

EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

November 18, 2021



MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Lou Battistella, General Public
Wayne Tiemersma, EMS Chief
Richard Carlson, Chief's Committee
Mark Clookie, Southern Rescue Squad
Terry Spear, Northern Rescue Squad
John Frank, Emergency Services Director
Alex Mellott, Fire and Rescue Association
Justin Orendorf, 911 Center Representative

GUESTS:

Shelia Mahaffey, Emergency Services
Dwayne Kitis, MIEMSS
Chris Shue, GCES
Curtis O'Neal, GCES

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The August 19, 2021, minutes, were distributed for review and comment via e-mail prior to the meeting. Wayne Tiemersma made a motion to accept the minutes. Mark Clookie seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

- **MIEMSS Report**
 - MIEMSS provided \$17,000 to the Bittinger VFD to purchase a new Lifepak 15.
 - Title changes have been made within MIEMSS organization; however, job responsibilities remain the same.
- **Director of Emergency Services Report**
 - An inventory of all Emergency Services PPE is complete. Emergency Services is currently determining what PPE is needed for all County offices.
 - COVID booster shots for county employees will be given at the three county roads garages, the courthouse and the EOC. The schedule is currently being prepared.
 - The Search and Rescue Team Plan to be adopted at the next County Commissioners meeting.
 - The Swift Water Team is in the planning phase. Currently working on bylaws.
 - LEPC The Mitigation Plan is due for a five-year review.
 - LEPC Tabletop exercise is planned for the spring of 2022.
 - There are six employee openings at the 911 Center, with 3 new employees in training.
 - The committee suggested that exit interviews be conducted when employees leave the 911 Center to try and pinpoint the reason for such a high turnover within the department.
 - Lou Battistella is to reach out to County Administrator, Kevin Null about the concerns the Emergency Services Board has with the high number turnovers of dispatchers at the 911 Center.
- **Chief's Report – Emergency Medical Services**
 - Wayne Tiemersma distributed a report summarizing the response data (response time, delayed calls, failed responses, and secondary response) for all the stations and explained the data presented. The report is attached for reference.
 - Currently tracking helicopter response times, compiling pertinent data and concerns. The issue is not with the personnel on the aircraft as much as dispatch decision making. It takes on average 62 minutes for a helicopter to arrive on scene in Garrett County. This is a statewide problem with personnel turnover very high.
 - To fly a patient out in a helicopter the patient should be a level A or B, not a level C or D.
 - The Garrett County Traffic Advisory Committee is very concerned about the response to a fatal motor vehicle accident that happened recently.

- Per Dwayne Kitis, Garrett County always complies with MIEMSS requirements, but MIEMSS doesn't always comply with Garrett County.

OLD BUSINESS

- LOSAP - The Board discussed the 1-point requirement to collect the \$3,000.00 burial benefit. It was recommended by the Board that the Fireman's Association look into this and make a recommendation to the County Commissioners that the Burial Benefit be changed to a more stringent requirement. Johnny Mayne will present the recommendation at the Fireman's Association November meeting.
- Replacement for an Emergency Service Board Citizen Representative – Any suggestions for a new citizen representative are to be emailed to Lou Battistella who will gather names and will forward to Kevin Null. The County is advertising for a Civilian at Large Position to fill the vacancy.

NEW BUSINESS

- Justin Orendorf to attend Emergency Services Board Meetings to represent the 911 Center as an invited guest.
- Lou Battistella is to reach out to County Administrator, Kevin Null about the concern the Emergency Services Board has with the high number turnovers of dispatchers at the 911 Center.

LOSAP

- LOSAP - The Board discussed the 1-point requirement to collect the \$3,000.00 burial benefit. It was recommended by the Board at the August 19, 2021, meeting that the Fireman's Association look into this and make a recommendation to the County Commissioners that the Burial Benefit be changed to a more stringent requirement. Johnny Mayne will present the recommendation at the Fireman's Association November meeting.
- It is recommended by the Board that every aspect of the Burial Benefit be reviewed so any and/or all changes can be considered, and the plan be updated one time.
- Collection of yearly spreadsheets along with all other aspects of LOSAP is now being handled by the Garrett County Human Resources and Finance departments.

2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

- The 2022 Emergency Services Board meeting schedule is, May 19, 2022, August 18, 2022, and November 17, 2022. Special meetings may be scheduled if deemed necessary by the Board.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Emergency Services Board is scheduled for **February 17, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. at the EOC, 32 Outfitter Way McHenry. Please enter from Deep Creek Drive.** With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m. on a motion by John Frank, which was seconded by Alex Mellott and carried unanimously.

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

LOU BATTISTELLA
Chairman