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January / February
2011

EMS Receives \$14,000 Grant

The EMS division was to be awarded a grant that was applied for late last summer. The grant, through the Montana Department of Transportation EMS grant program, will provide about \$14,000 for the purchase of a new Stryker Power Cot. The cot utilizes a hydraulic / electric system that eliminates the need for EMS providers to manually raise and lower the cot, a common cause of back injuries to EMS providers.



The cot is capable of lifting and lowering patients up to 700 lbs, simply at the touch of a button.

An in-service has been held on the new cot, and it was officially placed into service on Wednesday, February 23rd.

Search and Rescue Adds ATV to Fleet



Carbon County Search and Rescue (CCSAR) has added a new vehicle to their fleet. A used Polaris RZR was recently purchased and is in the process of being placed into service. Not the first ATV that CCSAR has operated, but unlike the last Terryx, which was obtained through a loaner program, the new RZR is owned by CCSAR.

ATV's have proven very valuable for the SAR, fire and EMS missions that Red Lodge Fire Rescue is responsible for. We utilize a Polaris Ranger for wildland firefighting, performing medical standbys at special events, and utility around the station such as plowing snow around the station.

EMS Division Welcomes New Recruits

The EMS division is happy to welcome a new group of enthusiastic, promising new recruits. Recently, the EMS membership committee interviewed and approved seven new recruits. The new recruits are George Clow, Katia Grigoriants, Kris Thomas, Asano Otsu, Sean Gandy, Jessica Streifer and Sheila Martus.

In addition to the recruits already interviewed and accepted, there are several other applicants that are waiting to be interviewed, so the EMS division is likely to add several more new recruits to an already sizeable addition this year. All have been assigned officers to mentor them. Welcome aboard new members, we look forward to working with you!

New Incident Command Software

The Montana Southern Fire Zone has purchased a new program from Field Soft called AIMS On-Scene. The program is an incident command program that has become widespread among emergency services nationwide and even internationally. The program will be used by departments throughout the Montana Southern Fire Zone. The software is loaded with features, yet is simple to operate for easy on-scene use. It is currently being set up and configured. Command staff can expect training on the software as soon as setup and configuration is complete.

EZ-IO Drill Enhances ALS Capabilities



Recently, the EMS division added a new medical device to its inventory. The EZ-IO device. The device is used to establish intraosseous (in the bone) access for giving IV fluids and emergency medications. The device is used on critical patients who need vascular access, but an IV cannot be established. This method of infusing fluids and medications directly into the bone marrow has become a widely used nationwide by hospitals and EMS providers, especially given the fact that fluid circulation and drug absorption is almost identical for the intraosseous (IO) route as it is for IV administration.

The ability to use the intraosseous space as a non-collapsible vein was first discovered in 1922 by a physician / professor at Harvard University. By 1936, further research had been done and IO use was used by army medics during WW2 with more than 4,000 documented uses. IO use became standard practice in the US military for seriously wounded soldiers. Unfortunately, the practice did not carry over into the civilian world until the late 1980's, after an American pediatrician saw IO's being utilized in India by medics during a cholera outbreak. IO's quickly became standard practice for pediatric patients, who can be especially hard to obtain IV access on. IO's found their way into emergency medicine and EMS in the 1990's, but widespread use really took off in the mid-2000's when technological advances made IO insertion faster, easier, and dramatically increased the success rate.



The EZ-IO device quickly rose to the top of the available IO devices, and is now carried by 90% of ALS ambulance services in the US, 50% of hospital emergency departments, and is standard equipment for US Military Medical Personnel. They can be used at several different access points, including the tibia and humerus, making them very versatile. They are no more painful than a regular IV, and are FDA-approved for both pediatric and adult patients.



We have a device in M71, A71 and A73 now, as well as a training driver, training bone and training needle for practice.

“Don’t find fault, find a remedy”

Henry Ford

“You have to think anyway, so why not think big?”

Donald Trump

Personnel Update

- Firefighter Sam Hoffman has resigned from the fire division. Thank you for your service.
- Firefighter Erin Oley has resigned from the fire division. Thank you for your service.
- EMT Dan Upton has resigned from the EMS division. Thank you for your service.
- Kathryn Kain has come back to the EMS division as a recruit EMT. Welcome back!

EMT Class Underway

The EMT-basic class got underway on January 18th. The class runs Tuesday / Thursday from 1900-2200. Anyone wishing to obtain CE hours may sit in on the classes, of which there is a schedule posted on the bulletin board if you would like to see what topics are on what days. The general rule is that members sitting in for CE hours need to refrain from making comments and just observe during lectures.

