

# Bayfield County Clerk

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**Minutes of the:**  
**Bayfield County Ad Hoc EMS Advisory Committee**  
**February 28, 2022 6:00 p.m.**

Meeting Held in the County Board Room, Courthouse Building, Washburn, WI  
& Remotely

The meeting of the Bayfield County Ad Hoc EMS Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by *Committee Chair*, Steve Sandstrom.

**Members Present:** Larry Fickbohm, Steve Sandstrom, Brett Friermood, Lyn Cornelius, Rob Puls, Jan Victorson, Sandy Raspotnik, Dan Vaillancourt, Eric Neff, Colleen Began, Scott Kluver, David Trudeau (arrived late)

**Alternates Present:** Beverly Steele, Clyde Clauson, and Tam Hofman

**Members Excused:** David Larson, Michael Lang, and Gary Victorson

**Other members present:** *County Administrator*-Mark Abeles-Allison, *County Clerk*-Lynn Divine virtually, *Emergency Management Director*-Meagan Quaderer virtually, *UW Extension Community Development Educator*-Kellie Pederson virtually, and *Clerk III*-Paige Terry virtually

**Item 3. Introductions by Name and Municipality/Agency:** Introductions of the attendees were as follows:

- 1) Larry Fickbohm – County Board Supervisor
- 2) Bev Steele – Representative for Town of Clover
- 3) Dan Vaillancourt – Supervisor for Town of Lincoln
- 4) Jeff Bellile – Director for Washburn EMS
- 5) Lyn Cornelius – Service Director for Bayfield Ambulance
- 6) Jan Victorson – Representative for Iron River Ambulance
- 7) Kellie Pederson – UW Extension Community Development Educator
- 8) Sandy Raspotnik – Representative for Town of Washburn
- 9) Scott Kluver – Representative for City of Washburn
- 10) Meagan Quaderer – Bayfield County Emergency Management Director
- 11) Steve Sandstrom – Committee Chairman
- 12) Mark Abeles-Allison – Bayfield County Administrator
- 13) Colleen Began – Representative for City of Bayfield
- 14) Tam Hofman – EMS Council President
- 15) Clyde Clauson – Clerk for Town of Orienta
- 16) Rob Puls – Representative for Great Divide Ambulance Service
- 17) Eric Neff – Supervisor for Town of Barnes
- 18) Brett Friermood – Director for Barnes Ambulance Service
- 19) Chris Pribek – Director for Ashland Fire/EMS
- 20) Stuart Matthias – Ashland Fire Chief

**Item 4. Discussion and Possible Action, Minutes from the January 24, 2022 Ad Hoc EMS Advisory Committee Meeting:** *Motion by Cornelius, seconded by Victorson to approve the Minutes of the Monthly Bayfield County Ad Hoc EMS Advisory Committee Meeting held on January 24, 2022. Motion carried.*

*6:05 p.m. - Dave Trudeau joined meeting*

**Item 5. Presentation and Discussion Regarding Topic Summary Documents:**

- a) **Review Priorities from Topic Discussions:** Pederson reviewed the four main areas of concern; Legislative Issues, Organization of Services, Staffing Shortages, and Training that were brought forward by the EMS agencies that gave presentations during the listening sessions at the previous meetings. The top-ranking solution presented was; identify comprehensive legislative agenda to support rural EMS services and fell under legislative issues topic area.
- b) **How do We Proceed with Priority Topics?:** The committee discussed how the group would pursue addressing a more specific topic at future meetings and how the group would like to move forward. It was suggested that the committee divide itself into three subcommittees that would be responsible for addressing the main topic areas with Legislative Issues and Organization of Services being combined into one topic area.

*Motion by Raspotnik, seconded by Beagan to divide the committee into three groups/subcommittees to focus on the three main topic areas previously discussed. Motion carried.*

*Motion by Kluver, seconded by Cornelius to have each of the subcommittees be in charge of one of the following focus areas; Legislative Issues/Organization of Services, Staffing Shortages, and Training. Motion carried.*

Fickbohm asked if recruitment would fall under staffing. Sandstrom answered yes. Quaderer informed the committee members that each subcommittee would be provided with all previously discussed documentation due to the interrelations of the topics.

The committee discussed the responsibilities of the subcommittees.

*Motion by Kluver, seconded by Raspotnik to charge each subcommittee with reviewing all information that has been collected, work to identify solutions to the identified problems, propose an implementation plan for possible solutions to the committee as a whole, review all plans and forward to the County Board. Motion carried.*

Quaderer suggested that, should subcommittees decide to branch out to other sources for more information, to include source information in the reports. The committee discussed how each of the committees would move forward with organizing meetings and obtaining the necessary information to conduct meetings. Quaderer reiterated that herself and Pederson would collect all current documentation and provide it to each of the subcommittees.

The committee members and meeting attendees divided themselves into the following subcommittees:

*Legislative Issues/Organization of Services:*

Eric Neff  
Colleen Beagan  
Scott Kluver  
David Trudeau  
Jan Victorson  
Tam Hofman  
Clyde Clauson  
Chris Pribek

*Training:*

Tam Hofman  
Lyn Cornelius  
Bev Steele  
Steve Sandstrom  
Jeff Bellile

*Staffing Shortage:*

Rob Puls  
Stuart Matthias  
Dan Vaillancourt  
Brett Frierhood  
Sandy Raspotnik  
Lyn Cornelius (alternate)  
Larry Fickbohm

Discussion took place on the procedure for coordinating the meetings between the three sub committees. The committee agreed to hold off on determining the chair and vice-chair for each subcommittee until each of the subcommittees were able to meet for their first meeting.

**Item 6. Legislative Update:** Victorson informed the committee that the EMS Council recently sent in a letter to show its support for SB 826 and stated that the Council has heard a reply from Senator Bewley's and Representative Meyers' offices. Kluver reported that the bill was recently passed at assembly but is waiting to be heard in front of the senate. Abeles-Allison briefly reviewed an announcement released by Governor Evers' office that announced \$30 million in funding that would be put towards supporting rural EMS agencies. Victorson reviewed the process for EMS agencies to receive funding.

**Item 7. Public Comment:** None

**Item 8. Discussion Regarding Possible Agenda Topics for March Meeting:** The committee agreed that no meeting would be held in March, but the committee would expect to hear reports from each of the subcommittees in April.

**Item 10. Discussion Regarding Future Meeting Dates:**

- a) March Meeting - CANCELLED
- b) Monday, April 25, 2022 at 6:00 PM
- c) Monday, May 23, 2022 at 6:00 PM

The committee discussed who would be responsible for setting up the first meeting for the three subcommittees. Cornelius volunteered to coordinate and set up the first meeting for both the Training and Staffing Shortage subcommittees and Victorson volunteered to coordinate the first meeting for the Legislative Issues/Organization of Services subcommittee.

**Item 11. Adjourn:** There being no further business to discuss, *a motion was made by Neff to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.*

Sincerely,

LYNN M. DIVINE  
*Bayfield County Clerk*  
LMD/pat