



REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Meeting Report
05 February 2016
1000 Hours
EHSF Conference Room

ATTENDANCE

Present:	Ann Weller	Chair, Lancaster County PSAP
	John Eline	Adams County PSAP
	Jim Shenk	Adams County PSAP
	John Quirk	Cumberland County PSAP
	David (Tom) Vogelsong	Cumberland County PSAP
	David Shade	Dauphin County PSAP
	Bart Shellenhammer	Dauphin County PSAP
	Bryan Stevenson	Franklin County PSAP
	C. Michael Lewis	Franklin County PSAP
	Eric Fahler	Lebanon County PSAP
	Shelly Creasy	York County PSAP
	Cindy Dietz	York County PSAP
	Melony Grove	York County PSAP
	Roxie Tate	York County PSAP
Staff:	Megan A. Ruby	Director of System Operations
	Michael J. Guerra	Resource Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Weller called the Regional Communications Committee meeting to order at 1000 hours.

OLD BUSINESS

EMS Resource Utilization

Ms. Weller reported the frustration among EMS agencies in Lancaster County regarding public service calls has decreased. Other counties in the region are not hearing frustrations either.

Commendation Program

Ms. Ruby reported the EHSF received some applications for the new recognition program for emergency medical dispatchers: Excellence in Emergency Medical Dispatch. Each PSAP is encouraged to submit dispatchers for this award. The presentation of this award is at the discretion of each PSAP.

Communications Manual

Ms. Ruby reminded the committee the Regional Communications Manual is due for review. The working group will meet in the near future to begin the review. The working group will consist of Melony Grove, Bart Shellenhammer, and Tim Baldwin.

EMD v.13

Ms. Ruby announced materials have been distributed for EMD version 13. Dr. Reihart has approved the reviewed changes, and his letter was sent to each PSAP. Each PSAP is encouraged to go live by 01 July 2016. However, if a PSAP needs more time to train and update their system, they should communicate with Ms. Ruby.

NEW BUSINESS

EMD Course

Ms. Ruby asked if there is a need to coordinate an EMD course this spring. Currently, the counties project a need for 14 students. Mr. Guerra will coordinate the upcoming EMD Course to be held in the end of March or early April 2016.

Intermediate ALS

Ms. Ruby reported the future license level of intermediate ALS. Discussion pursued regarding dispatch processes for this new level. As the EHSF continues to work on this licensure level, more information will be provided.

National Telecommunications Week

Ms. Ruby reported National Telecommunications Week is April 10-April 16. The EHSF would like to provide recognition to the dispatchers during this week. The group shared suggestions. The EHSF will gather number and names of personnel from each PSAP.

Stroke Protocol

Mr. Ruby announced at the Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) the stroke protocol was discussed and the determinant stroke treatment time window was determined by Dr. Reihart. In the past, this window has been three hours. The MAC has questions if the stroke treatment time window in the EMD card set changes the level of dispatch. The RCC discussed at this time it is additional information gathered to provide to the EMS provider while enroute to the scene. The PSAPs are not notifying an appropriate stroke center. The PSAPs also dispatch according to the determinant level without significance of the time window.

9-1-1 Communication through Computers

Ms. Ruby reported Dr. Reihart's interest in learning more about the ability for citizens to contact 9-1-1 through nontraditional channel, such as e-mail. Currently, no PSAP in the region can receive 9-1-1 requests through e-mail. Discussion pursued among the committee regarding verification of authenticity and limiting geographical location for the request.

RCC Chair FY 2016-2017

Ms. Weller announced her desire to transition a new chair for the RCC in the next fiscal year. The committee has been rotating alphabetically by county, which means Lebanon is the next county to chair the committee. Eric Fahler expressed interest in the role. Ms. Ruby will provide this information to the EHSF Board of Directors for approval.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Legislation Update

Ms. Weller announced the Emergency Planning Committee now has 9-1-1 representation.

Ms. Weller reported the optional PA Premise Alert System may be mandatory in the future. The Premise Alert System permits families with special needs individuals to provide an information form to the county PSAP. This is included in the PSAP's system to provide additional information to responding units, such as physical description, sensory issues, typical behavior, atypical behavior, and preferred communication.

Recruitment and Retention

Ms. Tate asked if other counties are struggling with recruitment and retention. Discussion ensued resulting in most counties experiencing similar issues. Discussion led suggestions to aid in successful completion of the CitiCall 911 Public Safety Dispatcher/Call-Taker Pre-Employment Test.

State Budget

Ms. Ruby reported to date there is still not an approved state budget. However, the EMSOF was released. The EHSF continues to function as usual. If any changes to the EHSF's operations occur, notification will be provided.

Reconciliation Report

Ms. Dietz reminded the members the annual report is due 31 March 2016. This year the reconciliation report changed and is more time intensive.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Weller adjourned the meeting at 1120 hours.

The next Regional Communication Committee meeting is scheduled for 06 May 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan A. Ruby
Director of System Operations