December EMS Responses

44 Responses

12/2	Medical	ALS	Psychiatric Emergency	Pt transported to Billings Clinic.
12/4	Interfacility	ALS	Stroke / TIA	Pt transported from BBC to St. Vincent's.
12/5	Medical	ALS	Seizure	Pt transported to BBC.
12/6	Misc. Transport	BLS	Post-Surgery	Pt transported from RL Airport to Cedarwood Villa.
12/6	Misc. Transport	BLS	Hospice Transport	Pt transported from BBC to residence on Hwy 212.
12/9	Interfacility	BLS	Leg Pain	Nerve problem. Transported from BBC to Billings Clinic.
12/9	Trauma	BLS	Ski Accident	Pt with a wrist injury transported to BBC.
12/10	Trauma	ALS	Hip Injury	Pt injured in a fall. Transported to BBC.
12/10	Interfacility	ALS	Hip Fracture	Pt transported from BBC to Billings Clinic.
12/10	Medical Alarm	BLS	Medical Alarm	False alarm d/t alarm malfunction. No patients seen / transported.
12/11	Medical	ALS	Seizure	Pediatric pt transported to BBC.
12/12	Trauma	BLS	Motor Vehicle Crash	Four patients involved. All refused treatment / transport.
12/13	Interfacility	BLS	Post-Surgery	Pt transported from Billings Clinic back to BBC for recovery.
12/14	Trauma	ALS	Motor Vehicle Crash	Pt transported to BBC.
12/14	Interfacility	BLS	Post-Surgery	Pt transported from Billings Clinic to BBC for recovery.
12/15	Medical	BLS	Headache	Pt transported to BBC.
12/15	Trauma	ALS	Ski Accident	Pt with a wrist injury transported to BBC.
12/15	Trauma	BLS	Ski Accident	Pt with a facial injury transported to BBC.
12/17	Trauma	BLS	Ski Accident	Pt with dizziness and numbness in extremities transported to BBC.
12/18	Trauma	ALS	Ski Accident	Pt with a left elbow dislocation transported to BBC.
12/18	Interfacility	ALS	Elbow Dislocation	Pt transported from BBC to Billings Clinic for orthopedic care.
12/19	Medical	ALS	Syncopal Episode	Pt transported to BBC.
12/19	Trauma	ALS	Ski Accident	Pt with internal injuries transported to BBC.
12/19	Interfacility	ALS	Liver Laceration	Pt from a ski accident transported from BBC to Billings Clinic.
12/20	Interfacility	ALS	Chest Pain	Pt suffering a heart attack transported from BBC to Billings Clinic
12/20	Interfacility	BLS	Back Pain	Pt from a ski accident transported from BBC to St. Vincent's.
12/23	Trauma	BLS	Motor Vehicle Crash	Pt with facial pain refused transport / treatment.
12/23	Interfacility	ALS	Cancelled	Cancelled prior to arrival.
12/25	Medical	BLS	Nausea	Pt refused treatment / transport.
12/26	Medical	ALS	OB Emergency	Pt in active labor transported from BBC to St. Vincent's.
12/27	Trauma	ALS	Ski Accident	Pt with a head injury transported to BBC.
12/27	Medical	ALS	Chest Pain	Pt having a heart attack transported to BBC.
12/27	Interfacility	ALS	Cardiac	Pt having a heart attack transported from BBC to Billings Clinic.
12/28	Trauma	ALS	Ankle Fracture	Pt transported to BBC.
12/28	Interfacility	ALS	Ankle Fracture	Pt transported from BBC to Billings Clinic for orthopedic care.
12/28	Medical	BLS	Cancelled	Cancelled prior to arrival.
12/30	Medical	ALS	Cardiac Arrest	Resuscitation not attempted d/t DNR order.
12/30	Medical	BLS	Syncopal Episode	Pt refused medical transport. Transported via POV to BBC.
12/31	Medical	BLS	No Complaints	Pt refused treatment / transport.
12/31	Standby	BLS	Medical Standby	Standby for structure fire. No patients transported.
12/31	Trauma	ALS	Hip Injury	Pt transported to BBC.
12/31	Medical	ALS	Stroke / TIA	Pt with stroke symptoms transported to BBC.
12/31	Interfacility	ALS	Hip Fracture	Pt transported from BBC to St. Vincent's.
12/31	Interfacility	ALS	Stroke / TIA	Pt transported from BBC to Billings Clinic.

