

FITCH-RONA EMS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Fitch-Rona EMS District
101 Lincoln St., Verona, WI
Thursday, January 15, 2026

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM. Roll Call Present: James Roberts, Jake Lepper, Patrick Lytle, Stephen Fusco, David Lonsdorf. Absent: Daniel Schultz. Also present: Chief Patrick Anderson and Scott Yarbrough, Fitchburg FACTv.

Public Comments: None

Presentation – Cardiac Arrest Saves with The City of Madison – Paramedic Jeremy Owen

Chief Anderson gave a brief explanation of the presentation and welcomed Fitch-Rona EMS Paramedic Jeremy Owen and City of Madison Assistant Chief, Chris Hammes. Chief Hammes honored medic Owen for his work during a Badger game where two cardiac events took place during the game. The two patients were saved due to the care given by medic Owen and team of responders. Chief Hammes presented medic Owen with two challenge coins for his service. Chief Anderson mentioned that it's a phenomenal outcome.

Review and approval of meeting minutes from December 18, 2025

Motion by Lepper, Roberts second. *Motion carried.*

Chief's Report

Chief Anderson mentioned this report is for the year ending 2025. He noted that the district ended the year with 5,434 calls, 5.5% over the previous year. Historically we plan for 3%, but the 5% seems to be pretty steady. The beginning of the year was higher, but leveled off. We ended up with 65% of the calls for the City of Fitchburg, which was expected.

There was 45 times in 2024 and 55 times in 2025 where all of our ambulances were in service and we had to rely on a neighboring service to assist. Time of the week and day of the week are fairly common.

There was a huge number of falls in December. Other types of calls were as expected.

The aging report was noted with the billing company working on those out there the longest. Cash on hand, in a good position. We received our FAP funding for the state fiscal year 2026 so you will see a big increase from the previous report. FAP funding is restricted as to what it can be spent on.

The Chief explained the investments with WISC.

Milestones were mentioned with Deputy Chief Anders being with the district for a year now and Chief Anderson hitting the 25 year milestone.

Shout outs were mentioned for medics Amy Hanson and Nichole Newton for their care given a patient who contacted the Chief to let him know. Also the Chief wanted to thank both Deputy Dostalek and Deputy Anders for covering work while he was out for two weeks at the end of December.

Commission member, Fusco asked if the Chief knew how many calls for falls came from assisted living facilities or nursing homes. The Chief said he can get that number for him, but anecdotally the vast majority of them would come from those facilities.

Commission member, Lytle asked if the Peak Time ambulance will be able to assist when mutual aid is needed. The Chief said he would expect the 55 calls for mutual aid to be reduced by the use of the peak time truck.

Commission member, Lonsdorf personally thanked Chief Anderson for his 25 years of service, followed by other members.

Review and approval of accounts payable checks authorized by Chief Anderson

Motion Roberts, Fusco second. *Motion carried.*

Discussion and possible action on 2025 Audit Services with Johnson Block, CPA

Chief Anderson explained the change that an audit would be done now every year based on a change in the IGA. Before it was a review two years in a row and then a full audit in the third year. The letter just lets the district know what services the accounting firm will perform.

Motion to retain Johnson Block for the financial audit for the 2025 fiscal year by Lytle, Fusco second. *Motion carried.*

Discussion and possible action on policy update – Paternity Leave

Chief Anderson mentioned that this was mentioned the previous month as part of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Previously, there was no policy. The policy was taken from the City of Fitchburg policy manual and some of the language was tweaked to make it apply to FitchRona's schedule. This was shared with the union steward. The union has a 21-day input process. Any comments will come back to the commission for potential review and adoption.

A follow-up question was asked on the ability for the commission to amend as necessary. There was discussion to propose the removal of the pay back provision should the employee leave the district within 6 months of use, knowing that issues do arise. There was also discussion that 3-weeks was not enough time. Chief Anderson mentioned that the length of time mirrors the already adopted City of Fitchburg policy and the intent is to add more time in the future, as there are financial considerations to the policy. He also explained that the commission could adopt the policy with the change noted by commission as an option for approval. Other questions were raised and the chief noted that there is a separate maternity leave policy that does cover many of the other considerations.

Motion to adopt the parental leave policy contingent on the removal of the pay back provision (page 3) by Fusco, Lepper second. *Motion carried.*

Discussion and possible action on Memorandum of Understanding with Local 311 – Peak Time Truck Staffing Guidelines

Chief Anderson explained that Section 3.04 of the collective bargaining agreement outlines shift work, the peak time truck is regular shift work. This MOU sets guidelines which protect the district and the bargaining unit staff as to how to staff the peak time truck. The ambulance will be staffed with LTE employees, not full-time employees. The question was raised as to what happens after a year. The Chief mentioned that this will be revisited after a year within the district and with the bargaining unit and that's why the "one year" language is in there.

Motion to approve the MOU Fusco, Lepper second. *Motion carried.*

Other Business:

A new chairperson is needed as the previous chairperson was not reappointed. Dave Lonsdorf mentioned that a motion could be made for a new chairperson or the commission could wait until all new members are present. The Chief went over what the chair does for the commission. The commission decided to wait for all new members to be present.

Adjournment: Motion Roberts, Fusco second to adjourn at 7:51 PM. *Motion carried.*

Next meeting – February 19, 2026, at 7 pm.

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Lonsdorf". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

David Lonsdorf, EMS Interim Commission Chair

