

Emergency Services Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
3/17/2021

Present: Commissioner Steve Wantz, Director of Fire/EMS Robert McCoy, Linas Saurusaitis, Dan Plunkert, Gene Curfman, Rick Baker, Bruce Fleming, Mike Karolenko, Deric Dunn, & Tina Mawhinney.

Not Present: Dr. Mike DiNapoli, Lynn Karr-Kratz, Dave Coe & Eddie Ruch.

Chairman (Rick Baker):

- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Roll Call of all members.
- Introduction of guests: Ryan Dyson- Mount Airy VFD, employee.
- Minutes from February Meeting – Approved by all members.
- Turned meeting over to Director McCoy to start off the member reports period.

Director McCoy:

- SAFER Grant- It was decided that the grant will not be pursued this fiscal year due to the wage scales not being finalized.
- Director McCoy and County Attorney Tim Burke are meeting weekly with Westminster VFD attorney to address all issues directly relating to the stations MOU.
- Kacey reached out to station chiefs to inquire about their self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) inventory. Director McCoy will be presenting the SCBA budget request of Station 3 and the Haz Mat Team to the Board of County Commissioners on Thursday, March 25th.
- Met with First Watch virtually to view their presentation on their statistical abilities. Director McCoy will need to get in touch with Keystone to see if they are able to offer similar queries that we reviewed in the First Watch presentation.
- Met with HR to discuss the possibility of having the Training Center Manager and the EMS Coordinator job postings advertised within the next few weeks.
- Met with the Medical Directors to ensure that they are willing to continue with the medical contract to provide services to the Carroll County Fire/EMS Department.
- Director McCoy will be meeting with the Medical Advisory Board in April to discuss the team, issues, and composition.
- Met with Physio controls regarding the EMS equipment and the Director will be working on creating a schedule to determine the costs and replacement plans for EMS vehicles.

Board Member Comments:

- Deric proposed that due to the lengthy conversations during the meetings, the committee should consider meeting more than just once a month.
- Some members of the ESAC feel that the committee should focus on policies and development more so than input on the budget of the Fire/EMS Department. Other members feel that this does not need to be discussed since it is clearly stated in the bylaws that the "...ESAC is tasked with providing input on the annual Fire, Rescue and EMS budget and staying abreast of current Fire, Rescue and EMS issues."
- Tina Mawhinney has resigned from the ESAC board.

Old Business (*Rick Baker*):

- 2-3 Duty Chief- No comments on this SOP during the meeting.
- 6-2 Minimum Officer Training Standards- Discussion of putting emergency medical responder (EMR) back into the policy. This idea will be revisited with Eddie Ruch and county chiefs at the next FROPS meeting.

Transition Status (*Director McCoy*)

- The Director presented several options to the Commissioners for the hiring of personnel. The Commissioners liked option 4, which would complete Station 3 and Station 12 in FY22, Stations 1 and 5 in FY23, and three stations per year for FY24, FY25, and FY26. The Fire/EMS Department is competing with several Police reform bills in the State that will require personnel for the Sheriff's office and State's Attorney's Office, additional school funding, requests from 911 for personnel, and requests from other County Departments
- By starting the hiring process with Westminster and Sykesville, this will address up to 50% of call volume in those stations and eliminate their employment responsibilities.
- The County will also look to employ a pool of contractual employees to assist with overtime abatement and peak period units if needed.

New Business (*Rick Baker*)

- 1-1 Code of Conduct- No comments outside of the sharepoint document suggestions. Rick commented that Applicability Statements will be added to each policy moving forward to provide a clear understanding to volunteers and career employees on policy application.
- 1-2 Chain of Command- Suggestion to add Battalion Chief and Duty Chief and mark appropriately that these positions denote a future position that will be a future position ranking.
- 2-8 Personnel Response in POV- No comments outside of the sharepoint document suggestions.
- 3-1 Back Injury Prevention- Discussion on focusing on stair-chair or power cot to allow transport persons to be lifted with minimal assistance.
- 4-1 Radio and MDT use- No comments outside of the sharepoint document suggestions.
- 5-5 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)- Respiratory Protection Program to be added to sharepoint. This program would contain additional information directly related to SCBA policy.
- 5-3 Engine Tanker- Recommendation from committee that FROPS conduct a final review after revisions are addressed.
- 5-4 Rescue Squad- Recommendation from committee that FROPS conduct a final review after revisions are addressed.
- 5-2 Class "A" Pumper- Recommendation from committee that FROPS conduct a final review after revisions are addressed.
- It was suggested that all operational policies be discussed at the FROPS and EMS OPS meetings in March.
- A vote will be taken on each of the new policies at the April ESAC meeting.

Action Items (*Rick Baker*)

- Continue to discuss at each monthly meeting the transition process of hiring career county personnel.
- Deric to work with Director McCoy and other personnel selected to assist with organizing the statistical reports provided by Keystone, ERS or other tool to get the needed statistics.
- ESAC meetings will continue to be held virtually until further notice.
- The next ESAC meeting date will be on Wednesday, April 21st^h, 2021 at 19:00 hours.

- ESAC meeting was adjourned at 21:45 on 3/17/21.