December Fire Responses

10 Fire Responses

12/10	Mutual Aid	Rural Dist 6	Hay Fire	Assisted Roberts Firefighters with extinguishment.
12/11	Fire Alarm	Rural Dist 7	Automatic Alarm	Called for a temperature alarm. Turned out to be a low temp alarm.
12/12	Investigation	City	Gas Odor	Investigated. No hazard found.
12/12	MVC	Rural Dist 7	MVC	Motor vehicle crash. Checked vehicle for hazards.
12/13	Investigation	City	Chemical Smell	Investigated a strange odor. Ventilated residence.
12/18	Fire Alarm	City	Automatic Alarm	Cancelled prior to arrival.
12/19	Structure Fire	Rural Dist 7	False Alarm	No fire found. Good intention call.
12/23	MVC	Rural Dist 7	MVC	Assisted EMS, checked vehicle for hazards, traffic control.
12/31	EMS Assist	City	EMS Assist	Assisted EMS crew with patient lifting and moving through snow.
12/31	Mutual Aid	Rural Dist 6	Structure Fire	Assisted Roberts Firefighters on a chimney fire.

EMS Equipment Update

A few items regarding equipment that all EMS members need to be aware of.

- There are three EZ-IO devices in service now. They are located in M71, A71 and A73 (in the ALS cabinets in the ambulances).
- We are not carrying the pre-build cot bedding kits anymore. Each ambulance has a stock of pillowcases and fitted sheets so that you can grab only what you need. This change is the result of volunteer feedback, thank you!
- We have made a few changes to the blue oxygen cases as a result of volunteer feedback. There is now a non-rebreather and nasal cannula in the internal side pocket by the cylinder. The nasal and oral airways have been moved to the topside pocket. This change also gives us more room inside the case to access the oxygen cylinder.
- At the last ambulance district meeting, it was decided that we will hold off on pursuing new cardiac monitors until the next fiscal year in July.
- We have a new tourniquet to evaluate. The MAT (Mechanical Advantage Tourniquet) is a crossover from the military. It can be used in extreme conditions (underwater, snow, etc), can be applied with one hand on one's self, and achieves arterial bleeding control within 10 seconds. It is the only one-hand tourniquet that meets all 12 testing criteria for the US Department of Defense. Tourniquets are making a comeback in trauma treatment protocols, and are a fairly inexpensive tool (\$35) that can save a life. We are looking at putting them on M71 and all of the ambulances.

Tailboard

- Just a reminder that any time you take a piece of equipment out of service, be sure to put an out of service tag on it so we know that it is OOS and what the problem is. This pertains to anything, whether it is a pager, radio, or a piece of fire / EMS equipment.
- The new washer / set is in service upstairs. It is for gym laundry, kitchen towels, bedding and uniform items only. No PPE or EMS linens. The washer uses high efficiency (HE) detergent, and no dryer sheets are to be used in the dryer, as it fouls the sensors. Fabric softener is available upstairs for use in the washer.
- A new door has been added in the hallway upstairs to separate the upstairs conference / training room from the rest of the upstairs. In addition, the glass door between the conference room and gym has been replaced with a solid wood door. These new modifications should help reduce noise and distractions from the gym and day room / kitchen when people are using the training room.
- A decision will be made soon on how to proceed with fire recruit academy and our 2 new fire recruits this year. This year saw a low number of applicants.

Upcoming Meetings / Trainings

2/14	Fire Training Night	Topic TBA	1900-2200
2/15	EMT Basic Class		1900-2200
2/16	EMS Training Night	Got Airway?	1900-2200
2/17	EMT Basic Class		1900-2200
2/21	Fire Training Night	Structure Fire Behavior	1900-2200 in Roberts
2/22	EMT Basic Class		1900-2200
2/23	EMS Business Meeting / Training		1900-2200
2/24	EMT Basic Class		1900-2200
2/28	Fire Officer's Meeting		1900-2200
3/2	EMS Officer's Meeting		1730-2100

2011 Response Totals

Total EMS responses:	40
Interfacility transports:	8
911 Call Total:	32
911 ALS Calls:	8
911 BLS Calls:	24
Interfacility ALS / CCT:	4
Interfacility BLS:	4
Non-Transports:	12
Total fire responses:	6
Structure Fires:	
Vehicle Fires:	
Wildland or Brush / Grass Fires:	
EMS Assist:	
Rescue / MVC:	2
Hazardous Situation:	3
Service or Other:	1
Good Intent Calls :	

Figures as of February 1st



The Knox key box has been installed in C71 on the main console on the passenger's side. The box for M71 will be installed in the near future. More on the Knox Box program as the program progresses.



The new MAT tourniquet being evaluated by the EMS division.

