

Crawford County



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EMS Commission

c/o Crawford County DPS

632 Pine Street

Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335

EMS Commission Members

Jason McPherson, Meadville Ambulance

Kurt Dennis, Greenwood Township

Maderia Paraskos, Conneaut Lake Amb

Austin Bates, Springboro Ambulance

Krista Geer, Active Aging

Megan Mason, Linesville Ambulance

Bill McClincy, EMMCO West

Jodi Greer, Centerville Ambulance

Josh Manuel, Crawford County DPS

Bill Taylor, Townville Ambulance

Tonya Moyer, Crawford Co Care Center

Crawford County Emergency Medical Service Commission MINUTES

October 27, 2022, 9:00am

- I. Commissioner's Welcome: Commissioner Eric Henry welcomed those attending
- II. Roll Call of Attendees: Present were; Basnak, McPherson, Dennis, Paraskos (virtually) Bates, Geer, Mason, McClincy, Greer, Manuel, Moyer, Beveridge, Bovard, and Clark
- III. Report Out of Subcommittees
 - a. Communications
 - i. Use of I Am Responding App & Software County-wide. Public Safety Director Greg Beveridge reported that the County will be implementing IAR beginning January 1st, 2023. The five-year contract, costing \$105,000 dollars will be paid by ARPA funds from Crawford County. This software will allow the 911 Center to see in real time who is responding to their station for fire and EMS calls. This will help the dispatchers to know if that department will have a qualified crew to respond of if mutual aid departments will need to be dispatched saving time. This was a recommendation from both the Fire and EMS Commissions. He stated soon streaming video can be sent to the MDT's from the caller on-scene giving additional real time situational information to responding units. Policies and standards will be developed from what Erie County is currently using. He said that current IAR subscribers will be reimbursed at a pro-rated amount. Dispatchers Dennis and Manuel, both said it is very stressful to the family calling 911 and the Dispatchers not knowing if personnel are responding to their station or not and they just have to wait until they hear on the radio that a department acknowledges the call. Commissioner Henry reported that ATT is moving up building three to five new cell towers in bad areas and the County is building up to three new towers to enhance cell and radio coverages.

- ii. Motion by Kurt Dennis, second by Austin Bates to adopt the policy that if an ambulance service and quick response squad is dispatched but dumps the call they remain out of service until someone notified 911 to put them in service. Motion passed 11 to 1.
- iii. Nurse triage system implemented in the Northern Tier Counties topic is not an option at this time.

b. Government

- i. Some ambulance services have asked for .5 mill property tax paid by municipalities. Other municipalities are willing to pay \$300 per call in their municipality to the ambulance service. There are two meetings regarding the EMS System at East Mead Fire Dept. and Springboro Fire Dept. Commissioner Henry reported that the Shipperville Ambulance Service is closing in Clarion County. Dave Basnak reported that EmergencyCare has provided EMS in the City of Erie for 30 years and have received no funding from them. Don Bovard stated that West Mead Township is discussing giving the ½ mill for EMS coverage. Kurt Dennis reported that if they give the ½ mill to their primary ambulance service and they are out on a call then they will have to pay per call to another ambulance service to respond in their township. ½ mill for EMS is the only funding option allowed in state law.

c. Volunteer Services

- i. It was reported that Community Care Ambulance will be paying for Andover fire fighters to be trained and they will operate Community Care Ambulance out of their fire station.
- ii. Billing and membership standardization. Nothing discussed.

d. Stakeholders

- i. Dr. Kraeling attended their last Subcommittee meeting and discussed MMC's telehealth services. Using this service can reduce the need for an ambulance and the patient can drive themselves to the hospital before needing an ambulance. It was asked if an on-line secured form can be used to report patients with chronic and frequent calls for EMS.
- ii. Active Aging is working with mental health agencies and promoting the warm line phone number to their clients. They have reached out to Erie Geriatric Social Workers to discuss how they provide services. Erie County has a protocol for using the new 988 phone number for patient care instead of sending an ambulance which will be looked into. 988 is a phone number for mental health resources. It was asked if Dr. Kraeling could help educate the other doctors to only advise patients to call 911 for an ambulance if it is a true emergency and not because their office is closed after hours. It was reported that Human Services Intervention Team is being developed to respond to calls for mental health help rather than an ambulance.

- IV. Upcoming Meetings: October 31, 6pm East Mead Fire Dept., November 9, 6pm Springboro Fire Dept.
- V. Next Meeting, December 22, at 9:00am at Crawford County DPS
- VI. Meeting Adjourned at 10:11am

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Crawford County EMS Commission

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