

Berks EMS Working Group January 10, 2012

Organizational Representation/Attendance: Boyertown (Dave Babb), DES (Matt Stariker), Eastern PA EMS Council (Anne Deiterich), Exeter EMS (Jon Herbsleb), Exeter Township Fire Dept (Chris Chamberlain), KATS (Ed Moreland, Rodney Freeman), Lower Alsace (Matt Stariker), PennStar (Chris Chamberlain), Radio Advisory (H. David Miller), Reading Fire (Jim Conrad), Reading Hospital (Barb Conrad), RCTTF (Mike Whelan), SIR (Mike Whelan), St Joes (Mike Whelan), Western Berks (H. David Miller, Roy Del Rosario), Schuylkill Valley (Tim Moyer)

Meeting convened by Chairman Tim Moyer at 1005

Elections- Nominations opened—

Chair-Tim nominated by Mike Whelan, second by Moreland
Vice Chair – Conrad nominated by Dave Babb, seconded Dave Miller
Secretary – Ed Moreland nominated by Jim Conrad, second by Miller
Task force – Motion for continued reps (Mike Whelan, Jim Conrad) by Barb Conrad, seconded by Miller
Radio Advisory – Miller nominated by Ed Moreland, Seconded by Dave, Second position tabled until February meeting.

Nominations closed by Tim Moyer

Motion to vote by Herbsleb, seconded by Whalen.all ayes no naves, slate accepted

DES-

Working on new EMD program, accepted by Dr Siegel (medical director), using APCO with computer guidance. Hoping that this will lead to an improvement in call classification. The original timeline was to go live on Feb 1, but has been bumped back to “going live soon”, DES unable to commit to a date at present.

FEMA AFG approved for the Womelsdorf application, has been officially accepted. The second regional grant is still pending, but appears to be favorable. There will be a meeting on 1-11-2012 with representation from Berks County, Womelsdorf (grant applicant), and the grant consultants. The award is approx \$1 mil with a matching 20%. Per DES, no action to be taken right now, they are still waiting for results on second grant. If successful, both grants total \$2 million. As things progress information from host recipient via DES will provide updates.

Radio advisory (Dave Miller)

Moving with reorganization (municipal reps, fire reps, etc), also looking at other narrow banding issues with respect to private and local frequencies. Need to poll agencies to determine if everyone is going narrow band with MedCom. Can be equipment specific

...most likely have narrow band equipment without narrow band programming. Dave has a list from RMI with specifications for many radio types and whether they are narrow band capable....if you have a specific question email Dave....do not contact the county with this specific issue.

RCTTF

No meeting since last group meeting. Budget meeting coming at end of month. Realignment is rumored to coming to task forces...unconfirmed.

Eastern PA EMS Council

Council staff is aware of continued drug shortages. Please visit www.ashp.org for status of shortages. Be flexible with hospitals when restocking.

TRHMC -

Grand rounds on 1-19-2012 with WBEMS at fire company “ is this a Trauma”
Dinner and Learn on 2-1-2012, Safety day march 6, details coming.

SJMC

The Chest Pain center received 67 transmissions, a tie for the two highest services at 19 transmissions each for City of Reading and Southern Berks. The average door-to-balloon time was 61 minutes. Average EMS-to-balloon time was 78 minutes. St Joes was awarded the Thomas Reuter Top 50 Cardio Hospital award. Since EMS involvement in the process is critical, SJMC presented each EMS organization with an award at their EMS Christmas party. The Heart Institute at SJMC has produced two (2) short power points, “Heart Failure” and “Chest Pain”, if you would like a copy of either of them please contact Mike Whelan

SIR - currently planning a full scale exercise in spring 2012 with Spring Township Fire Dept and Western Berks EMS.

PennStar

No current flight statistics available. The number of standby requests has continued to be good. Standby and Flight volume are typical for this time of year. Recommended calling for standby early and often. Have issues with dispatching via MedCom, a scene was mapped incorrectly. At issue are that local response areas for air ambulances are based on the center of Help Zones and not utilizing the updated runcard system. Question was raised by Chris Chamberlain “why do still use help zones if there is no other use for them?”. Also requested that they consider using GIS and Run Cards. How can we get the closest helicopter to the patient? DES to research with MedCom on what information is used to determine closest asset. Do we need to utilize MedCom for helicopter routing?? DES to reach out to MedCom to determine what information they need to improve dispatching.

MedEvac – no representative

OLD business – Triage tag usage during the “Triage First” program is increasing. Text m messaging is going out via County to all users. There is still room for significant improvement.

New Business – none

Motion to adjourn by Herbsleb, second by Matt Stariker. Meeting closed at 1044.

Next meeting February 7, 2012