January EMS Responses

40 Responses

1/1	Medical	BLS	Altered Mentation	Pt transported to BBC.
1/1	Medical	ALS	Hypertension / Tachycardia	Pt evaluated on-scene, declined transport to hospital.
1/3	Interfacility	BLS	Post-Surgery	Pt transported from St. Vincent's to BBC for recovery.
1/4	Trauma	BLS	Back Pain	Ski accident. Pt transported to BBC.
1/4	Trauma	BLS	Hip Pain	Pt transported from Cedarwood Villa to BBC.
1/6	Trauma	BLS	Head Injury	Ski accident. Pt transported to BBC.
1/7	Interfacility	BLS	Weakness	Pt transported from BBC to Billings Clinic.
1/7	Medical	BLS	Overdose / Suicide Attempt	Pt transported from BBC to Billings Clinic.
1/8	Medical	BLS	Nausea	Pt declined transport. Evaluated on-scene.
1/8	Medical	BLS	Syncopal Episode	Pt declined transport. Evaluated on-scene.
1/8	Medical	BLS	Back Pain	Pt declined transport. Would only go to Wyoming hospital.
1/9	Trauma	BLS	Head Injury	Ski accident. Pt transported to BBC.
1/10	Interfacility	CCT	Unresponsive	Critical care patient transported from BBC to Billings Clinic.
1/12	Trauma	ALS	Shoulder Dislocation	Ski accident. Pt transported to BBC.
1/13	Standby	BLS	Fire Standby	Stood by for odor investigation. No patients treated.
1/14	Trauma	ALS	Left Femur Fracture	Ski accident. Pt transported to BBC.
1/14	Interfacility	ALS	Left Femur Fracture	Pt transported from BBC to Billings Clinic for surgery.
1/14	Medical	ALS	Overdose / Suicide Attempt	Pt transported to BBC.
1/14	Interfacility	CCT	Drug Overdose	Cancelled. Pt transported via Help Flight from BBC.
1/14	Medical	BLS	Vertigo	Pt declined transport. Evaluated on-scene.
1/15	Trauma	BLS	Hip Pain	Ski accident. Pt transported to BBC.
1/15	Medical	BLS	Fever / Infection	Pt transported from Cedarwood Villa to BBC.
1/16	Trauma	ALS	Clavicle Fracture	Ski accident. Pt transported to BBC.
1/17	Medical	BLS	Weakness / Malaise	Pt transported to BBC.
1/18	Interfacility	ALS	Sepsis / Infection	Pt transported from BBC to Billings Clinic.
1/19	Trauma	BLS	Motor Vehicle Crash	Pt was involved in a MVC. Pt declined transport.
1/21	Trauma	ALS	Arm Fracture	Pt transported to BBC.
1/22	Trauma	BLS	Head Injury	Pt struck head playing basketball. Transported to BBC.
1/22	Trauma	BLS	Motor Vehicle Crash	Pt denied injuries and declined transport.
1/23	Medical	BLS	Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	Transported 3 patients from BBC to Billings Clinic.
1/23	Trauma	ALS	Head Injury, Elbow Pain	Ski accident. Pt transported to BBC.
1/24	Interfacility	BLS	Post Surgery	Pt transported from St. Vincent's back to BBC.
1/25	Trauma	BLS	Lacerations	Ski accident. Pt transported to BBC.
1/25	Medical	BLS	Anxiety	Pt declined transport. No injuries.
1/26	Interfacility	BLS	Renal Failure	Pt transported from BBC to Billings Clinic.
1/26	Trauma	ALS	Shoulder Dislocation	Ski accident. Pt transported to BBC.
1/27	Trauma	BLS	Motor Vehicle Crash	Pt c/o dizziness. Declined treatment or transport.
1/27	Medical	BLS	Stomach Pain / Lethargy	Pt transported from Cedarwood Villa to BBC.
1/29	Medical	BLS	Deceased Patient	Pt deceased, stood by awaiting coroner arrival.
1/31	Medical	BLS	Cancer	Hospice patient transported from residence to BBC.

January Fire Responses

6 Fire Responses

1/8	Toxic Condition	Rural	Investigated possible toxic condition.
1/8	CO Alarm	City	Responded to carbon monoxide alarm. Investigated.
1/13	Gas Leak	City	Responded to a gas leak (natural gas or LPG).
1/15	Public Assist	City	Public / citizen assist call.
1/19	MVC	Rural	Motor vehicle crash. Provided traffic control, checked for hazards, assisted EMS.
1/22	MVC	Rural	Motor vehicle crash. Provided traffic control, checked for hazards, assisted EMS.

March is coming up fast, be sure you have your EMS license renewal done!



Last Minute Additions. . .

- Carole Salyer has been granted a leave of absence (LOA) from the EMS division until August 2011.
- A quick rappel kit is being put together for M71 in the event that medical personnel must access a patient immediately to begin care before a technical rescue can be performed.

The All-Call



Red Lodge
FIRE
R E S C U E

Official Department Newsletter

Red Lodge Fire Rescue
P.O. Box 318
Red Lodge, MT 59068

Postage

