

Madeline Island Ambulance Service Report

July 23, 2020

As of today, we have had 14 runs in the month of July. It is always a busy time of year for emergency services and this season is no different. The number of daily visitors still seems high for the times we are in.

We now have Isa Teisberg on the schedule and Bob Pokorney on the schedule part time. They are new and need to be with other service members but they are both doing great and it is nice to be adding to a very small team. Tom Rossberger has also been helping when he can. He was very helpful on the 4th of July when we had multiple patients at the same time.

We had our regular monthly meeting at the county garage. Even with doors open and people spaced out we kept our masks on. We discussed the issues facing us this season especially new suggestions by our medical director on mask and PPE requirements. He is becoming more and more concerned about using full PPE during all calls. He gave very clear instructions on how to handle patients who refuse to wear a mask. We also discussed our runs and any ambulance issues and supply needs. In addition, we held a meeting last Monday to review all of our protocols, in regards to PPE and patient handling. I am working with Drew O'Brien on a large order for the community of PPE.

The meeting with our Medical Director last week was a very long one. There have been cases of positive tests results for COVID on patients in Washburn. It brought up a lot of discussion and prompted our extra meeting on Monday. We will have another zoom meeting with our Medical Director and the area services next Tuesday. There is always someone from the state EMS office, the local DHS officer, a Hospital representative and all service directors present so these are very informative meetings.

Sarah Schram wrote a letter to the town board with some of our greatest concerns. We decided to ask for a meeting with the town board to discuss some of our needs and priorities about the size of the service and COVID issues. We met Wednesday evening and it was a very productive meeting. I would like to thank everyone who was present for taking the time and listening attentively to our needs. There were some very good suggestions. We would really like to see a mandatory mask ordinance in place soon.

We are trying to find a class for any possible new students this fall. Most of the class can be done on-line and therefore on the island. We need to figure out how the practical portion can be done efficiently and safely.

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