

Madeline Island Ambulance Service Report

April 24, 2020

April has been a bit quieter. I hesitate to state that in these challenging times.

I feel as though we are as prepared for COVID as much as we know how to be. There are weekly conversations on Zoom with the State EMS director. Our regional medical director has also been giving us updates and the local BAC council gives updates almost daily. At this time, we are stocked with appropriate PPE, gloves, gowns, masks, face shields and safety glasses. This may not last but we have more on back order. Unfortunately, so does the rest of the world. This part of my report is pretty much the same as last month. Our Medical Director's greatest fear is that people will become complacent and relax about PPE and social distancing. He feels that this is a grave mistake and reminds us all to stay on high alert. We do have forehead thermometers in the rigs and will be taking both crew and patient temperatures on each run for everyone's safety.

We continue to do all of our meetings both regular monthly and training meetings on Zoom. Everyone on the service is practicing social distancing. We have a small service right now with several members out for surgical and other reasons. We are hoping to keep transports to an absolute minimum for COVID-19. Most patients can be assessed and self-transport with the advice of their own physician. This will help keep our service safe and healthy for other emergencies that may arise. We are doing everything we can to keep our community safe and healthy.

Our student at WITC is seeing an effort to continue with her training and get her class requirements finished. She is very concerned about her safety and we have emphasized that her comfort level and safety are most important.

It does look like the island is going to open up again. I am both excited and worried about it at the same time. I have been involved with the new ESB and really hope we are at a stage to keep moving forward. Our space at the county garage is appreciated but it is not the same as a true emergency services building.

Please stay safe, wash your hands, social distance, get some fresh air, eat a good diet, exercise and stay healthy! Respectfully Submitted, Cynthia Dalzell, Madeline Island Ambulance Service