



MINUTES
AD HOC EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) STUDY COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
April 2, 2026 – 5:30 PM
Chippewa County Courthouse, Room 302

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Pam Guthman called meeting to order at 5:33 PM

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Pam Guthman (Chair)	County Board Supervisor	Present	
Peter Gehring (Vice-Chair)	County Board Supervisor	Absent	
Justus Busse	Chippewa Falls Fire & EMS Battalion Chief	Present	
Dan Dixon	Chippewa Falls District 5 Alderman	Present	
Sandi Frion	Bloomer City Administrator	Present	
Dale Isaacs	Boyd Village Board	Present	
Corey LaNou	Town of Arthur Chair	Absent	
Ron Patten	EMS Association Chair	Present	
Deb Semanko	Cornell City Council	Absent	
Pauline Spiegel	Town of Eagle Point Supervisor	Present	
Dave Staber	Lafayette Town Chair & Fire District Board	Absent	
Eric Weiland	Cadott Village Board & EMS	Present	
Adam Dewitt	Anson Fire & EMS Director	Vacant	

Others Present: James Small, John Ferguson, Andy Albarado, Jason Moses, Tamee Thom, Garret Zastoupil, Amber Gilles, Jimmy Gutch

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

(Comments from the public will be limited to five minutes per speaker.)

4. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve the Agenda Motion
2. Approve the Minutes of the – March 5, 2026
Chair Guthman requested a correction of March 5, 2026, minutes to reflect the vacancy of Adam DeWitt's position.
3. Schedule Next Regular Meeting Date – May 7, 2026

Motion (Sandi Frion/Eric Weiland) to approve. Motion carried 12-0.

5. REPORTS

1. Analysis of Dispatch Call Data
 - a. John Ferguson (911 GIS Coordinator) outlined the methodology of the data sets which included EMS dispatch call data from 2024 and 2025 which totaled roughly 11,223 calls. A link was shared with committee members to view the data as presented.
[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a201cd5360f2436e8cc30507208ec473;!!Mak6IKo!ISxTGZosa5DKNjq6fAgGnTJaL4WxmDI-nG5Hqk7rczJEMIHM1yUbSeZmHhmpoe3M5mhwyDZZAhoT3aJ_gbCk-ZtSxeOofOhq\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a201cd5360f2436e8cc30507208ec473;!!Mak6IKo!ISxTGZosa5DKNjq6fAgGnTJaL4WxmDI-nG5Hqk7rczJEMIHM1yUbSeZmHhmpoe3M5mhwyDZZAhoT3aJ_gbCk-ZtSxeOofOhq$)

- b. Chair Guthman emphasized the importance of reviewing call proportions, ratios, intercepts, and call volume to evaluate system-wide coverage and sustainability. Discussion followed regarding potential additional data points, including:
 - i. Calls with response times exceeding 15 minutes
 - ii. Identification of agencies able or unable to fulfill calls
 - iii. Out-of-district and out-of-county EMS responses
 - c. Tamee Thom noted that adjustments to requested data may require changes in how dispatch records calls.
 - d. Chair Guthman invited feedback from James Small, who commented on the analysis and visualization, recommending additional tools such as heat mapping. He noted that ambulance placement appears generally effective throughout the county.
 - e. Chair Guthman outlined next steps:
 - i. Committee members to notify Tamee Thom if additional data is needed
 - ii. Consideration of how the data will be used to guide committee recommendations
2. Agency Data Scheduling and Logistics Update
- a. Garret Zastoupil shared with the committee that committee updates, survey draft, and roster requests from local EMS agencies would be shared at the upcoming EMS Association meeting on Wednesday, April 8th at 6:00 PM at the New Auburn Fire Station. Chair Guthman and Garret Zastoupil will attend.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. EMS Provider Survey Review

- a) Garret Zastoupil led the committee in a working session to evaluate the EMS Provider Survey to ensure that the questions would yield meaningful data to support the committee's work. Members divided into groups to review survey sections and provided feedback. The plan is to launch the survey next Friday, April 10th following the EMS Association's review, providing a two-week window for participants to respond.
- b) Group One (Pauline Spiegel, Dale Isaacs, Justus Busse)
 - a. Sections 1 & 2 Reviewed and suggested:
 - i. Revising Question 2 wording
 - ii. Adding checkboxes to select questions
 - iii. Allowing respondents to select up to three options in Question 10
- c) Group Two (Eric Weiland, Sandi Frion, Ron Patten)
 - a. Reviewed Sections 3 & 4 and suggested:
 - i. Reducing narrative length
 - ii. Converting several questions to checkbox or table formats
 - iii. Developing a separate community-facing survey
- d) Group Three (Pam Guthman, Dan Dixon, Jimmy Gutch – committee member elect)
 - a. Reviewed Sections 5 & 6 and recommended:
 - i. Clarifying email and timing instructions
 - ii. Expanding comment fields
 - iii. Adding clarity to questions related to EMS protocols, amenities, and provider roles
 - iv. Clearly stating anonymity at the beginning of the survey
- e) Garret Zastoupil noted that the revised survey will be shared with the EMS Association for additional feedback before distribution. The goal is to release the survey with a two-week response window.

3. Exploration of Policy Framework

- a. James Small offered to facilitate a 30–45-minute panel discussion featuring representatives from other counties to share perspectives on EMS models, challenges, and successful strategies.
- b. Motion (Ron Patten / Sandi Frion) to invite a panel discussion as part of future committee work. Motion carried 12-0.
- c. Committee discussion indicated that once survey and data results are available, the committee will be better positioned to determine next policy focus areas. It was noted that a high-level overview of survey results is anticipated for the May 7, 2026, meeting.

7. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

None

8. **ADJOURN**

Motion (Justus Busse / Eric Weiland) to adjourn. Motion carried 12-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM

The **mission** of this committee is to:

- A. Assess the strengths and challenges of Chippewa County EMS services.
- B. Review other county and municipal EMS models.
- C. Develop recommendations to ensure sustainable and effective EMS operations over the next decade.
- D. Establish an action plan for the implementation of these recommendations

Adopted by the Chippewa County Board per Resolution 39-25