

# EDGAR COUNTY ROSC MEETING MINUTES

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May 27, 2025

5:15 PM

Paris Hospital Conference Room D

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**Attendees:** Nicki Hanks, Jessica Parrill, Lexanna Strader, Norm Wilson, Conner Dotson, Judy Benton, Jack Hoffman, Doug Cochran, Susan Eslinger, Vicki Dick, Amanda Thompson, Sue Sheeran, Nate Alexander, Mary Morgan Ryan, Cory Hanks, Betty Ridder, Sean Mixson, Cindy Spencer, Lisa Foster, Michelle Creech, Bethany Wagoner, Lori Carroll.

## **Spotlight Agency/Program RAM (Sean Mixson)**

A meeting was held to discuss the upcoming RAM (Remote Area Medical) clinic being organized in Edgar County, with leadership from Sean Nixon of Longview Bank. Sean introduced himself and shared his background, noting his 22 years of pastoral service in California—first as a youth pastor and then as an executive pastor. His experience also includes organizing medical clinics in third-world countries. He explained that the idea to bring a RAM clinic to Edgar County originated after the CEO of Longview Bank watched a documentary about a RAM event in another state. Moved by its impact, the CEO decided to bring a similar clinic to the local community and asked Sean to lead the initiative. Sean traveled to another state to observe the full process of organizing a RAM event. The RAM clinic will offer free basic medical, dental, and vision services. It will include a 360° x-ray machine and vision volunteers who will create prescription eyeglasses on site. The Longview Foundation will provide follow-up care to ensure continuity of service. The goal is to set up 40 individual service tents inside a gym. There remains a need for additional dental professionals, general volunteers, and assistance with event cleanup you must be 14 years of age or older to volunteer, if you are under the age of 18, a family member must be on site with you at all times. Longview Bank emphasized their commitment to serving the community and encouraged continued support and engagement from partners and volunteers.

**Introduction to Remote Area Medical:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OEQA8RSvfbs&t=105s>

**Volunteers changing**

**lives:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmmOTtIbtNI&list=PLSc3E9Y1jedVplwmLGQ9VbO2Z\\_PQ3V5as&index=2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmmOTtIbtNI&list=PLSc3E9Y1jedVplwmLGQ9VbO2Z_PQ3V5as&index=2)

**Remote Area Medical helps patient “Never give up hope”:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZkJz2hxm-U&list=PLSc3E9Y1jedXv1OcxiciDIsdK5hIn7k0X&index=5&t=1s>

## **Council Member of the month**

Lisa Foster was nominated and awarded the Council Member of the Month in recognition of her outstanding dedication and service. Lisa has contributed countless hours to various ROSC committees

and community events, consistently demonstrating her commitment to improving the lives of others. She played a key role in the establishment of the first Al-Anon meeting in Paris, providing vital support for families affected by addiction. In addition to her work with ROSC, Lisa serves on the CARE Coalition Board, where she has helped coordinate and support numerous CARE events over the years. Her involvement in these initiatives stems not only from a spirit of service but also from a deep passion to help families and individuals heal from the effects of substance use disorder. The council expressed sincere appreciation for Lisa's continued efforts and leadership in the community.

### **Event Updates**

The team shared several exciting updates regarding recent and upcoming events. The "Recovery on a Roll with ROSC" skating event saw an impressive turnout, with approximately **85** skaters and a total attendance of around **100** individuals. The recent yoga event was also a success, with **7** participants, many of whom were natural helpers eager to learn new coping skills. A scheduling update was noted: Laundry Day has been moved from the third Thursday to the third Friday of each month to better align with volunteer availability. Looking ahead, the "Paint the Sky" event is scheduled for June 7th from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at Sunrise Park. This family fun day promises to be a great community gathering. Those interested in setting up a booth are encouraged to contact Nicki at 217-549-7599. Additionally, Jessica announced that "Recovery Rocks" will take place again this year on June 26, 2025, from 1:00 to 2:30 PM at Sunset Park in Paris. After such a positive turnout last year, the team is excited to host this inspiring event once more.

