

Berks EMS Working Group

March 5, 2013

Organizational Representation/Attendance:

Tim Moyer – Schuylkill Valley EMS
H. David Miller – Western Berks Ambulance Association / Radio Advisory Committee
Dave Babb – Boyertown EMS
Doug Demchyk – Kutztown EMS
Chris Murray – Muhlenberg EMS
Bill Lillington – Eastern PA EMS Council / Hamburg EMS
Barbara Conrad – Reading Health System
Susan Salaneck – Reading Health System
Steve Kline – Topton Ambulance
Todd Boughter – Department of Emergency Services
Jon Herbsleb – Exeter EMS
Leonardo Mijars – Exeter EMS
Chris Chamberlain – St. Joseph Medical Center / Exeter Township QRS
Anthony Martin – Reading Health System
Matt Stairiker – Department of Emergency Services / Lower Alsace EMS
Brian Gottschall – Department of Emergency Services

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 by Tim Moyer

Minutes:

Barb Conrad noted that the MS 1 drill is 06/12/2013.

A motion was made by H. David Miller, with a second by Dave Babb, to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2013 meeting as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

DES

Brain explained issues and corrections relating to GIS/political boundaries as they relate to emergency dispatches. In the past, errors with the system were manually corrected and there were numerous inconsistencies. Dispatches will be based on the municipality where the property is located. If there are incorrect dispatches, this may be able to be adjusted in the future. DES will utilize their best efforts to adhere to existing run cards.

Brian distributed and discussed “Agency Subscriber Radio Attribute Designation Worksheet.”

Brian discussed proper use of speaker mics for the new portable radios and volume settings. Proper use is critical to performance. The mic should be held in front of the users mouth, and the user must speak directly into the mic. Although not an endorsement, he introduced retractors for portable radios as an option to overcome improper use during transmission. They

can be purchased from www.gearkeeper.com. The radios have 3 volume settings – search, loud, and default. He recommended that EMS utilize the normal or default setting.

Radio Advisory

Discussion was held regarding crew safety and requests for emergency assistance. The county's SOP is to notify the police department with jurisdiction. This issue was discussed at the last Radio Advisory meeting. All group representatives were asked to take this issue back to their respective groups to open the dialogue.

RCTTF

The annual conference will be held in conjunction with the EMS Council's Pocono Conference and in cooperation with the East Central Task Force on October 22nd and 23rd.

The Health & Medical Conference will be held May 29th and 30th in State College.

The concept of a triage day was discussed, and it was pointed out that Berks already does triage day on the 1st of every month.

EMS COUNCIL

The governor may close up to 30 Health District Offices and Centers across the state.

The Council will be holding Instructive Methodology training on March 15th and 16th – evening hours, 16th and 17th – all day, and 18th and 19th – evening hours. Lunch will be provided Saturday and Sunday. There is no charge for the class. Class size is limited to 20.

RHS

Active shooter drill on May 14, 2013.

Table top exercise scheduled for April 9, 2013 at 09:00.

MSI Rad drill on June 12, 2013 at 08:00

Dinner and Learn on March 13, 2013.

The East Central Task Force has provided 6 PAPRs and 30 boxes of PAPR cartridges.

RHS is able to do AED downloads for police departments. EMS crews should bring the AED with the patient and give it to the B pod nurse. The Heartsafe coordinator will pick up the AED, replace the pads and batteries, and return it to the police department.

The hospital is working on getting the patients social security number on the face sheet. Until the information is on the sheet, companies may contact the billing office or fax a request to the billing office – Attn: Stephanie.

Barb introduced Sue Salaneck. Sue is Jim Bitler's assistant.

The transfer of care form is developed and has been submitted to Council for review. The structure follows a radio report. The purpose of the form is to standardize radio reports, and the form is required by DOH. The content is mandated, but a specific form is not.

SJMC

The hospital hosted EMS for Stroke train the trainer last Wednesday. There were 50+ participants.

SJMC requested authorization to utilize Berks Radio frequencies along with a radio identifier. Currently if they need to use the system, a common language identifier is used.

A motion was made by Chris Murray, with a second by H. David Miller, for St. Joseph Medical Center HERT units, and Reading Health Systems HERT to receive a company number for use on the EMS radio system. The numbers are to be assigned by County Radio. The motion passed unanimously.

PENNSTAR – No representation

MEDEVAC – No representation

OLD BUSINESS

Disaster training was discussed. Tim will talk to Mike Whalen to discuss possible dates.

NEW BUSINESS – none

Next meeting – April 2, 2013 at 10:00