

*County Commissioners*  
**Chairman**  
Eric S. Henry  
**Vice-Chairman**  
Scott T. Schell  
**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Christopher R. Seeley

**EMS Commission Members**  
Earl Mook, Cochranton Fire Dept.  
David Basnak, EMERGYCARE Inc.  
Dan Bresee, Cochranton Fire Dept.  
Amanda Harper, Linesville Borough

# Crawford County



**EMS Commission**  
c/o Crawford County DPS  
632 Pine Street  
Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335

**EMS Commission Members**  
Tom Perry, MMC Campus Safety  
Kurt Dennis, Crawford County DPS  
Maderia Paraskos, Conneaut Lake Amb  
Austin Bates, Springboro Ambulance  
Krista Geer, Active Aging  
Casey Dickson, Meadville Resident  
Mike Forbes, Union Township  
Dan Miller, Blooming Valley Fire Dept.  
Bill Taylor, Townville Ambulance  
Altay Baskan, Paramedic  
Evan Kardosh, Meadville Fire & EMS

## Crawford County Emergency Medical Service Commission MINUTES

May 2, 2024, 7:00pm  
Crawford County Department of Public Safety and Virtually

- I. Commissioner's Welcome: Crawford County Commissioner Eric Henry welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- II. Roll call of those attending: Mook, Basnak, Bresee, Dennis, Bates, Geer, Dickson, Forbes, Miller, Baskan, and Kardosh. Also attending were Crawford County Commissioners Scott Schell and Chris Seeley and DPS Staff Greg Beveridge and Allen Clark.
- III. Committees
  - a. Communications – Kurt Dennis, Chair with Greg Beveridge and Allen Clark
    - i. P25 Radio System – MCM is finishing up conducting site visits at Public Safety Agency Stations on Friday. Commissioners are paying for MCM to conduct the study on what it would cost to merge to the digital P25 system. It has been reported that portable radios will cost \$4,000 and mobile radios will cost \$6,000 each. The Commissioners have requested a letter from the FCC that counties must merge to the P25 system. They met with Clarion County Public Safety to see what their process was. Clarion County migrated in phases and purchase Tate brand radios at a significant savings. Several presentations of the P25 study will be given in June or July.

**ACTION ITEM:** Review unit utilization

**ACTION ITEM:** Review EMS dump call policy and enforcement
  - b. Government – Kurt Dennis, Chair with Dan Bresee, Chris Seeley, and Mike Forbes.

The Crawford County Commissioners are discussing about giving public safety personnel reduction in county taxes. Currently there are three out of the sixty-seven counties in Pennsylvania that do offer tax reductions.

**ACTION ITEM:** This committee should meet to discuss how to continually educate municipal, state, and federal officials regarding the EMS crisis and possible solutions and present these in six regions of the county using the same power point but change the data to be specific to that region.

**ACTION ITEM:** Educate Municipalities about the Municipal Tax Rebate Program

- c. Volunteer Services – Bill Taylor, Chair with Austin Bates, Earl Mook, Dan Miller, Dan Breese, and Amanda Harper

There was a question about unit utilization when an EMS service is out of service. This will be discussed with the Public Safety Director first.

**ACTION ITEM:** Discuss and review the County EMS Plan and invite Nick Banister to speak at the next EMS Commission meeting to explain

**ACTION ITEM:** Identify challenges to volunteer services

- d. Paid Services – Dave Basnak, Chair with Altay Baskan, Evan Kardosh, and Maderia Paraskos

This committee met on April 3 virtually. Again, the main issues affecting EMS are staffing, funding, recruitment, and retention. It was discussed that EMS students must drive to Erie, Oil City, or Warren to take the National tests. They will look into whether a site in Crawford County could be established so students did not have to travel out of the county. Again, the cost of readiness is not covered by municipalities or insurance companies. The committee will look at the Warren County model where fourteen municipalities have gone together to help fund EMS.

**ACTION ITEM:** Create a short Power Point Presentation to explain to the public the cost of readiness that is not being covered.

- e. Stakeholders – Krista Geer, Chair with Tom Perry, Casey Dickson

Krista Geer presented data from the 9-1-1 Center regarding lift assists in Crawford County which is attached to these minuets. She submitted and was awarded a student from Allegheny College to conduct a study on lift assists and to identify social service agencies that could assist.

**MOTION:** Motion by Dan Miller and second by Kurt Dennis to make no changes to the lift assist policy pending any further information, motion passed unanimously.

**ACTION ITEM:** Identify patient safe lifting training and facilitate rolling the training out county-wide.

**ACTION ITEM:** Educate chief officers how to report patients with repetitive lift assist requests to Active Aging.

**ACTION ITEM:** Create a resource guide of social services that can be given to public safety providers.

**ACTION ITEM:** Create a policy for follow up process for repetitive lift assists in the county.

- IV. Overdose Funding – Commissioner Eric Henry reported that the county receives funding from the state for overdose education and response. They are working on a program that would restock the Narcan used and pay EMS \$100 to respond to overdoses, leave Narcan. If the patient calls for assistance they could receive \$150.
- V. Next Meeting, July 18, 2024, 7:00pm at Crawford County DPS or virtually
- VI. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.