

Garrett County Emergency Services Board

Meeting Minutes
For
August 8, 2007

Members Present:
Ed McLellan
Brad Frantz
Jamie Rodeheaver
John Frank
Dave Betz

Guests:
Bob Browning
Dana Green
David Moon
Dave Ramsey

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McLellan at 16:00 hours in the County Commissioners conference room. The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Dave Betz made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Jamie Rodeheaver seconded the motion and a voice vote accepted same.

Chairman McLellan:

1. Reported that LOSAP will be reviewed by County Attorney, Mike Getty, and then should be ready to go out with a RFP.
2. Yough Mtn. Club Fire Dept. – they requested information from the Office of the State Fire Marshall several months ago and to date no further inquiries have been submitted. The Board discussed topics relating to manpower, training and equipping of such an endeavor.
3. SGCRS Technical Review – it was reported that the reviewers did not get as much feedback from the general membership as they were expecting. Survey forms will be sent out to the general membership in hopes of getting additional input for the review. The report should be in draft form for review by the middle of September.
4. Ed gave a brief report on the meeting with the County Commissioners regarding a request from Northern and Southern Rescue Squads to meet with them and discuss issues relating to paid EMS in Garrett County.

Brad Frantz stressed the need to address issues relating to fire and EMS through the Emergency Services Board as an advisory group to the County Commissioners.

5. The Board discussed the process involved in the establishment of a County funded EMS System to supplement the current volunteer system. Brad Frantz discussed several different funding issues. A suggestion was to investigate the possibility of using the County money currently distributed equally to each

squad and apply those funds to a County EMS system. With this scenario the squads could possibly keep most or all of the funds generated by insurance billings.

It was suggested that Southern follow-up with Medical Claim Aid to assure that all billing information is being submitted in a more timely manner. Dave Betz reported that Mike Pritt had resigned as insurance coordinator for Southern Rescue and that the Board would be going to appoint his replacement at the next regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Brad Frantz injected the following as a point of clarification regarding the function of the Emergency Services Board. It was agreed that representatives on the ESB do not just represent an individual department or squad they are representatives of the entire fire, rescue and EMS services in Garrett County; and all actions and recommendations from the Board will be in the best interests of the citizens of Garrett County.

Emergency Services Coordinator Report

1. It was suggested that the minutes of all ESB meeting not be distributed to the general public until after they have been reviewed and approved by the Board.
2. Current status of LOSAP.
3. Bio-Terrorism Grant award
4. Next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 4 at 16:00 hours in the Commissioners conference room.

Dave Betz reported that the Technical Review of SGCRS was conducted by a competent group and they provided good comments and suggestions.

Brad Frantz commented that we all are striving to achieve the same goal. Everyone just needs to keep the line of communications open.

If all information is forthcoming a proposal for the paid EMS program could be ready for review.

The general meeting was adjourned at 17:05 hours to go into Executive Session.

Ed McLellan opened the discussion relating to a scheduled meeting of the Deep creek Property Owners Association. Ed voiced several problems with the Board attending this meeting and suggests that the ESB decline to attend the meeting.

Brad addressed the Board regarding the history of how the invitation from the POA came about. The POA first approached Commissioner Gregg who in turn directed them to contact Brad. Brad and Terry Spear met with Scott Johnson and Lou Battistella from the POA to discuss EMS issues in Garrett County. Brad stated that he believes that the POA could be a good resource in addressing suggested changes to the current EMS system.

Ed reinforced his opinion that he thinks the Board should be consistent with its decisions regarding such requests and not attend the meeting with the POA as requested.

Dave Ramsey stated that the ESB should not attend this type of a meeting until a later date.

Following further discussion by the Board John Frank motioned and Jamie Rodeheaver seconded to respectfully decline to participate in the August 25th meeting do to the fact the draft proposal, for a County funded EMS system, has not yet been prepared for the County Commissioners review along with the sensitive nature of ongoing communication between the County and the rescue squads. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING:

**SEPTEMBER 4, 2007 16:00 HOURS
COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM**