

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.

Crawford County



EMS Commission

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

EMS Commission Members
Amanda Harper, Linesville Borough
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

September 25, 2024, 6:00pm

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, Bresee, Dennis, Forbes, Miller, Baskan, Harper, and Paraskos. Also attending were Crawford County Commissioners Scott Schell and Chris Seeley, Regional EMS Manager Craig Raney, and DPS Staff Greg Beveridge and Allen Clark.
- III. Committees
 - a. Communications – Kurt Dennis, Chair with Greg Beveridge and Allen Clark
 - i. Radio Towers – Director Beveridge reported they are still working on the two towers however the process is very slow. They will be submitting bids for the ground work to be approved shortly. No single agency accepted the bid to build the whole tower so Mobilcom will act as the contractor to subcontract each step of the tower build. Police West and Government West will be moved to this tower once completed. Sugar Lake Tower is further behind in the process.
 - ii. P25 Radio System – The Commissioners have not committed to funding this project yet. They are waiting to see what the bids come in at. The County has advertised the RFP for the system with at least three of the major radio vendors are interested in bidding. November 13th the bids are due to the county.
 - iii. 911 Telecommunicators – There is currently one full-time position open, so if anyone is interested please apply
 - iv. Most fire departments are using I Am Responding and limited use by some ambulance services. There is no more Vtexting from the CAD due to changes with Verizon and ATT.

- b. Government – Kurt Dennis, Chair with Dan Bresee, Chris Seeley, and Mike Forbes.
 - i. The Crawford County Commissioners are in favor of giving up to \$500 tax rebate to responders that meet certain requirements. The committee will meet and bring back suggestions to the next meeting.
- c. Volunteer Services – Bill Taylor, Chair with Austin Bates, Earl Mook, Dan Miller, Dan Breese, and Amanda Harper
 - i. Some ambulance services are still not following the County-wide plan by calling 911 when they are not in service or limited staffing. One ambulance service in the county is only in service 9% of the time. Currently the state is not enforcing or disciplining services for not following the plan.
- d. Paid Services – Dave Basnak, Chair with Altay Baskan, Evan Kardosh, and Madeira Paraskos
 - i. Paid services continue to have openings in all their services. For the first time since COVID the number of providers entering EMS in the region was on the positive but is still significantly lower than before COVID. The EMMCO West Board is looking at various EMS training avenues to accommodate students taking the training. EMMCO West will be sending out a survey to all providers asking the providers their opinion of EMMCO West operations. Commissioner Henry met with the PA Secretary of Health and talked to her about what Crawford County is doing and the shortfalls in the system.
- e. Stakeholders – Krista Geer, Chair with Casey Dickson
 - i. Lift assist calls and repeat callers have decreased over the year thanks to a lot of hard work done by Active Aging and Crawford County Human Services. Krista is working with Meadville Medical Center on mailings for the public on who to call to get help for those that continue to fall.
- IV. Regional EMS Plan Administrator – Craig Raney will begin working next week. He is paid by Erie, Crawford, and Warren Counties based on population. His job is to help ambulance services follow the EMS Plan.
- V. County Mini Grants – Commissioner Seeley reported that there is a mini grant program in the county that agencies can apply for. They are setting aside \$75,000 this year and next year to help agencies and communities. There is a grant writer that the Commissioners will pay up to four hours if any department would like help with a 2% loan, grant writing, or just identifying what grants are available.
- VI. Next Meeting, November 20, 2024, 6:00pm at Crawford County DPS or virtually
- VII. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.