

EDGAR COUNTY ROSC MEETING MINUTES

August 26th, 2025

5:15 PM

Paris Hospital Conference Room D and on Zoom

Attendees: Nicki Hanks, Jessica Parrill, Rick Cook, Debbie Cook, Doug Cochran, Vicki Dick, Nate Alexander, Bethany Wagoner, Lisa Foster, Scott Foster, Michelle Creech, Cory Hanks, Lori Carroll, Emily Oachs, Mary Morgan Ryan, Janice Watson, Amanda Thompson, Linda Lane, Connor Dotson, Lexanna Strader, Bobbye Scott, Abigail Kauerauf, Ambrosia Branson, Scott Deweese, Marlyn Frey, Landriah Hardiek, Michele Hibbard, Deb Beckman, Judy Benton, Susan Esslinger, Norm Wilson, Jennifer Hutson,

Spotlight Agency/ Program Pavilion New Choice Program

Scott Deweese provided an overview of Pavilion Hospital, a psychiatric facility in Champaign that offers inpatient acute care for children, adolescents, and adults, as well as an addiction recovery program called the New Choice Center. He explained that the addiction program is a 28-day, voluntary, dual-diagnosis program for adults aged 18 and older, which incorporates AA and NA programming and allows for medical detoxification. Scott highlighted that the facility accepts Medicaid and managed Medicaid for both psychiatric and addiction treatment, and noted its unique policy of allowing smoking in a secure outdoor area. He addressed questions regarding substances treated, clarifying that the program can manage most drugs except methamphetamine, and can admit patients who have already detoxed from opioids.

Scott also reviewed the admissions process for voluntary treatment, emphasizing the importance of patient commitment and the requirement of a phone screening prior to an in-person assessment. He noted that some patients have been turned away after arriving at a facility, though the specific reasons for this were not always clear. He explained that crisis departments must obtain approval from a facility before transferring a patient, and shared a personal example of his son being turned away due to detoxification needs.

Further, Scott discussed challenges in managing referrals and bed availability for both psychiatric and addiction programs. He explained that many referrals to the addiction program come from the adult psych unit and stressed the importance of proper screening and triage. He highlighted the uniqueness of the hospital's dual-diagnosis program, which allows patients to step down from psychiatric care to addiction treatment, while also acknowledging the challenges posed by walk-in patients who may require immediate care.

Scott described the comprehensive addiction treatment program in more detail, noting that it includes group therapy, educational sessions, recreational activities, and an abstinence-based approach. The facility has 26 beds, provides psychosocial assessments, random drug screenings, and enforces strict rules regarding contraband. He emphasized that discharge planning is a key component, with clients connected to local recovery resources such as AA and NA after completing treatment.

Finally, Scott reviewed the admissions timeline for the 28-day program, noting that it can often be completed within one to three days if all necessary information is provided quickly. He reported that the program's completion rate is approximately 80%, with higher rates for direct admissions. The program incorporates trauma-informed care, 12-step programming, individual therapy, and medication management for those with dual diagnoses. He clarified that hair follicle testing is not typically used, as most infractions are identified through direct observation or staff reporting.

Council Member of the month

Nicki announced that there were two Council Members of the Month for September, explaining that she could not choose just one due to the strong efforts made over the past month. Michelle Creech and Lori Carroll were both recognized with this honor.

Michelle was acknowledged for being instrumental in supporting council efforts, consistently showing up for each event with strength, dedication, and impact in the community. She and her team played a key role in making the Recovery Picnic a success and in introducing a Wellness Walk this year. This collaboration reflects the very mission of the ROSC Council—partnering with community programs to enhance recovery throughout Edgar County.

Lori was also honored as Council Member of the Month. Though she has only recently joined the council, Lori has quickly proven herself to be a dedicated champion of its mission. Over the past couple of months, she has volunteered at every Laundry Day and has helped build valuable community connections that will have a lasting impact in Edgar County.

Candlelight Vigil

The council announced that the 2nd Annual Candlelight Vigil for National Overdose Awareness Day will be held on August 31st, 2025, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM at New Beginnings Church, located at 526 Clay Street in Paris, Illinois.

Recovery Window Painting

Nicki announced that the ROSC Council will kick off National Recovery Month on September 2nd with a Recovery Affirmation Window Painting event. The activity will begin at 8:00 AM, with participants meeting at Jay's Laundry. She encouraged as many council members as possible to attend and noted that a Recovery Month kickoff photo will be taken to help spread hope, one paintbrush at a time.

Expungement Clinic

Emily Oaks, Senior Paralegal with Land of Lincoln Legal Aid, presented information about an upcoming clinic on sealing and expungement of criminal records. The clinic will be held on November 8th from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at the First Baptist Church and will provide free legal assistance to eligible individuals in Edgar County.

Grant Goals FY26

Nicki presented the community goal for the grant, which focuses on expanding harm reduction, access, and education. She shared that the team will continue hosting community education sessions, distributing Narcan and fentanyl test strips, and raising awareness about harm reduction efforts. Nicki also announced that Christman Library has agreed to serve as a distribution site and will host a Narcan training on September 8th.

Agency Updates

ECPHD

It was announced that the Medical Reserve Corps meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18th, 2025, at 5:00 PM.

Neighborhood Watch

No update

HRC

Michelle reported that HRC has hired a full-time school-based recovery support specialist. She also provided an update on plans for the Recovery Picnic and Wellness Walk, and noted upcoming events in October, including a family information session at a local high school.

CARE Coalition

No update

Soup Kitchen (Vicki Dick/ Sue Sheeran)

No update

Trafficking Training/ One pill can kill (Doug)

Doug announced that the *One Pill Can Kill* presentation will take place on Wednesday, October 1st, 2025, at 6:00 PM at the Paris Center of Fine Arts, located at 14040 East 1200 Road in Paris, Illinois. He invited both ROSC and CARE to set up a resource table during the event. Doug stated that he will be conducting a human trafficking awareness training for Shiloh students during the week of September 1st.

RU Recovery (Rick Cook)

No update

Celebrate Recovery (Cory Hanks)

No update

Homelessness Initiative (Nate Alexander)

No update

Next Meeting: September 23rd, 2025, at Paris Hospital Conference Room A and on Zoom.