusk Co.
 - b. Training requests: None
 - c. Payment of bills –\$38,923.54 dated 11/03/2020 – Stout/Pedersen motion to approve payment approval report, motion carried.
 - d. 2020 budget review – Attached report from Finance for review. Limiting jail functions in attempt to keep COVID out of the jail. Keeping patrol and D/J separate too.
 - e. Long-range planning [New Jail] – nothing new, on hold since COVID.
 - f. 2021 budget – Wallace expressed his concerns with squad replacement. He will meet with Property committee to discuss the purchase of squads.
6. The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 8:00 AM.
7. Stout/Dobrowolski motion to adjourn at 9:30 AM, motion carried.