



EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

May 21, 2015

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Lou Battistella, Chairman – General Public
Ed McLellan – General Public
Alex Mellott – Fire & Rescue Association
John Frank, Director, PS& EM
Sonny Vincent, General Public
Johnny Mayne – Southern Garrett Rescue Squad
Wayne Tiemersma, Emergency Medical Service

GUESTS:

Shelia Mahaffey, Secretary
Dick Bolt, Citizen

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Battistella.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 26, 2015 meeting were distributed for review and comment via e-mail prior to the meeting. Sonny Vincent made a motion to accept the minutes. Alex Mellott seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

1. Tichnell Scholarship Report: Mr. Battistella informed the board that it was decided at a meeting on May 15, 2015 the scholarship will be a continuation of prior year's awardees. No official report was given. The committee will be updated at the next meeting.
2. Emergency Services Club: Mr. Battistella, Mr. Frank and Mr. Tiemersma met with Mr. Frantz to discuss the transition of the Emergency Services Clubs and to develop a countywide plan that is viable for both Southern and Northern Clubs. Vick Walker and Shaina Saturday were to attend the meeting but were unable to attend.

The Emergency Services Board recommended that a meeting be scheduled with the school board to develop a lesson plan and present this plan to the Board of County Commissioners to approve so a county wide policy can be adopted.

3. MIEMMS Report & SWOT Update
Mr. Tiemersma reported that Dr. Alcorta conducted another SWOT Analysis, which provided an opportunity to discuss what has been accomplished to date, what has not been accomplished and if the need is still applicable in 2015 or if further evaluation is warranted. The information from the SWOT Analysis has been compiled and is being reviewed. Mr. Kitis will forward the information to Dr. Alcorta and wait for his recommendation.
4. Reports From Public Safety & Emergency Management:
 - A. Hazmat Exercise: Mr. Frank informed the committee that an LEPC Event will be held on September 17, 2015 from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Oakland County Roads Garage (Rain date September 24, 2015). This exercise includes a HazMat Decontamination component that will test the gross field decontamination procedures and decontamination procedure for Garrett Memorial Hospital. Also, the inclusion of both Mass Casualty and Temporary Sheltering will be included in the event. There will be fifteen (15) to twenty (20) volunteers participating in this exercise.

- B. Public Affairs Radio Show: Mr. Frank recorded a Public Affairs Radio show that will air May 24, 2015 at 7:00 a.m. Topics discussed were: the proposed new EOC facility, The Everbridge Mass Notification, Maryland First Program, and Super Storm Sandy.
- C. Everbridge: The emergency mass notification system will enable the County to provide citizens with critical information quickly in a variety of situations, such as severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons, and evacuations. The system will enable citizens to sign-up and receive time-sensitive messages wherever they specify, such as home, cell or business phone, email, text messages, hearing impaired receiving devices, etc. To date approximately 400 citizens have registered in Garrett County. Agencies have an opportunity to utilize the system for staff call-down and emergency situations. There is a need to get the word out to Garrett County citizens to go to the Garrett County Homepage and sign-up.
- D. SkyWarn Class: Mr. Frank informed the committee about a two hour training course to be held in Garrett County probably in the fall. This course provides essential information for all types of weather hazards; thunderstorms, floods and tornadoes. The National Weather Service encourages anyone interested in public service and access to communication, such as HAM radio, police and fire personnel, dispatchers, EMS workers and public utility workers to join the SKYWARN program.
- E. Maryland Statewide Interoperability Program: The Maryland Statewide Interoperability Program management office, under the leadership of the MSP is holding a series of Regional Interoperability Forums to support interoperability at all levels of the counties, regions and state. The forum for Garrett County is scheduled for June 11, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. to be held at Allegany County Emergency Operations Center in Cumberland.
- F. Maryland First Initiative: Mr. Frank requested a twenty minute timeframe at this ESB meeting for Virginia Smith, Planner for Emergency Management who is on the State Committee for Maryland Net and First Radio Initiative to give an overview of the development of the program as it pertains to public safety. Due to time constraints Mrs. Smith was unable to attend this meeting.
- G. Hazardous Materials Plan: Mr. Frank shared the new 2015 Hazardous Materials Response Plan with committee. The new plan will be put on the Emergency Management website in the near future.
- H. Active Assailant Interdisciplinary Class: Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute University of Maryland is presenting an Active Assailant Interdisciplinary Response course at Clear Spring High School on June 27, 2015. This course will review the interdisciplinary response of Fire, EMS, Police and Emergency Management to active assailant or potentially volatile incidents.
- I. Mobile Morgue Unit: Garrett County has a new refrigerated Mobile Morgue unit that can accommodate up to forty (40) bodies.
- J. New EOC Facility: The Garrett County Board of County Commissioners prioritized the EOC project as the top Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) project. The ARC grant applicant EOC construction budget included a \$500K request from ARC with A \$500K match from the County. A/E services will be sought through the County's procurement office to kick start the project at the beginning of the fiscal year, July 2015.

