Northwoods Emergency Medical Services District

Grant sub-committee meeting Minutes

Friday, March 6, 2026, 9:00 AM

Zoom

A quorum of Town Board members from each of the four member Towns may be present at this meeting. No official Town Board action will be taken by these members during attendance at this meeting.

1. The Meeting was called to order by Steve Herzberg 9:00 am and he verified that the Agenda had been posted appropriately.

   Those in attendance were:
   Board: Phil Harris, Steve Herzberg, and Daniel Wahlgren
   EMS Consultant: Dana Sechler
   Administrative Staff: Chief Jason Joling
   Public via Zoom: Cathy Logan-Weber, Joe Discianno, Corky Curtis, Phil Eaton, and Robert Silvis

2. Steve Herzberg reviewed the purpose, mission, and scope of the Grant sub-committee, in seeking grants, etc. that would be beneficial for NEMSD.

3. Discussion took place regarding the Wisconsin State Innovation Grant. Dana Sechler explained the nuances of the Innovation Grant to the group in which there are several options that can be considered, in order to be compliant with the parameters of the Grant. John Hanson then explained a number of points, including that the Grant application / submission has to be submitted through the DOR portal. The application has to be submitted by a Municipal Clerk…and any of the Clerks from the four participating Towns in NEMSD are able to do so.

   Corky Curtis asked which law is being referenced, with regards to the Innovation grant, and Dana Sehcler responded that the Innovation Grant was authorized in 2023 Wisconsin Act 12, and was then modified under 2025 Wisconsin Act 15. The webpage with a synopsis of the information can be found here:
   https://www.revenue.wi.gov/Pages/SLF/IG.aspx

   Additional discussion took place about some of the parameters of the Grant that was put in place by the Legislature, and a suggestion was made that a letter be written to the State representatives. John Hanson indicated that he could draft a letter to the politicians, and Steve Herzberg asked that the letter be reviewed by the Grant committee and the NEMSD Board prior to it being sent out. John Hanson indicated that he can send out the DRAFT letter to the various stakeholders for review.

There was a motion made by Steve Herzberg, seconded by Cath Logan-Weber to bring this Innovation Grant to the NEMSD board for review / with a recommendation to submit the Grant, based on current eligibility. Roll call vote: All ayes, motion carried.

4. Jason Joling discussed the specifics of the Congressionally Directed Spending Grant with the group. He had applied for the same grant last year, and plans on using the same/ updated information for this submission. It is due by March 22, 2026 at midnight, to be awarded in 2027. The Grant funds could be used for infrastructure, such as a Station build. It would be beneficial to have a building site / quote, etc., to be included in the Grant application. Motion by Steve Herzberg, second by Phil Eaton to forward this Grant opportunity to the Building / site committee, as well as the NEMSD board to seek their approval to participate. Roll call vote: All ayes, motion carried.

5. Cathy Logan-Weber shared the specifics of the Rural Health Grant, based on the information that she had previously emailed to the committee members. Jason Joling further explained how NEMSD could provide community care services, in partnership with the Local Hospital--without actually having to become licensed as a Community EMS / Community Paramedic service. A motion was made by Steve Herzberg, seconded by Cathy Logan-Weber to present the opportunity for this Grant to the NEMSD board at the next meeting, to seek their approval to participate. Roll call vote: All ayes, motion carried.

6. Additional items and comments:
    a. Phil Eaton asked that the various materials relayed to the Grants be forwarded to the Committee members, for their review.
    b. Cathy Logan-Weber asked about working with the grant writer that Manitowish Waters has hired for writing grants.
    c. Corky Curtis asked if everyone has the committee contact information—and requested that the contact information be sent to everyone else.

The meeting was adjourned by Steve at 10:17 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Sechler