

*Chester County EMS Council, Inc.*  
*Board of Directors Meeting*  
*September 8, 2010 Minutes*

**I. Call to Order**

President Leo Scaccia called the meeting to order at 5:09 pm, followed by the pledge of allegiance with the following in attendance:

John Applegate  
Greg Lewis  
Frank Piscitello

Leo Scaccia  
Frank Sullivan  
Lorna Wohl

Field Services Division:

Steve Webb  
Pat Cook  
Rob Linnenbaugh

Chrissy DePaolantonio  
Harry Moore  
Tom Mamo

Visitors / Guests:

Jeffrey Gewertz, Minquas Fire Company

**II. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the July 14, 2010 minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

**III. Reports**

**3.1 Commissioners**

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

***Re-Banding:***

The system benchmarking testing is progressing and should be complete by November 5. Training and distribution of new radios has been suspended because of technical problems with both the portable and mobile radios. There have been numerous reports – that EF Johnson confirmed – from other counties that the portables are having receive sensitivity issues. EF Johnson is developing a formal plan to fix this problem probably with a retrofit of a replacement board. So far we have installed 20 mobiles and four of them locked up and stopped working for no apparent reason. EF Johnson is investigating. This problem and the potential schedule slip have been communicated to the Federal Communications Commission appointed Transition Administrator.

***Voice Radio Project:***

The Requirements document should be completed this month. The RFP for the new system vendor should be released by September of next year.

***New Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Paging System:***

The Kick-Off meeting for this project was held on September 1. Meeting times will be changed to the evenings to accommodate the fire and EMS responders.

***Public Safety Training Facility:***

Land Update: We should close on the South Coatesville property this fall. The Economic Development Council is in the process of hiring a “Construction Manager”.

Money: The U.S. Department of Transportation has added another year to our original three year grant so we will receive an additional \$750,000. This increases the total amount raised so far to \$18.3 million. We have spent a total of \$2,289,986 of which \$1,000,445 has been County money.

***Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Task Force:***

The Task Force is operating with the new fiduciary agent, the Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC) of Philadelphia. They are much more responsive than Bucks County was. Start thinking about 2011 Grant projects: Probably about \$150,000 will be available for EMS projects.

**3.2 Deputy Director**

Deputy Director Steve Webb reported that there are 26 students in Chester County’s Fall EMT class and 25 in Good Fellowships class.

HACC (Harrisburg Area Community College) was contacted in regards to holding an EMT class at Honey Brook Ambulance. More to Follow if that class will be held after enrollment.

DCCC (Delaware County Community College) is interested in holding an EMT Class in West Grove. More to Follow after enrollment.

Steve reported that the County will be doing spot inspections. Could be in the middle of the night sometime...Please always have your ambulance stocked.

**IV. Committee Report**

**4.1 Finance**

No activity other than interest. It was discussed and decided to move all but \$200 into the savings account to collect interest.

President Scaccia held a discussion about charging dues to each ambulance service per year. More will be discussed on that during the By-Laws update. After our IRS Statement, does the Council want to stay ‘501C3 entity’? After a discussion, it was decided to stay as we are now.

## **4.2 Medical Advisory**

The next MAC Meeting is September 28, 2010. Discussion Items so far include: Paoli Trauma Center, CCH and Therapeutic Hypothermia, and Emergency Dispatch Codes

## **4.3 Training**

Training Coordinator Rob Linnenbaugh continues to work on an 'EMS Management Systems' class that he hopes to roll out in the very near future. Looking at a possible 120 hour course. More to follow on the class....

## **4.4 Operations**

Leo Scaccia, Jeff Gewertz, and Keith Johnson held a small meeting to discuss and outline a '5 year plan'. There is an Operations Meeting on September 28 after the MAC Meeting to move forward with the By-Laws update.

## **4.5 Disaster**

There is a drill next Wednesday at Glen Moore Fire Company. There will be 15-20 patients; several will be transported and they will fly one. They want to interface MCI/ICS together.

## **4.6 By-Laws**

In the process of being updated.

## **4.7 Aero medical**

No activity.

## **4.8 Awards**

President Scaccia would like to have a kick off meeting to talk about different ideas and funding for the banquet. He would like to have a 'Banquet/Awards Committee' formed to take on these tasks. Go back to your service and ask providers to help out.

## **4.9 Public Safety Training Facility**

Please see the 'Commissioners' report above.

## **4.10 CQI**

We should be doing these at a BLS and ALS level. We will work toward this in the near future.

**V. Old Business**

**5.1 Trauma Center Update**

Frank Sullivan reported that the trauma program at Paoli is ready to go, and anxious to start operating to their full capability. If anyone has any questions, please contact either Dr. Kaulback or Dr. Brilliant.

**5.2 EMS PCR Software Update**

Frank Piscitello received one score sheet out of all the ones he sent out. He is in the process of setting up a demonstration session with the top two vendors that will be open to all providers who are interested. The two vendors are EMStat and EMS Charts. More to follow on the dates.

**VI. New Business**

**6.1 Response Times / Status System**

Greg Lewis spoke about some of the response times in the Western part of the County, for example, sometimes it takes about 30 minutes for an ambulance to get to a patient. That is not very good patient care. There was a very lengthy discussion about 'zero response'. There currently is a Council Policy on zero response. A motion was made by Greg Lewis to increase zero response from 2 hours until the ambulance logs back on to show available. The motion was seconded by John Applegate and approved. This will be brought to the November Council Meeting to be voted on.

**VII. Good of the Order**

November 10 is our next Council Meeting as well as elections will be held. Please think about that in advance and who you want to represent your service. The attendance by-law will really be looked at during the update process. Leo would like to look into a 'conference' meeting; the expense vs. the number of providers who would call in. More to follow...

**VIII. 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 7:07 pm.