5. EMS Chief Report:

Helicopter Issue: At the February 26, 2015 ESB Committee meeting Sergeant Kelly discussed the weight issue of the new helicopter not being able to land at Ruby Hospital because it is too heavy. A verbal agreement was made last year enabling the helicopter to land in the back corner of the Ruby Hospital parking lot. When Ruby Hospital personnel were contacted months later about the landing agreement, the response was that it was not a viable option and the new helicopter would have to land at the Morgantown Airport and transport patients via ground transport to the hospital. No rationale or explanation from the hospital was given for the decision. Therefore, MSP Aviation is not using Ruby Hospital. All MSP Aviation transported patients are either taken to the Pittsburgh or Johnstown medical facilities.

A motion was made by Ed McLellan and seconded by Paul Harman and the motion carried unanimously to write a letter of concern about the landing situation at Ruby Hospital. A letter to be drafted by Mr. Kelly, Mr. Frank and Mr. Tiemersma will be forwarded to Mr. Battistella who will submit the letter to the Garrett County Commissioners for approval to send to Ruby Hospital.

The Maryland State Police are trying to resolve this issue and asked that a letter not be sent. (TABLE letter to County Commissioners) A motion was made by Alex Mellott and seconded by John Frank and the motion carried unanimously not to write a letter of concern about the landing situation at Ruby Hospital.

- A. EMS Response Time: Mr. Tiemersma, EMS Chief distributed a packet summarizing the response data (response time, delayed calls, failed responses, secondary responses, and location patients are taken, etc.) for all the stations and explained the data presented. Squad coverage was also discussed.
- B. New Reports: Several new reports are being created by the EMS staff; once the reports are completed Mr. Tiemersma will take the reports to the Chiefs Association meeting for approval.
 - 1. Reconciliation Report: Josh Hook has started a new report utilizing the CADD system. This report will make sure there is a report completed for each incident.
 - 2. Jon Hamilton is creating:
 - o A report of employee health issues within the squads
 - o A SLP report for EMS response time for fire calls
 - o A report for rehab fire calls
- C. Hazmat Kits: Working on additional funding from EPA to purchase HazMat Kits.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Public Safety Day: The Board of Garrett County Commissioners approved the request from the Emergency Services Board for funding of \$500.00 to provide support for Public Safety Day to be held June 14, 2015.
- B. Accountability Tags: New fire department members need accountability tags; these are issued from the 911 center. Currently there is no funding available to purchase new tags. A fireman is to have two accountability tags. One tag is to stay on the person and the other tag is to stay with the vehicle in order to account for those who are on the call. (TABLE)

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. New Scholarship Program: Mr. Mayne announced that the Southern Rescue Squad has created three (3) new \$500.00 scholarships to be awarded each year. These scholarships are set up and will be awarded the same way the Tichnell Scholarship is awarded.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Emergency Services Board is August 20, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. on a motion by Sonny Vincent, which was seconded by Alex Mellott and carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED BY: _____ DATE: _____
Lou Battistella
Chairman