

Crawford County



County Commissioners

Chairman

Eric S. Henry

Vice-Chairman

Francis F. Weiderspahn, Jr

Secretary/Treasurer

John Christopher Soff

EMS Commission Members

Neil Fratus, City of Titusville

David Basnak, EMERGYCARE Inc.

Dan Bresee, Cochranon Fire Dept.

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 County Care Ctr

Crawford County Emergency Medical Service Commission MINUTES

April 27, 2023, 9:00am

- I. Commissioner's Welcome: Crawford County Commissioner Eric Henry welcomed the EMS Commission Members to the April meeting.
- II. Roll Call of Attendees: EMS Commission Members in attendance were; Fratus, Bresee, Dennis, Paraskos, Geer, and McClincy with Crawford DPS Staff Greg Beveridge, Allen Clark, and Titusville Public Safety Commissioner Dustin LeGoullon
- III. Report Out of Subcommittees
 - a. Communications – Director Greg Beveridge reported that some EMS agencies still need to sign on to the Regional EMS Plan and that QRS departments need to sign as well. Basically, the Regional EMS Plan says that when an EMS service knows it cannot staff their service, they will notify the 911 Center. Greg also gave an overview of telehealth that is being used in some parts of the United States by 911 Centers. Calls that are classified as Alpha could be transferred to telehealth service to determine the appropriate level of healthcare needed such as a medical taxi or wheelchair van or another healthcare service. I Am Responding regional notifications are sent out twice a day now. The 911 Center is using IAR as their primary means of notifying officers and departments rather than over the radio or the old notification system. The two-tone alert system of IAR can send an audio clip to the app which will be coming soon.

Commissioner Henry mentioned that there is some COVID ARPA funds which can be used when the county moves to P25 radio system. The cost would be around \$18 million dollars. This is a federal unfunded mandate from the FCC. He said it would take 12 to 14 towers to provide coverage in the county. There are two new towers being built by the county on Greiser Road and near Sugar Lake. The County would start building out the infrastructure by owning the towers compared to leasing space on a tower.

- b. Government – Bill McClincy reported on the situations in Erie and Warren Counties where EMS providers do not want to respond outside their jurisdictions. A letter from the Bureau of EMS stating they must respond if dispatched anywhere to include those areas outside their primary jurisdiction.
- c. Paid Services – Meadville Fire Department began operation of an ALS service which reduced staffing from Meadville Area and Conneaut Lake Area Ambulance services. The average age of a paramedic is in the 50's. Average age of providers in the EMMCO West Region is 44.7 and 46.45 in Crawford County. Kurt Dennis mentioned that there is no requirements to drive a fire engine but to drive an ambulance you have to have EVOS.
- d. Stakeholders – Discussed some more about telehealth and the benefits that program would have on EMS calls in the county.

IV. Legislation Updates:

SB501 Baker, Allowing counties to create EMS authorities
SB502 Kearney, Allowing Counties to create fire service Auth
HB182 D. Miller, State grant for turnout gear
HB187 D. Miller, Connecting firefighters with phys/mental health
SB144 Yaw, Restricting PFAS from firefighting foam
HB68 Roae, \$5 County vehicle fee for EMS
HB130 Bizzarro, Community paramedicine services act
SB341 Brooks, Funding for EMS certification
SB354 Dush, Fire department reimbursements
HB479 Borowski, Mileage reimbursement for ambulance services
SB81 Philips-Hill EMS leave dose of Narcan with caregiver

V. Next Meeting, June 22, at 9:00am at Crawford County DPS

VI. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:00am.