

Bois Blanc Township Health and Safety Committee

Minutes October 6, 2020

Present: Jim Hutchinson, Clover Schlund, Lani White, John Maynard, Connie Riopelle, and Bob Stowe

Old Business:

Emergency Response:

1. Absence of Nurse Practitioner, MSHS has given us a Telemed phone number to use when individuals need medical assistance. The number connects to the Urgent Care facility in St. Ignace and then will be routed to appropriate provider.
2. We will update the island health information cards with the telemed number and distribute this fall.

New Business:

Health Clinic:

1. Maureen Mitchell, NP position at MSHS has been terminated. She was just notified Oct continue to serve our clinic. She has proposed to their Human Services department that they employ her part time for the sole purpose of servicing our clinic.
2. Connie has calls into Dr. John Barnes, Executive Director of the Michigan Center for Rural Health which distributes the state money we are receiving each year and Karen Cheeseman, CEO, Mackinac Straits Hospital System to determine next steps to resume operation of the health clinic.
3. To date we have not received any notice our contract with MSHS to supply a provide has been terminated.
4. John suggested that we investigate a “real telemed operation” option for the clinic with diagnostic support equipment.

Emergency response:

Bob suggested ideas from the Fire Dept./First Responders:

- Contract with the paramedics on Mackinac Island to respond to our 911 medical calls along with our first responders. The Paramedics can use drug bags and treat emergency cases when our responders are limited, by license, to treatments.
- Contract for a Mackinac Island paramedic to reside on the island in the summer (like the deputy sheriff) to take care of emergencies.
- Our department is now down to 3-4 MFR that have a license. We need to train 3-4 more people as MFR. Bob indicated some people were interested. We all agreed that we would have the funds to support the training costs and pay the trainees for the time to do the training. The Health Clinic has funds in reserve since Maureen has not been here.

John Maynard moved, Lani White seconded that we approach Maureen Mitchell, NP to investigate “telemed” options, cost, equipment, related physician networks, etc. and contract with her to generate recommendations for “telemed” service in our clinic. MOTION PASSED Connie will call Maureen and discuss the proposal.

Lani White moved, John Maynard seconded that we investigate a partnership with Mackinac Island Paramedics to service BBI in the summer and special high traffic weekends. MOTION PASSED. Bob will provide Connie with name and numbers of contacts to begin discussions.

Next Meeting will be scheduled when new information is available.