

Chester County EMS Council, Inc.
January 12, 2011

I. Call to Order

President Leo Scaccia called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm, followed by the pledge of allegiance with the following in attendance:

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| Ed Atkins | Glenn Heininger |
| Mike Borrello | Andy Worth |
| Frank Sullivan | Lisa Eckenrode |
| Glen Morgan | Rosemary Wurster |
| Gary Weigel | Penny Knotts |
| Rich Cardelli | John Applegate |
| Tom Amico | Frank Piscitello |
| Keith Johnson | |

Field Services Division:

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|------------|-----------------|
| Steve Webb | Harry Moore |
| Pat Cook | Rob Linnenbaugh |

Visitors / Guests:

Fred Wurster, Good Fellowship Training
Dave Garver, Chester County Coroner's Office

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the November 10, 2010 minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

III. Reports

3.1 Finance

Frank Sullivan reported no activity other than interest.

3.2 Medical Director

Harry reported that EMS providers may start seeing POLST forms. This does NOT change anything for EMS providers. The patient still needs an OOH DNR for EMS to withhold CPR. If a patient ONLY has a POLST form, EMS must still contact medical command to terminate efforts.

The PEHSC State MAC conference call is January 19th. The main discussion item is the statewide protocol revisions. Harry briefly reviewed the BLS revisions and overall nothing too drastically will change. The lights and siren protocol may be the most discussed item since the state is significantly downplaying the need for lights and siren use in most patient transports, and some responses. .

The County MAC Meeting is January 25th. We will be reviewing the draft protocol revisions and the regional drug list.

There was a brief discussion on dispatch codes and priorities. Do we need to go that route? More to follow on that...

3.3 Commissioners

Director Atkins reported the 911 statistics. Overall telephone, radio and EMD formal reviews are at or above 99%.

The Re-Banding training and distribution of new radios continues to be on hold because of technical problems with both the portable and mobile radios. Until EF Johnson develops a repair plan, this project will remain on hold. DES is seven months into this project. Of the \$7,958,801 estimated total budget, we have obligated \$4,080,256.

The Voice Radio Project: On October 5 there was a 'vendor day' where four manufacturers held brief informational sessions on their systems and what they can do. Motorola, Harris, EF Johnson, and EADS demonstrated their systems. DES is five months into this project. Of the \$1,800,000 budgeted for the engineering and project management we have obligated \$174,000.

The New Fire/Emergency Medical Services Paging System:

The technical assessment of the current system and Federal Commission licenses is complete. In conjunction with the emergency responders, the development of technical requirements, options, and recommendations is complete. DES is two months into this project. We have obligated \$18,000 of the \$180,000 engineering/project management costs associated with the \$6,000,000 project.

Public Safety Training Facility

The County will be managing the project now. We have spent \$2,289,986 of which \$1,000,445 has been County money. A total of \$18.3 million has been raised, which is about \$3 million short to complete the core facility.

Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Task Force

Work has been started on the updates of the 2008 Regional Strategy that will be used as the basis for the 2011 grant application.

3.4 Deputy Director

Deputy Director Steve Webb reported there is a Regionalization project with the companies in the western part of Chester County due to call volume and staffing issues. Parkesburg, Pomeroy and Atglen Fire Companies will be consolidating in approximately 2 – 3 years. Pomeroy and Parkesburg EMS will be forming a new separate organization and then the fire companies will merge in. The project is going very well and all involved parties are not looking at this as a challenge but an opportunity that is ahead. More to follow...

Steve thanked Goshen Fire Company for hosting our Fall 2010 EMT Graduation. We recognized 15 EMT students who finished the class successfully.

The Regional Task Force Funding Group is still moving forward. Steve and Leo are still looking for ideas on spending. However, the items purchased must comply with the Task Force general mission of 'reduce threat of terrorism'. Please contact either one for your ideas!

Anyone with questions or needs on the proposed voice and radio project, please contact Steve or Leo.

IV. Old Business

4.1 Trauma Center Update

A brief update was given in regards to how the trauma center is growing and is such a learning experience every day. Lisa Eckenrode would like to meet with all the EMS Services and talk to the providers and see how their experience or interaction was with the Trauma Center and staff.

4.2 EMS PCR Software Update

Frank Piscitello reported that January 26th, EmStat will be at the GSC Building for the demonstration for all providers. He is still trying to confirm EMS Charts for the following week. More to follow when we have both confirmed. Mike Coleman, the owner of EMMA passed away at the end of 2010. EMMA is trying to bring their system up to date with new technology but will be a long process. More than 50% of Chester County services have already switched from EMMA to either EmStat or EMS Charts.

4.3 Response Times / Status Check System

President Scaccia asked if this has been implemented. After a few different answers, this will be followed up with Deputy Director Haynes.

V. New Business

5.1 Update of By-Law Revision

The By Laws are still in the revision process. There are 2 drafts out. The deadline for comments was January 1 however there is still one more week for your comments. Most of the By-Laws are the same however there was much time put into the attendance and participation part. We are trying to get people / organizations involved enough so they can vote at the November meeting.

5.2 EMS Patient Bill of Rights

President Scaccia received this document at a previous PEHSC Meeting from the EMS Chief in Allentown, which has adopted this form. Leo would like to bring this to Operations to look into this more and then bring it to the Council to see if we want to pursue this and adopt as a County.

5.3 Conflict of Interest Statement

To make the Board Members more official, please read and sign the document provided. This is for those who have a conflict, that you would disclose it and not hide it.

5.4 CQI Committee Responsibilities

This should be completed based on our contract with Department of Health. Fred Wurster has agreed to be the chairman of the committee. This will report under Operations.

5.5 Awards Banquet Committee

President Scaccia would like to have a meeting In February to talk about different ideas and funding for the banquet. He would like to have a 'Banquet/Awards Committee' formed to take on different tasks. Please, Please get your nomination forms in by March 1.

5.6 Political Action Committee

John Pierce has agreed to chair this committee. If anyone else is interested in joining, please contact John. This committee will report under Operations. This committee's purpose is to educate and participate with the elected officials about what EMS is and does, and also to advocate for the services in the community to explain what is involved with EMS. A suggestion was made to change the name of the committee to EMS Advocacy Committee.

VI. Good of the Order

The Wills for Hero Program is scheduling a session soon as a 'pilot'. There will be many dates scheduled in 2011 to choose from. DES will send out information as soon as it becomes available.

President Scaccia outlined a few goals for the EMS Council for 2011 that we can work toward:

- How do we advance our system / move forward as a region?
- Continue to work on the By-Law revision
- Outline some short and long term goals
- Need interested people for the Awards and CQI Committee
- Finalize PCR Software
- Adopt a Patient Care Bill of Rights

Leo thanked everyone for their support, participation, and hard work during 2010.

VII. Adjournment

There being no additional formal business for the committee, a motion was made for adjournment. The motion was seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.