### **Deliverable Documents**

As the year comes to a close, Nicki shared that she is currently working on an impact report and invited all council members to participate in a reflective discussion. She asked each member to identify the sector they represent and respond to the question: "Reflecting back on the last fiscal year of ROSC, where do you believe we made the most impact from your perspective?" Lisa and other members highlighted several key areas, including breaking down barriers with the justice system, creating more opportunities for community growth, and increasing public awareness of ROSC and its mission. Members noted the success in bringing community groups together, reducing stigma around recovery, and the strong presence of ROSC at community events—where many people attend just to connect with the team. Laundry Days were identified as having a particularly meaningful impact within the community. One council member remarked that ROSC is becoming a true catalyst for change in Edgar County.

### **Agency Updates**

#### **ECPHD**

No update at this time.

#### **Neighborhood Watch**

No update at this time.

### **Recovery Court (Norm Wilson)**

No update at this time.

### **HRC (Michelle Creech)**

Michelle shared exciting news about a new partnership between the school-based therapist at HRC and the recovery supports team to host a summer camp at Lake Ridge Christian Church. The camp will serve children ages 4 through 12, with sessions for ages 4 to 7 running from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, and sessions for ages 8 to 12 scheduled from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. The exact date is still being finalized, and more information will be shared once it is confirmed. Michelle also discussed plans for this year's recovery picnic, which will once again include a partnership with ROSC. The event will be held on **September 20th**, featuring a walk from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, followed by the picnic from 12:00 to 3:00 PM. This year's event is expected to be bigger than ever, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

### **CARE Coalition (Lisa Foster)**

Lisa shared that all board member positions have now been filled, marking an important step forward. She expressed enthusiasm about scheduling another meeting soon to begin moving forward with plans and initiatives. The team is optimistic about the progress and looks forward to the next steps.

### **Soup Kitchen (Vicki Dick/ Sue Sheeran)**

Vicki began by sharing that 107 people were served at the Soup Kitchen earlier today, reflecting the ongoing need and impact of this vital community service. She also announced the upcoming one-year anniversary celebration of the Helping Hands Soup Kitchen, which will take place on Saturday, June 28th, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the First Baptist Church, located at 201 South Central Avenue, Paris, Illinois 61944. The Open House event is an opportunity to honor and celebrate all those who have generously given their time, talents, and resources to ensure the Soup Kitchen continues to welcome, love, and feed anyone in need. Everyone is encouraged to attend and join in the celebration.

### **Trafficking Training (Doug)**

Doug shared that he has partnered with Crestwood School to bring in the DEA to present the "One Pill Can Kill" program to students. In addition to the school presentation, Doug is planning a community-wide training for parents on the evening of October 1st to raise awareness and educate families on the dangers of fentanyl and counterfeit pills. He asked the council for feedback on the idea and whether they believed it would be a successful and well-attended event. Doug also mentioned that he is continuing to work with local schools to coordinate future training sessions focused on human trafficking prevention.

### **RU Recovery (Rick Cook)**

No update at this time

### **Celebrate Recovery (Cory Hanks)**

No update at this time

**Homelessness Initiative (Nate Alexander)**

Nate has started a homeless initiative called Doorway to Hope. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 PM at Lake Ridge Christian Church. If you would like to get involved, please join us!

**National Day of Prayer Freedom Rally (Jack Hoffman/Rick Cook)**

Jack expressed his gratitude to Rick Cook for his invaluable support with the Freedom Rally and for introducing him to ROSC. He noted that the event reached individuals who truly needed it and emphasized the importance of continuing this work. Jack proposed tentatively setting the next Freedom Rally for May 7th, 2026. He also announced that he had a donation check to present to HRC, CARE, ROSC, and RU Recovery. Jack asked that representatives from each organization stay after the meeting for a photo to accompany the check presentation for the local newspaper.

**Next Meeting: June 24, 2025, at Paris Hospital Conference Room A and on Zoom.**