

DUTCHESS COUNTY EMS TASK FORCE MEETING

November 17, 2016
392 Creek Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Present: Carol Bogle, Bruce Cuttler, Kevin Gage, Cheryl Hilbrandt, Christopher Howard, Chris Maeder, Mark Johnson, Supervisor Dave Kelly, Legislator Jerry Landisi, John Mahoney, Legislator Kari Reiser, Chris Rohrbach, Dewitt Sagendorph, Dana Smith, Cathi Tegtmeier, Dave Violante, Dave Gavin, Will Gustafsen and John Midwood representing Assembly Member-DiDi Barrett

Absent: Assembly Member-Kevin Cahill, Patricia Fusco - Senator-Terrance Murphy, Richard Robinson, Anthony Ruggiero, Dave Schultz, Senator-Sue Serino, Assembly Member-Frank Skartados

Commissioner Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and presented a draft preliminary report dated 10/28/2016 to the committee asking for input from the committee. He stated that there although an Authority is a viable option it can take a long time to develop. He stated the at this point it is crucial to educate Leadership in EMS plus local officials.

As this will eventually be presented to Leadership in Emergency Services, Local Officials, and the general public, the question of how to make the data sheets easy to understand was brought up. Suggestions and comments were as follows:

- Can we make a spreadsheet that cross-references the material? Some feel that is easier to read. **Yes, it can be formatted and locked.**
- ITR = Inability to respond. It was stated that this could be for a “good” reason, such as that the agency is on another call or a “bad” reason, such as unable to crew. “ITR” is not negative. There was discussion that ITR should

be broken down so Unable to Crew numbers can be seen. **If ITR is high for whatever reason it is a problem. Off shift will not show up.**

- Communities need to understand this chart because they are not addressing the issues.
- Should there be a separate narrative section of the data?
- There should be an explanation of what is included and excluded in ITR.
- **Total number of calls need to be included in data**
- Is this a living document? **Not at this time.**
- **Everyone agreed that the public needs to know the facts.**
- In addition to being listed in the glossary, there needs to be an explanation of BLS, ALS, Flycar.

Options and Recommendations:

Immediate: See PowerPoint slide 12

Intermediate: See PowerPoint slide 13

Long Term: See PowerPoint slide 14

- What is the time for getting this information out? **January was discussed but due to reorganizational meetings-possibly February.**

There was discussion on how to release. Supervisors and Mayors were suggest as receiving information first, then EMS, then public.

- Supervisors might ask their local EMS about this and EMS will not have seen this.
- EMS should be given the information first as it is about them.
- It was suggested that EMS and Supervisors/Mayors be presented together. This would be a long meeting. Plus Supervisors/Mayors might need more explanation (public too) because they are more unfamiliar with EMS.

It was decided this will be addressed later.

Should **Emergency Services Authority** be changed to EMS Committee or Advisory to make is sound softer. Citizens Advisory Committee Under EMS was also suggested.

It was also questioned if this should be **Emergency Medical Services** or Emergency Services. **Emergency Services** would give flexibility but the group was formed to address Emergency Medical Services.

- Do any states have mandated EMS? No one was sure.
- Alternate forms of EMS care should also be considered.
- Cathi asked if everyone agreed on the “vision” of this group. **Yes**

Final Points:

Re-emphasize education

Recommend-Citizen Advisory Group that would possibly lead to an Authority

Respectfully Submitted:

Laurie Colgan