

HICS FORM 202: INCIDENT OBJECTIVES



1. Incident Name: NWWIHERC Membership Meeting	2. Operational Period: August 6, 2021 0930-1100	3. Incident Location: Teleconference via Go To Meeting
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5. Attendees via Go To Meeting: See attached list of organizations represented at the meeting.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION
Call to Order	Called to order by Candi McConnell, Board Member, at 0932
Welcome and introductions Approval of the Agenda	Motion to approve agenda by Robb Paulson. Second by Natasha Cardinal. Motion approved. Announcements: Dennis Brown of Chippewa County Emergency Management has retired. Congrats Dennis! New Chippewa County EM is Russ Bauer. Erika Kurtz is no longer in the Emergency Preparedness role at Memorial Medical Center in Ashland. Patti Senk is the interim EP.
Minutes	Minutes from the June meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. There was one correction. Motion to approve minutes by Candi McConnell and Kevin Larson as corrected. Motion approved.
Fiscal Report	BP 3 Base Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aimee reviewed Budget. Reminder, we are the recipients of Hospital Preparedness Program grant from the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR). We have two budgets that get merged into one – Base funding (Budget Period 3- \$150K) and our carryover budget. Carryover is higher due to limited conferences/travel/training from COVID last year. There are some upcoming national conferences that are still scheduled for this upcoming year for the board members and HERC Coordinator. There is also travel for regional conferences and various areas of the region for exercises and training. Presented and reviewed the template for the Base Budget. Robb Paulson made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Laura Sauve seconded the motion. Motion approved. BP 3 Carryover Budget <p>Aimee is working with the accountant to finalize the numbers for this past fiscal year. Looks like approximately \$136K in carryover funds. A subcommittee of the Board will be meeting to discuss the draft carryover budget next week. If there is something members would like to see for this budget, please send ideas to Aimee. Lisa McMahon suggested a regional exercise. We will be working to budget money for ongoing exercises and hopeful for an in-person exercise. We are required to do a Burn and Pediatric surge exercises this year.</p>
Regional Updates	COVID-19: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Updates from Brian Kaczmarksi (Statewide HERC Coordinator)

The State's response during this uptick in cases has been complicated with the transition away from COVID response team to the Department of Health Services. Certain positions in leadership throughout the pandemic are starting to phase out and contract positions are starting to be posted. As people are hired, there will be a new organizational chart made available. There will be two media briefings by the Governor next week. Data coming out of regional hubs is showing the only 1/3 of previously approved vaccinators are currently actively vaccinating. As we start seeing more cases and fear around new variant, demand for vaccinations is ticking up slightly. The Regional Managers are going to be done at the end of August and the responsibilities will be transitioned to hospital-based HUBS in Eau Claire, Green Bay and Madison. For Public Health right now, the biggest issue is return to school and level of support local Counties and Tribes will receive from State regarding contact tracing, messaging, visitor policies, etc. As locals begin shifting, we will be hearing about it at the HERC level and sharing that information may shift response at the State level. All HERCs have started increasing check-ins with partners. At this time there are no longer State Emergency Operations Center situational awareness calls scheduled for Emergency Management.

- **Question:** If there is a particular concern who should we be running that communication to? There are existing email addresses listed below. Please use these until we get clarification on specific contacts.

Topic	Contact
Contact Tracing	DHSCoactTracing@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Wisconsin Exposure Notification app questions	WIExposureNotification@wisconsin.gov
Vaccinations: General public	DHSCoVIDVaccinePublic@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Vaccinations: Providers	DHSCoVIDVaccinator@dhs.wisconsin.gov
K-12 Testing Program questions	DHSK12CovidTesting@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Testing results from community testing sites	WICovidResult@wisconsin.gov
Medicaid questions related to COVID	DHSDMSCoVID19@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Wastewater Surveillance Team	DHSCoVIDWastewater@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Business/Occupational health investigation	DHSCoVIDOccHealth@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Outreach Case Management or Travel Alerts	DHSCDESOutbreaks@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Clinical Lab Improvement Amendments (CLIA) inquiries, DQA CLIA inbox	DHSDQACLIA@wisconsin.gov
Communicable disease (non-COVID) questions	DHSDPHBCD@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Prevention Program inbox	DHSWIHAIPreventionProgram@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Immunization program/COVID vaccine questions for LTHD and healthcare providers	DHSCOVIDVaccinator@dhs.wisconsin.gov
BCD Biweekly Webinar Questions	DHSDPHBCD@dhs.wisconsin.gov
PCA Portal questions/access requests	DHSPCAPortal@dhs.wisconsin.gov
ELC funding questions	DHSDPHELC@wi.gov
WEDSS	DHSWEDSS@dhs.wisconsin.gov
GovD notifications	Staff listserv: Sign up for the new Local Public Health Department Staff list.

