



# EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

May 16, 2019

## MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Lou Battistella, General Public  
Sonny Vincent, General Public  
Alex Mellott, Fire & Rescue Association  
Edward McLellan, General Public

## GUESTS:

Shelia Mahaffey, Emergency Services  
Dwayne Kitis, MIEMSS  
Paul Harmon, General Public

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## CALL TO ORDER

This Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Battistella.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Regular Meeting for February 21, 2019 were distributed for review and comment via e-mail prior to the meeting. Edward McLellan made a motion to accept the minutes. Sonny Vincent seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

## REPORTS

- **MIEMSS Report/Commercial Ambulance Services**
  - A meeting is scheduled next week for the Regional Council Pre Hospital Care Committee
  - Only one submission from Garrett County for the "Hall of Fame" award
  - The Medicare Emergency Triage, Treat & Transport (ET3) Program. The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation recently announced a new 5-year program, the "Emergency Triage, Treat & Transport ("ET3") Program," that aims to ensure that Medicare Fee-for-Service beneficiaries receive the most appropriate care, at the right time, and in the right place. ET3 will expand Medicare to reimburse EMS for Medicare patients when those patients are treated / transported under certain new models of EMS care. At the same time, however, ET3 will continue traditional Medicare reimbursement for ambulance transports to hospital emergency departments and other currently permitted destinations. Even though ET3 applies only to Medicare Fee-for-Service patients, Medicare is encouraging multi-payer adoption to support overall success and sustainability. Medicare reimbursement changes under ET3 have three distinct components
  
- **Director of Emergency Services Report**
  - First Energy Training Trailer – First Energy has an electrical training trailer available to Garrett County for training if interested. John Frank brought this up at the Fire Chiefs meeting at this time there has been no response from the local fire departments. Lou Battistella said they used the trailer in Greensburg and it was very beneficial and demonstrates the dangers involved with electricity.
  - The LEPC sub-committee has laid out an Active Assailant Plan, held seminars sent all information to local VFD's with very little response, however; EMS and law enforcement had a very good response. A table top will be held in late fall 2019 then a full exercise will be scheduled.
  
- **Chief's Report – Emergency Medical Services**
  - Wayne Tiemersma distributed a packet summarizing the response data (response time, delayed calls, failed responses, and secondary response) for all the stations and explained the data presented.
  - Friendsville is having trouble covering shifts; Emergency Services staff cannot cover these shifts every day. It is especially hard to find coverage for Saturdays and Sundays, and overnight coverage is not adequately covered
  - Per Dwayne Kitis of MIEMMS if a provider is on the schedule and doesn't show up to cover their shift they are in breach of commitment.

- A motion recommended by Chief Wayne Tiemersma to issue written warnings to all Volunteer Fire Departments about awarding points to paid staff was made by Edward McLellan, which was seconded by Alex Mellott and carried unanimously.
- Chief Tiemersma and Dwayne Kitis met with the MIEMSS compliance officer to review Garrett County EMSOP reverification which went well. Some recommendations for minor changes to the plan were made.
- Per the Medical Review Committee, Dr. Rikhye is to be the sole Medical Director. Chief Tiemersma to talk to Dr. Perry about resigning.
- Emergency Services to partner with the GC Health Department on a grant submission to address the Opioid epidemic. GC Health Department Peer Recovery Coach and Paramedic to team up; EMS provider will report to Health Department one day a week starting in July 2019 if the grant is awarded. This is a follow up service.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **LOSAP**
  - Currently working on the criteria for the Auxiliary Point System.
- **Potomac Edison Delay Response Issue**
  - A meeting was held on April 11, 2019 with three representatives from First Energy regarding the issue of delays from First Energy arriving on scene of emergencies. Representatives from First Energy said they are trying to solve the delay problem but nothing can be done immediately and suggested that a fax be used in the future to report an emergency instead of a phone call. This issue will be looked into again in four years. This item will be deferred until the next ESB meeting, with Kevin Null, Lou Battistella, John Frank, Kenny Collins, John Feather and Justin Orendorf.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Emergency Services is fully staffed with twenty full time employees, one full time employee is currently off due to an injury; there are eighteen part time employees and a possibility to hire two part time employees back.

### **2019 MEETING SCHEDULE**

- The 2019 Emergency Services Board meeting schedule is:  
**August 15, 2019 and November 21, 2019**  
Special meetings may be scheduled if deemed necessary by the Board.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Emergency Services Board is scheduled for **August 15, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.** With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. on a motion by Sonny Vincent, which was seconded by Alex Mellott and carried unanimously.

**MINUTES APPROVED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 LOU BATTISTELLA  
 Chairman