## Madeline Island Ambulance Service Report

## February 28, 2022

We had a quiet month in February. I worried about the ice road and the approaches a lot, but we got through just fine. We did have a meeting about how to improve our system with the wind sled and the new drivers and the fire department. If there are calls during ice road season, we will always call Arnie to get updates on the safety of the road.

We did have both of our meetings in person. Our medical director has not changed our protocols yet as far as COVID protocols are concerned. We had our regular monthly meeting to discuss runs and improvements and complete vouchers. We had a training meeting last week. It was an outdoor training with the ambulance and the ATV with the rescue sled. It was a good meeting. As the patient, I hid in the snowdrifts at the airport and the crew had to come and find me and rescue me. The equipment worked fine and so did the ATV. We did discuss some improvements that might be made to accommodate much larger patients. We have used it on the town park beach at one time for a larger person and it did work well. It was a great training meeting, and it was good to get out the ATV and let the new crew members drive and get acquainted with the process.

We are still working on a cascade oxygen system. This will allow us to fill small oxygen bottles at the ESB and not go all the way to Ashland to do so. The large medical oxygen bottles can be rented or purchased from Chicago Iron where we get all of our medical oxygen. Then there is a regulator system that will have to be purchased. We received a donation from a community member, and I would like to have our crew vote on having that donation used for these purchases. I hope to have this all finished in March.

I went over to Bayfield and met with Lyn Cornelius. She is the Bayfield Ambulance Director and has received the Train the Trainer certificate for the new airway management devices. She showed me the devices and we trained on their use and pros and cons. I practiced and she signed me off as a Train the Trainer. We will be having our EMTs train on this and get signed off at our first meeting in March. It is an advanced airway so EMRs may assist but it is not on their protocols to be lead on using this device. It is much simpler than the old Combi-Tube system we have used for years and greatly improves patient care.

I have been working with a new representative at AMB, our current billing system. She is located in Milwaukee and is better versed and acquainted with at some of the Wisconsin regulations, etc. We have had weekly phone conversation to try to better improve our collections. We will be needing a collection agency to add into the system. I am learning a lot about how AMB works and how the state works. We are making suggestions on both sides, and it has been a good

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experience. We will continue our conversations each week until we both feel as though the system has improved to an acceptable level.

I have been meeting with Ric Gilman, Rick R., Paul W. and Michael K. to start the work on updating our Fire Number System. It is a very important upgrade to ensure safety and accessibility to our residents.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Dalzell

**Madeline Island Ambulance Service**