

Harford County EMS Standards Advisory Board Meeting
April 2, 2019
DES Training Room – 2220 Ady Road, Forest Hill

Meeting Minutes

Board members in attendance: John Donohue (Chair), Ben Kurtz, Tami Wiggins, and Dr. David Hexter. Larry Richardson was absent.

Staff in attendance: John Richter (DES), Sharon Blevins (DES), Dr. Paul Chizmar (DES), Mike Deckard (DES), Dr. Tim Chizmar (Medical Director), Linda Dousa (QA/QI), Ben Lloyd (Budget).

Guests in attendance: Sam Sauers (Co. 9), Bill Dousa (Co. 4/Association), Mike Kalck (Co. 13/Foundation), John Correrri (Co. 5-9).

Chair Report

Chairman Donohue called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. He stated that he and Director Hopkins met with Mr. Glassman and Mr. Boniface yesterday. (To be discussed later.)

Mr. Kurtz moved to approve the February minutes as presented. Ms. Wiggins seconded and the minutes were approved 4-0.

DES Update

John Richter reported that part of the discussion with the Administration related to hiring a new Medical Director to replace Dr. Tim Chizmar. The County Medic Unit stood by with law enforcement at the viewing and funeral for Tripp Johnson. It was a very large service requiring IAP plans and DES support to law enforcement.

DES met with Co. 2 President Ed Budnick to discuss leasing options for House 4 in Perryman. The lease is being reviewed by their Board of Directors, and a response profile is still to be finalized. The county's Board of Estimates recently approved the purchase of a third ambulance using current year funds, allowing for a better cost than waiting until July 1. This unit will be fully stocked and placed into a reserve status.

The latest round of prospective paramedics have completed megacode testing, and the results are being reviewed by Dr. Chizmar and HR. New DES employee Pat Campbell started March 25, and he will conduct future EMS planning and training.

Old Business

Data

Bill Dousa discussed response statistics. Most alerts were for boxes in the Bel Air area at an average of 19 out of 28 calls per week.

Strategic Plan

The draft plan was presented to Mr. Glassman and Mr. Boniface, as was the need for a financial audit of EMS countywide and the Foundation's need for resources. The plan is currently being reviewed by the county's Law Department. DES and the Board will need to work on scheduling meetings with stakeholders. Also discussed was the need for an external financial audit of EMS countywide, as well as the Administration's commitment to funding the EMS Foundation. Mr. Kurtz relayed his concern that any future transition of Foundation to county oversight be as smooth as possible.

New Business

Medical Director

DES has discussed the process for replacing Dr. Chizmar with the administration, as have a number of recommendations.

Overcrowding

Chairman Donohue and Ms. Wiggins both discussed an incident in March where there was tremendous strain on hospitals and units were not clearing in a timely manner. A follow-up meeting took place with stakeholders and protocols were discussed for preventing future issues. The board and guests in attendance had much discussion and ideas related to the issue.

There being no further business, Ms. Wiggins made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded Mr. Kurtz. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:50.

Next meeting is May 7, 2019.