

# EDGAR COUNTY ROSC Council

## MEETING MINUTES

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November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025

5:15 PM

Paris Hospital Conference Room A and on Zoom

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**Attendance in-person:** Jessica Parrill, Doug Cochran, Vicki Dick, Lisa Foster, Scott Foster, Michelle Creech, Lori Carroll, Janice Watson, Amanda Thompson, Norm Wilson, Cindy Spencer, Mary Jewell, Cody Ogle, Staci Webb, Annie Blaudow, Jenny McMahan, Sue Sheeran, Dennis Eveland, Susan Tybon, Jennifer Hutson, Rick Cook, Debbie Cook, Mary Morgan Ryan, Janice Watson, Jonathon Burns, Nate Alexander,

**Attendance on Zoom:** Michelle Hibbard, Johanna Gonzalez, Jenna Hays, Kyra Graham, Marlyn Frey, Connor Dotson

### **Spotlight Agency/ The ELKS**

Stacey Webb introduced herself as the ELKS Secretary and shared that the organization raises funds through various fundraisers and grants. Their two major annual fundraisers include the Chuck Milum Memorial Golf Outing, which provides two scholarships and funds a community tree, and fair parking at the Legion, with proceeds supporting local veterans. For their annual Night of Giving, the ELKS distributed over \$15,000 to local organizations, much of which came from grants they secured, and ROSC received a contribution during the event. Stacey highlighted that the ELKS focus on supporting children with disabilities and medical needs, as well as veterans in the community. Recent efforts include Christmas in July for veterans, donations to the VFW Auxiliary for the Veterans Day Breakfast, and providing Christmas gifts to veterans living in nursing homes. She also noted their involvement in numerous community activities, such as the 2025 Scare on the Square, where they handed out candy, drug awareness coloring books, bookmarks, and informational cards. Additional projects include supporting Santa and Mrs. Claus gifts, collecting hygiene products for veterans, the Challenger League, recreation grants, the Hoop Shoot, Red Ribbon Week, and other youth and veteran-focused initiatives. The Paris Elks Lodge #812 currently has 107 members and is accepting new applications, and Stacey concluded by encouraging any organization in need of extra help to reach out to an ELKS member, as they are always looking for ways to volunteer.

### **Survey update**

Jessica reported that the ROSC Council currently has 392 completed surveys, with a goal of reaching 800. She noted that printed surveys were available on the table and encouraged each

council member to gather ten completed surveys over the holiday. She also announced that the survey will officially close on December 1st.

### **Second Chance Employment Committee Updates**

The ROSC Council discussed updates regarding employment initiatives, noting that the language has been changed from “Second Chance Employment” to “Fair Chance Hiring.” Flyers explaining Fair Chance Hiring are currently being developed, and a letter will be sent to all local employers to request meetings. The Council is also working toward selecting a confirmed date for the upcoming Fair Chance Hiring workshop and job fair, tentatively planned for March.

### **Food Drive Updates**

During the Doorway to Hope Outreach Night, a total of 75 food kits were distributed. At the Food Giveaway Event, 120 food kits were passed out to individuals in need. The remaining food donations were provided to the Homeless Projects to support their Winter Outreach Nights in smaller surrounding communities. The Council noted that the community truly came together to bridge the gap, and expressed appreciation to everyone who volunteered, donated, or helped by sharing the event flyers. Michelle Creech also highlighted that the twisted throttle also provided Thanksgiving baskets to 14 families in need in Edgar County.

### **Agency Updates**

#### **ECPHD (Connor Dotson)**

Tuesday, Dec 9, 2025 Community Active for Disaster training at the Edgar County Health Department at 5:30 pm ESDA, UI Extension Office.

#### **Neighborhood Watch (Scott Foster)**

There have been reports of packages being taken from residents’ porches. If you are expecting deliveries and will not be home, please make arrangements for someone to safely pick up your packages or consider using an alternate delivery option. Your awareness and planning can help prevent theft and keep your items secure.

#### **HRC**

At the meeting, it was announced that HRC has a new Executive Director, **Susan Tybon** (Susan.Tybon@HRCEC.org). It was also shared that **Jonathon Burns** will now be focusing on Development for HRC. The organization was recently featured on WCIA, highlighting an underutilized program; the news link was provided for further viewing. Additionally, upcoming trainings were discussed, including **Adult Mental Health First Aid** to be offered in January and

**Youth Mental Health First Aid** scheduled for this winter. Anyone seeking more information is encouraged to contact **Michelle Creech**.

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

Lisa reported that a Board meeting was held, and the organization is now officially recognized as a 501(c)(3).

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

Vicki expressed her gratitude for all of the donations and volunteers. She shared that they are always accepting individual or group volunteers and encouraged anyone interested to contact **Vicki Dick** or **Sue Sheeran** for more information. She also reported that they served a daily high of **157 individual meals** in a single day last week, highlighting the growing need within the community.

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

Rick Cook announced that on Friday, December 19th, the group will meet at 5 PM at First Baptist Church for caroling at Twin Lakes, Brookstone, and other locations, with a discussion and potluck to follow.

#### **Celebrate Recovery (Janice Watson)**

No Update

#### **Doorway To Hope (Nate Alexander)**

Winter Resource Night was a huge success, with 62 individuals receiving essential items such as hats, gloves, clothing, blankets, hand warmers, and hygiene supplies. A total of 75 meal kits were passed out, and 125 sack lunches were handed out during the event. We extend our deepest gratitude to Lake Ridge Christian Church, The Homeless Project, Edgar County ROSC Council, the Edgar County CORS Program, and Horizon Health Behavioral Health for attending and providing valuable resources to our community.

#### **Partnership in Parenting: Shiloh School District**

In November, several family engagement events were held, including a Mom's Mingle where FCCLA hosted day care for moms, and Randi Pollock, Shiloh's art teacher, helped guide participants as they created holiday and winter signs to take home. A Group Connection at Hometown Grounds in Tuscola welcomed eight families and nine children, who enjoyed making turkey crafts. Shiloh's Reading Under the Stars event saw an impressive turnout with 43 families, 60 caregivers, and 97 children attending. The next PIP Group Connection is scheduled for Thursday, December 18th at 9:30 AM at the Newman PIP Office, where families will be making applesauce cinnamon ornaments.

**Next Meeting: December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, at Paris Hospital Conference Room A and on Zoom.**