

Madeline Island Ambulance Service Report

October 6, 2021

September stayed a busy month with twelve calls. Six of the runs were transports to Ashland. October has been quiet except for a call this morning. Hopefully fall will slow down and let us concentrate on training and organization.

We have been including our new recruits on many of the calls and they are rapidly gaining experience. We are still facing the difficulty of having four members with the most experience being on every call and taking up any shifts that are not covered by other members. Sarah and I make sure that we have a full schedule unlike many other small towns that we hear on the radio being unable to respond to calls. We are drafting a new compensation package to encourage more members to sign up on the difficult shifts which are mostly weekends. We are also looking at other retention incentives. These ideas may include health insurance packages, better retirement plan or at least a larger contribution by the town to the existing plan. Sarah and I met with Michael Kuchta to draft a first plan to start with this process. It is being added into the budget files for 2022 and will be discussed at our Ambulance Budget meeting on the 18th. The budget for the ambulance service is ready for the first perusal by the town board supervisors.

We would like to thank the Bell Street Gallery and all of the folks that held a pizza party to thank the emergency services. It was very well attended and received.

I am working on the FAP state ACT 102 grant that is due October 17th. Those funds are available to be used for training and new equipment. I am working on the plan for the EKG and seeing what options we might have to add this protocol to our service. We are also looking to have training on the new IGEL airway device approved by our medical director.

This morning I heard from Kevin Pomasl, and he informed me that he has sold the older used ambulance that we purchased right after the fire. This will help with our payments on the Mercedes ambulance. It is really good news. It has taken quite a bit of time, but we got a fair price for it. I just heard from Paul Schilling at the state, and he is coming to the island on October 14th to inspect our ambulances. They are usually physically inspected every two years.

I plan to attend a course at the end of October on Operational Plans. I hope to also start working on ways to improve our collections. It is budget time so that is taking up quite a bit of time. It will be interesting to see how the new building affects our budget.

In addition to our meetings, we have gone back to having department head meetings and, also a meeting with Michael Kuchta with the ESB department heads.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Dalzell

Madeline Island Ambulance Service

