

Berks DES EMS Working Group

July 7, 2015 – Draft

General Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Tim Moyer: 10:00

In Attendance: Dave Babb, Boyertown EMS; Todd Boughter, DES; Jim Conrad, Reading Fire Department; Tony Flores, DES; Rodney Freeman, Kutztown Ambulance; Jonathan Fritz, DES; Brian Gottschall, DES; Tim Moyer, Schuylkill Valley EMS; Mike Palamar, Southern Berks EMS; Phil Salamone, Kutztown Ambulance; Matt Stairiker, Lower Alsace EMS, DES; Anthony Tucci, Western Berks EMS; Merv Wertz, Reading Health System; Christina Wood, DES.

Prev. Minutes: Motion to Approve: Jim Conrad
Seconded: Dave Babb
Motion Vote: Approved

DES Report – Brian Gottschall

- Radio Management: It has come to attention that people and/or county agencies are buying new radios or making additions to current fleet. DES is *still* unable to program due to RM server jobs still pending to agencies
 - There are no EMS agencies on list
- Audio issues with medcom: Still Present
 - Audio quality is still poor, on hospital end; Still reports of staff speaking improperly into the radio, “talking from the desk?”
 - Medcom complications with use of digital to UHF cross on console?
 - EMS agencies are to document dates/times medcom fails to answer for investigative purposes
- Elverson not utilizing new radio system for communications with SBEMS, Tim Moyer is going to follow up with entity at next operations work group meeting.
- Bucks/Chester/Montco code plug sharing/radio interoperability: Other counties are resistant trying to use Berks’ disaster Talkgroups in their radios with patch to Berks EMS, field level complications still exist and are being worked through
- Movement to operations channel more frequent
- Premise Alerts
 - Fire Working Group – System previously allowed “Joe Citizen” to create a premise alert. Fire has turned this down, and there are no changes to existing set up; EMS agencies can call an request list of premise alerts within their coverage area; email Christina Wood for lists
- Teleconference with other counties reportedly having issues with aeromedical response, no concerns for Berks County
- Lackawanna County has a private ambulance company that is beginning to advertise with billboards to call them for emergencies in lieu of calling 911; potentially a growing issue, council believes that this is going to happen more frequently.

MCI Run Card project/EMD Run Card – Matt Stairiker

- Split into 5 zones with next 25 responding entities
 - Includes relocation assignments

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- DES is also evaluating the EMD question list to determine if Berks is asking too many questions to callers.

Regional counterterrorism – Anthony Tucci

- No Report

Eastern PA EMS Council – No Report

Reading Health System - Merv Wertz

- January flyers will be sent to EMS agencies shortly for AEMT class

Saint Joseph Medical Center - No Report

PennStar: No Report

LVH Medevac: No Report

Old business

- Reading 120 Bike Race – Reading Health System is the sponsor, all EMS services will be provided by RHS, there will be rolling road closures – Meeting tomorrow at City Hall for municipal officials. Impacted Areas Include:
 - City of Reading
 - Mount Penn Borough
 - Lower Alsace Township
 - Alsace Township
 - Oley Township
 - Rockland Township
 - Maxatawny Township
 - Richmond Township
 - Perry Township
 - Shoemakersville Borough
 - Center Township
 - Centerport Borough
 - Penn Township
 - Bernville Borough
 - North Heidelberg Township
 - Heidelberg Township
 - Lower Heidelberg Township
 - South Heidelberg Township
 - Spring Township
 - Cumru Township
 - Wyomissing Borough
 - West Reading Borough

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September 18, 2015 next legislative breakfast at Strausstown Fire Company

New business: No Report

Motion to Close : Motion to Approve: Dave Babb
Seconded: Tim Moyer