

# Garrett County Emergency Services Board

Meeting Minutes  
for  
May 15, 2007

Members present:

Ed McLellan  
Brad Frantz  
Todd Dyche  
John Frank  
David Betz  
Jamie Rodeheaver  
Terry Spear, Emergency Services Coordinator

Guests:

Dave Ramsey  
Dr. Rick Perry

The meeting of the Garrett County Emergency Services Board was called to order by Chairman McLellan at 16:00 hours. A motion to accept the minutes from the April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting was made by Jamie Rodeheaver and seconded by Brad Frantz. The motion carried by voice vote of the members present.

Chairman McLellan informed the Board that items of discussion for this meeting would be completing the review of the LOSAP Manual, Regional Transport Policy and comments from the guests present.

Dr. Perry and Dave Betz gave a brief overview of the Region One Emergency Medical Services Land Transport Policy (copy attached) Dave Betz informed the Board of problems that Southern Rescue has encountered when being dispatched into the Terra Alta area and the patient requesting to be transported to Preston Memorial Hospital in Kingwood and another call at Mettikki Mines when a patient requested to be transported to Elkins Hospital. Further discussion and reasoning suggests that Garrett County Emergency Services Board develop a Land Transport Policy specifically for Garrett County based ambulances. It was recommended that Southern Garrett Rescue transport all patients that are closer to Garrett Memorial to that facility. This would facilitate the duty crew from Southern to return to their primary response area in a timelier manner and ultimately better serve the citizens of Garrett County. While in the Northern Garrett Rescue area the policy of transporting the patient to the closest appropriate facility would remain the same as travel time to Morgantown, Cumberland and Oakland are near alike in the more northern sections of the County. Ultimately, a policy taking into consideration the patient status and distance to the closet appropriate facility needs to be drafted and reviewed. Following a review and recommendations by the Emergency Services Board the policy would be forwarded to the County Attorney for legal review

and comment. Upon completion of these steps the policy would be forwarded to Northern and Southern Rescue for implementation. Terry Spear will draft the policy and forward to all Board members for review and comment prior to the next meeting.

Dr. Perry expressed his desire to assist the Emergency Services Board at anytime his abilities may be needed to further the goals and objectives of the Board.

Dr. Perry stated his concerns for the apparent lack of adequate communication and information that was available prior to the startup of the Emergency Medical Resource Center (EMRC). His concerns were that the ESB did not have any information regarding the change-over to EMRC, and the fact there is no longer a direct link between Garrett Memorial and Garrett Central. Also, West Virginia ambulance companies were totally in the dark when EMRC was implemented. He stressed the fact that any changes to the Garrett County EMS system should come through the Emergency Services Board prior to implementation.

Dr. Perry questioned the Board as to the status of Southern Garrett Rescue response times and any actions or plans the Board may have relative to this situation. Dave Betz first addressed the current status of implementation of an incentive program similar to that Northern Rescue currently has in place. However, it is uncertain when this program would be up and running. Dr. Perry reinforced his opinion that the ESB needs to address this issue immediately and make recommendations to the County Commissioners for a more effective system to handle medical emergencies in Garrett County. The Board discussed a proposal to put into action the Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) recommendations and formulate a proposal to employ EMT-P's and EMT-B's in order to effectively respond to medical emergencies in Garrett County.

Dave Ramsey offered MIEMSS assistance to perform an internal SWOT for Southern Garrett Rescue. Following recent discussions with the leadership at Southern Dave will make the necessary contacts to implement the study with a final report ready by September.

Brad Frantz reported that he and Terry Spear participated in the interview process for the Recruitment and Retention Coordinator for Alleghany and Garrett Counties. This position will be funded through a SAFER Grant from FEMA.

Final draft of the LOSAP manual was reviewed by the Board and will be presented to the Board of Garrett County Commissioners for their review and comment. Followed by the County Attorney's concurrence.

Next meeting of the Emergency Services Board will be on June 12, 2007 beginning at 16:00 hours in the Commissioners conference room.

Terry Spear  
Emergency Services Coordinator