



REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Meeting Report
28 August 2015
1000 Hours
EHSF Conference Room

ATTENDANCE

Present:	Ann Weller	Chair, Lancaster County PSAP
	John Quirk	Cumberland County PSAP
	David (Tom) Vogelsong	Cumberland County PSAP
	David Shade	Dauphin County PSAP
	Bryan Stevenson	Franklin County PSAP
	Jeff Garner	Lancaster County PSAP
	Richard Fultz	Perry County PSAP
	Esther Rowe	Perry County PSAP
	Jacqueline Bringer	York County PSAP
	Shelly Creasy	York County PSAP
	Cindy Dietz	York County PSAP
	Amy Smith	York County PSAP
Staff:	Megan A. Hollinger	Director of System Operations
	Michael J. Guerra	Resource Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Weller called the Regional Communications Committee meeting to order at 1004 hours followed by introductions.

OLD BUSINESS

EMD

Ms. Hollinger questioned the need to host the Emergency Medical Dispatching (EMD) course. The majority of the counties will have dispatchers to send in the fall. Discussion resulted in coordinating an early November 2015 EMD course. Mr. Guerra will contact Priority Dispatch to make arrangements.

Bariatric Resources

Ms. Hollinger asked each of the county Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) to e-mail her a list of known bariatric resources for the county. EHSF will communicate with each agency to determine the type of bariatric resources available and continue to build out the region's bariatric response plan.

EMS Resource Utilization

Ms. Weller reported this working group met early August to discuss non-medical dispatches. The group will continue to meet to determine **alternative methods for responding to citizens in need without a medical complaint**.

Ms. Hollinger discussed the region's desire to obtain data from each of the PSAPs regarding non-medical or no complaint dispatches to EMS. More information is forthcoming.

Commendation Program

Ms. Hollinger presented the **application process for the new recognition program for emergency medical dispatchers: Excellence in Emergency Medical Dispatch**. Each PSAP within the EHSF region will be eligible to submit names of dispatchers who demonstrated exemplary service to a community member in need. EHSF will process each request and provide a commendation bar/pin, letter of recognition, and certificate of merit. EHSF will send the hyperlink to the committee members to obtain and submit the application.

NEW BUSINESS

Landing Zones

Ms. Weller reported Ms. Hollinger contacted Lancaster County PSAP for a list of predetermined landing zones and was interested if other PSAPs have predetermined locations. Ms. Hollinger explained the request was prompted by a phone application for providers through University of Pennsylvania. This application provides EMS providers the ability to locate facilities, landing zones, protocols, etc. After discussion, it was noted some county PSAPs have a list of predetermined landing zones while others do not because the fire chiefs determine the landing zone at the time of incident.

Regional Communications Manual Revisions

Ms. Weller announced the Regional Communications Manual is due for revisions and solicited interest of those in the committee to assist with the process. Anyone interested in assisting should e-mail Megan. The working group created for this task will **begin meeting in January 2016**.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Legislation Update

Ms. Weller announced Act 12 to increase revenue to the PSAPs was passed.

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Update

Ms. Weller announced the FCC closed some field offices in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Columbia, Maryland.

Ms. Weller also announced the FCC continues its progression to require multi-line telephone systems to be able to contact 9-1-1 without needing to press a number to be transferred to an outside line within the building. At this time, most large hotel chains have changed their phone system to allow customers to call 9-1-1 directly. The next phase will identify individual businesses.

EHSF Distribution List

Ms. Hollinger reminded the committee about the distribution list for dispatchers to share relevant communications. Dispatchers may register through the Listserv Login button on the EHSF website.

Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council (PEHSC) Dispatcher Award

Mr. Guerra distributed applications for PEHSC's annual dispatcher of the year award. Nominations are due by September 02, 2015.

EHSF Staffing Update

Ms. Hollinger announced since the April Regional Communications Committee meeting, Matthew Sterndale resigned from his position with the EHSF. The EHSF conducted interviews and anticipates filling the position in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Weller adjourned the meeting at 1050 hours.

The next Regional Communication Committee meeting is scheduled for 06 November 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan A. Hollinger
Director of System Operations