- State continues to try to find messaging that works. Aimee shared a brief video as an example. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-zwN2zUSAk>
- **Delta Variant- What steps are you taking?** Hospitalizations have increased in the region.
 - **Hospitals:**

Some have decreased or limited visitors to only two per day and they must stay in the room (can't walk hallways, etc.). There has been a rise in pediatric cases. A majority of pediatric patients would be shipped to another State. One facility has reapplied universal masking, PPE, and are holding discussions of improving pediatric surge plans, enhancing employee testing to reduce staffing shortages, and having their executive team discuss capabilities. Another is bringing back front attendants for screening, revisiting the visitation policy and masking. Several hospital are utilizing Incident Command as needed, med/surge & ED has a daily morning meeting w/doctors and reminder to all staff about the Critical Care

Coordination Center (C4) in MN. They had a recent experience of having difficulty finding a critical care bed for a patient.

- Public Health:

Many departments are looking to bring on more LTE's with the uptick in cases and requesting WING testing capacity. Aimee has been hearing that healthcare systems have stopped doing drive-thru testing and more clinic-based testing. This has been a concern regarding accessibility. As of now, we do not know if the WING testing support will be extended past Sept. 1st. There have been some counties reporting billing for testing. Some larger systems have re-opened testing site M-F. Other healthcare systems report they have the capacity to expand testing quickly if needed. Primary concern right now is the State's plan for community testing if WING is not extended. Public Health is working very hard with their school systems and masking guidance/testing.

- Long-Term Care: has done a great job with curbing outbreaks. Kevin Larson reports many campuses are struggling to increase vaccination rates. The nurse/nursing assistant rate is around 50-600% vaccinated. Those in the environmental services/maintenance/dining services tend to have a 30-40% vaccination rate. Many are going back to screening new admissions and asking hospitals to have a negative COVID test 24 hours prior to discharge. Patient screening is also being increased in many facilities. State is asking facilities to have 4 weeks of testing supplies on hand.

- **Fit testing kits** are still available. Please remember fit testing and having a respiratory protection program is best practice for any facility using a N95 mask. Please go to this link prior to September 11, 2021:
<https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/6414687/Fit-Testing-and-Respiratory-Protection-Survey-for-Health-Care-Entities>

- **Vaccine Requirements/Mandates:**

This is a challenging topic. Some discussion included hospitals who are strongly recommending vaccination, but still have a declination process including employee education. Others are mandating all staff, including remote staff, students and vendors to be vaccinated by a particular date in the fall. Some are choosing not to require vaccination due to concerns about resignations and short staffing. Others are still having conversations.

Other REAL Events since June:

- St. Croix County had a tornado touchdown in Erin Prairie Township and travel 6 miles to Hammond. Rated as an EF1. No public infrastructure damage other than minor debris clearance, however, had several homes damaged. Western WI Health did not open IC for storm last week, but followed severe weather plan
- Have gotten through summer festivals without significant weather issues.

Any upcoming exercises, training, events?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None noted.
RTAC Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WEMSA coming up in October and all RTAC Coordinators will be able to meet. Had RTAC meeting on July 27 – set budget and reviewing By-Laws. Injury prevention group will be looking at falls data. Rob is putting together list of ADRC’s to reach out for further information and information sharing. Attending DARE exercise in May of 2022 – will be a large exercise and will likely need volunteers. National Pediatric Readiness’ Assessment closes August 31st and need organizations to please participate. Survey was sent by Erica. Will forward to non-responding hospitals this week.
Medical Advisor Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be working on the Infectious Disease Expert Panel this year for Infectious Disease Annex (grant deliverable).
Agency and Partner Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western WI Public Health Readiness Consortia (WWPHRC) – working on back-to-school concerns, vaccinations, and delta variant. Brittany has a new email address: Brittany.fry@co.eau-claire.wi.us • Wisconsin Emergency Management – Emergency Management is working on wrapping up their Plan of Work (POW) fiscal year grants, which ends September 30th. WEMA Conference coming up in October. • Medical Reserve Corps – MRC Unit Scope of Work & Budget Period was completed on June 30, 2021. St. Croix Valley MRC used funds to purchase disaster preparedness to go bags for your home, car and pets and will be doing preparedness outreach in the month of September, for Preparedness month, utilizing social media, trivia, quizzes, open houses with first responders, and education to have a chance to win preparedness bags. • WISCOM – Continuing to work with State regarding Type 2 counsels and management. Please reach out to John for questions regarding technical support. State is not looking at updating Type 1 in our Region in the next month or so. Will let you know when they are.
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board of Directors’ Elections including Officers- Due to COVID this was done through Survey Monkey and we have the exact same board as last year. Those running were going for a second and third term. • Aimee sent an email out on August 2nd about a Letter of Intent for Vistelar Train-the-Trainer course (crisis management de-escalation program). HERC Board is considering paying for ½ the cost of training (\$3k to train someone). Please send Aimee letters of commitment no later than August 27th. If there is no interest we will not sponsor, if there is interest will we budget from carryover funds. Initial survey did indicate a great response, particularly from LTC facilities that they do not have this program and had an interest. Please consider this option and let Aimee know your thoughts.
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training requests for fall: unclear at this time if we can move forward with in-person, but please send any requests to Aimee. There will be a training survey coming out very soon. Please watch for this survey.

Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 1100. Please email Aimee if you called in today so you receive credit. Thank you!
Next Meetings:	Next Meeting: October 8*, 2021 , *Not the first Friday of the month. Location and Time TBD. Hoping to have an “in person” option. More information to come.
5. Prepared by : Natasha Cardinal Aimee Wollman Nesseth	6. Approved by (Joint Incident Command):

Meeting Attendance via Go To Meeting: 0930-1100 August 6, 2021

NWWIHERC-Aimee Wollman Nesseth

NWWIRTAC-Robert Goodland

WISCOM SME-John Kruk

Statewide HERC-Brian Kaczmarek

Assisted Living

- Thunder Willow-Donna Ernst

Emergency Management:

- Douglas County Emergency Management-Adam Olson
- Dunn County Emergency Management-Steve Findlay
- Eau Claire County Emergency Management-Tyler Esh
- NW WEM-Anita Smith
- Pierce County Emergency Management-Christine McPherson
- Polk County Emergency Management-Lisa McMahon
- Price County Emergency Management-Roxanne Kahan
- St. Croix County Emergency Management-Natasha Cardinal
- WC WEM-Lisa Olson-McDonald

EMS:

- Brule Fire-Keith Kessler
- LifeLink III-Brooke Turner and Josh Weirich

Home Care/Hospice:

- Adoray Home Care-Kari Schafer
- Hearts at Home-Barbara Jensen
- Mayo Clinic Health System Home Care and Hospice-Bobby King
- Recover Health-Stacey Holmes

Hospitals:

- Advent Health-Angela Jacobson
- Amery Hospital and Clinics-Kari Clark
- Marshfield Medical Center-Daniel Wall
- Marshfield Medical Center-Eau Claire-Lexie Schwartz
- Marshfield Medical Center-Ladysmith-Ian Fisher and Peter Potts-Shufelt
- Marshfield Medical Center-Rice Lake- Ian Fisher

- Mayo Clinic Health System-Eau Claire- Bobby King and Charles Schlichting
- Memorial Medical Center-Patti Senk
- OakLeaf Surgical Hospital-Amanda Johnson
- Osceola Medical Center-Rich Haider
- River Falls Area Hospital-Krysta Reuter
- Sacred Heart and St. Joseph's Hospital-Chippewa Falls- Jack Workman and Debbie Lauer
- Spooner Health-Missy Eckburg-Hess and Jill Andrea
- St. Croix Regional Medical Center-Matt Maxwell
- Western WI Health-Robb Paulson

Public Health:

- Ashland County Public Health-Rebecca Nielsen and Elizabeth Szot
- Barron County Public Health-Laura Sauve
- Chippewa County Public Health-Kristen Kelm and Jenny Lenbom
- Douglas County Public Health-Cindy Freeberg and Kathy Ronchi
- Eau Claire County Public Health-Lieske Giese
- Pierce County Public Health-Jen Hipple and AZ Snyder
- Polk County Public Health-Jean Schultz and Felicia Fisk
- Sawyer County Public Health-Julia Lyons
- St. Croix County Public Health-Mary Wienke
- Washburn County Public Health-Cassidy Watson
- Western WI Public Health Readiness Consortium-Brittany Fry

Skilled Nursing Facilities/Assisted Living/Adult Family Homes

- American Lutheran Home-Menomonie-Randall Rennock
- Chippewa Manor-Morgan Anderson
- Dove Healthcare-Barron-Emily Welch
- Dove Healthcare-Bloomer-Joe Muench
- Dove Healthcare-Rice Lake-Hannah Shankey
- Dove Healthcare-South-Ashley Saucedo
- Dove Healthcare-Wissota Vent-Cayci Wathke
- Ellsworth Health Services-Amy Mercer and Doug Tembruell
- Kinnic Health and Rehab-Melissa Pechacek
- Maple Ridge Care Center-Will Wolf
- Spring Valley Health and Rehabilitation -Kevin Larson
- Water's Edge-Candi McConnell