

Berks County EMS Working Group

August 6, 2013

In attendance

Anthony Tucci (WBEMS), Ed Moreland (WBEMS), Brian Gottschall (DES), Matt Stariker (DES/LA), Steve Kline (Topton), HD Miller (Radio Advisory), Dave Babb (Boyertown), Jim Conrad (City EMS), Todd Boughter (DES), Tim Moyer (SVEMS), Bill Lillington (EMS Council/Hamburg EMS), Christina Wood (DES), Doug Demchyk (KATS), Chris Chamberlain (SJMC/Exeter Fire), Anthony Martin (RHS), Jim Bitler (RHS), Eric Bubbenmoyer (MedEvac)

Meeting opened at 1002 hours by Chairman Moyer.

DES – Per Brian, all grant radios, except SBREMS and City Fire have been installed. The City radios should be completed no later than October 31, 2013. Any non-grant radios, including tray units will be installed after the City units are installed and operational.

Christina Wood from Communications and Brian Gottschall intimated discussions about changes to EMS unit dispatch rotation. Instead of purchasing an expensive module addition to CAD, a simple work-around was found using the “longest available unit” in CAD. This would recommend the unit that has been available the longest for response. The questions to be answered today are:

1. Do we (ALL EMS services) wish to adopt this model?
2. Will we be able to implement this with no arguments from field users.

Issues that were mentioned included long distance transports and units that were closer to the call. Brian assures that any units that “jump” calls will be honored. Supervisors/officers will also be able to make adjustments on the fly as well.

This will ultimately lead to unit level dispatching for calls.

Todd Boughter also opened discussion regarding the keeping of status for “transport only” EMS units, more specifically, those units that were primarily performing non-emergency transports who would not be able to respond to emergency requests. Further discussion to be held, this primarily impacts Kutztown.

RCTTF – there will be a RCTTF conference held in concert with the Pocono EMS Conference. More information to follow.

There will be a PA ICE II class in Aniston, AL in October. At present there are 8 facilities attending.

EMS Council – The annual meeting of the EMS Council will be held on September 18th, at the Holiday Inn – Fogelsville. Please RSVP if you are a Council member.

There is an EMS Information Bulletin regarding the use of expired medication and outlines the administrative steps that are needed to permit utilization of expired medications. Please ensure that you comply with the EMSIB

Reading Health System – There will be a drill in October to correspond with the ICE II class in AL. This will include some use of EPIC during the MCI drill.

Anthony Martin requests renewed interest in the Triage Tag day on the first of the month.

There is a Dinner and Learn on Thursday August 8, on MCI Basics by Tim Marks, Nurse Director of the ED.

There is an ALS assist class on Aug 24/25, this is worth 14 hours of Coned and costs \$75.

There will be a paramedic refresher and PHRN classes offered more info to follow.

St. Joes – Decon Drill to be held on 8/12 at 1830.

Coned on 9/19 Pediatric EMS

There have a couple of issues with EMS not immobilizing elderly fall patients that had significant potential for poor outcomes. In one case there was a patient with a C2 fracture who was not immobilized. Please ensure that your staff uses appropriate spinal precautions.

St. Joes will be expanding the pre-hospital blood draw program. Each service will be contacted by Chris Chamberlain to schedule training and procedures.

MedEvac – there are now two (2) ground ambulances for critical care patients. One is specifically equipped for peds and neonates. There are available for rendezvous and scene responses if needed.

OLD BUSINESS

MCI training - discussion regarding having day and evening classes, perhaps on 11/6-7 for the day course and 11/11-12 for the evening program.

Awards event – previous discussion regarding having a Berks county EMS recognition dinner, using Jan-Dec as the recognition period. There are challenges noted for receiving nominations, the structure of the function and organization, and forming an awards committee. There was mention of holding this event during EMS week to continue the focus of EMS during our proclaimed week.

Also discussed was formalizing the EMS Working Group as a corporation.

NEW BUSINESS

End User License Agreement (EULA) need to be signed by each organization. Please ensure that this is completed.

EMS Council –each licensed EMS unit is receiving a CO detector from EMSOF funding.

Adjourned at 1130