



EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

February 18, 2016

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Lou Battistella, Chairman – General Public
Edward McLellan, General Public
John Frank, Director, PS& EM
Sonny Vincent, General Public
Johnny Mayne, Southern Garrett Rescue Squad
Wayne Tiemersma, Emergency Medical Service
Richard Carlson, Chief's Committee

GUESTS:

Shelia Mahaffey, Secretary
Dwayne Kitis, MIEMMS
Kevin Null, County Administrator
Terry Spear, Northern Rescue Squad
Justin Orendorf, Bittinger Rescue Squad
Curtis O'Neal, General Public

CALL TO ORDER

This Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Battistella.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Regular Meeting for November 19, 2015 meeting were distributed for review and comment via e-mail prior to the meeting. Wayne Tiemersma made a motion to accept the minutes. Sonny Vincent seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

- **Emergency Service Clubs**
 - Wayne Tiemersma and Vicki Walker have lesson plans completed for the entire school year
 - Students participated in hands on respiratory training with pig lungs and pig hearts
 - John Reginaldi from MEMA gave a presentation to the Clubs
 - In the process of planning a field trip for the students for the end of the school year
 - Wayne Tiemersma and John Frank to meet with County Administrator, Kevin Null to discuss monetary donations for the clubs from the County.
 - The Maryland Emergency Management Association Scholarship for \$1,000.00 is available for a student from Western Maryland area. The objective of the scholarship is to promote Emergency Management in the State of Maryland to assist students pursuing a career in emergency management or a related field.

- **MIEMSS Report & SWOT Update**
 - The 2016 Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar will be held at the Rocky Gap Casino Resort March 11 & 12, 2016.
 - Regional MIEMSS offices are offering company level SWOT's for individual companies including fire companies. Two individual SWOT's a year will be offered on a first come first serve basis.

- **Director of Emergency Management Report**
 - **Emergency Operations Center**
 - John Frank informed the committee that an Alternative Site Analysis was prepared for the EOC project. Emergency Management will be submitting a grant to MEMA requesting Hazard Mitigation Grant Funding from the recent Severe Storm Jonas declaration. Funding for the new EOC facility roof (to meet a high snow load) and reinforced walls and support structure (for wind resistance) will be requested. Funding for both the roof and walls from hazard mitigation grant funding will significantly drive down construction cost allowing for the additional site preparation work. John Frank and Ginny Smith met with the State Hazard Mitigation Officer, who indicated that the extension and request for additional funding are considered a top priority for his office, as well as, the EOC mitigation project.

- **Hazmat Team**
 - The Hazmat team completed their By-Laws.
 - Officers will be elected and installed at the March 2016 monthly meeting.
 - Work has been done on the Hazmat trailer.
 - The generator for the Hazmat trailer was delivered.
- **Storm Jonas**
 - Mr. Frank discussed the most recent storm event, Jonas, providing details on the Garrett County EOC functions during the event. Strengths, Weaknesses, and Opportunities for Improvement from the event were discussed.
 - The EOC was activated for approximately 54 hours during the storm
 - A County Declaration of Emergency was issued as well as a State Declaration of Emergency
 - Two warming centers were opened up in the county
 - Sheltering trailers were deployed but not activated
 - Very good continuity of government discussion between agencies and/or departments
- **Weather Bug**
 - Garrett County School Board is purchasing two weather stations at approximately \$4000.00
 - Mr. Frank gave an overview of the WeatherBug Program; a weather station built to withstand the most extreme weather and is easily installed on a roof, the station records weather measurements in real-time. With this program you receive immediate weather alerts to mobile devices, computers, indoor alerting devices and outdoor horns.
- **Active Shooter Training (a subcommittee of the LEPC Committee)**
 - Mr. Frank informed the board that an Active Shooter Planning & Exercise Committee will be forming in February 2016. An Active Shooter Response Planning document will be developed as part of a Threat Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) process. Gaps and needs will be identified in the following categories: Planning, Resources, Equipment and Training & Exercise
- **Chief's Report – Emergency Medical Services**
 - **Emergency Medical Services**
 - Mr. Tiemersma distributed an information packet detailing data on EMS calls. Mr. Tiemersma discussed how county paid EMS personnel is scheduled between the stations and the calls they have ran this year. An activity report by priority showing crew status with county coverage being 41.7% was reviewed.
 - **Northern Rescue Squad Issues and Plan Update**

Since the last ESB meeting the following personnel issues have been or will be resolved:

 - within the next (30) thirty days:
 - *Five previous members are back as active status*
 - *Station meetings to fully utilize current volunteer pool*
 - *NGCRS agreed to fund remainder of current MFRI EMT course which will give NGCRS and SGCRS an additional three EMT's each*
 - Additional Improvements (to be made)
 - One new paramedic on duty at Station 3
 - Six new members
 - 2 Drivers
 - 1 First Responder
 - 1 EMT
 - 2 currently in EMT Class @ MFRI
 - within the 2 - 4 months

- *updating current Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP)*
 - *Allow ALS, BLS and Drivers additional shifts*
- Additional Improvements (to be made)
 - Advertise and hire full-time and part-time ALS, BLS, Drivers to supplement volunteer and county providers *** interview first week of March 2016
- Long term goals
 - *Recruitment opportunities in NGCRS first due area*
 - *Retention of current volunteers***Appointed new R&R officer*
- Additional Improvements (to be made)
 - Internal LOSAP
 - Enhanced Service Award Program
 - Secondary Health Insurance
 - Provide funding for another EMT class
 - Continue to improve and refine internal inconsistency to improve core values
 - Increase community involvement

OLD BUSINESS

● **Accountability Tags**

Mr. Frank advised the Board that Accountability Tags are back in the budget for 2017. The old tag system is usable if additional rings and cards are purchased but cannot be updated. Would like to have the new tag system phased in within the next two years, needs to be discussed with the individual fire companies.

NEW BUSINESS

● **Bittinger Rescue Squad**

Justin Orendorf, Chief of the Bittinger Rescue Squad gave the Board an overview of the newly formed Bittinger Rescue Squad.

- Bittinger Rescue Squad has 20 – 25 members
- All members are volunteers
- Five ALS providers on the squad
- Thirteen EMT's on the squad
- Purchased an ambulance in January 2016
- Squad has responded to 15 calls since February 4, 2016
- Response time down from more than 30 minutes to less than 15 minutes per call
- Average response time is between two and seven minutes

2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

- The remaining 2016 Emergency Services Board meeting schedule is:
May 19, 2016, August 18, 2016 and November 17, 2016
Special meetings may be scheduled if deemed necessary by the Board.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Emergency Services Board is scheduled for May 19, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m. on a motion by Edward McLellan, which was seconded by Johnny Mayne and carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED BY: _____ **DATE:** _____

Lou Battistella
Chairman