



Garrett County Emergency Services Board

Minutes of December 20, 2010 meeting

Members Present:

Ed McLellan, Chairman
Lou Battistella, At-large representative
Bob Browning, GCFRA representative
Brad Frantz, GCPS/EM representative
Rick Harding, SGCRS representative
Paul Harman, NGCRS representative
Duane Stein, GC Chiefs representative
Sonny Vincent, At-large representative

Guests:

Dwayne Kitis, MIEMSS

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman McLellan, who welcomed the new members to the Board. Each member introduced themselves, gave a brief background and discussed their vision for the ESB. A contact information sheet was circulated (attached).

Chairman McLellan and Brad Frantz provided an overview of the purpose and history of the ESB and discussed the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) Analysis that was the basis for the recommendations to the Garrett County Commissioners, including the establishment of an Emergency Services Board. The SWOT document can be found in the Public Safety tab of the Garrett County web-site: www.garrettcountry.org.

Brad Frantz provided an overview of the newly enacted legislation and LOSAP (Length of Service Award Program) guidelines approved by the Garrett County Commissioners. There was discussion about various points of the legislation and LOSAP document and it was decided to provide both print and electronic copies of the documents to each member. This will allow for closer review and further discussion/feedback at subsequent meetings. It was motioned to provide both documents to the public on the web-site, which will be done once minutes are formally approved. It was also noted that previous minutes are already posted on the web-site.

There was an overview of the associated agencies and committees with whom the ESB will frequently interact. Dwayne Kitis, Region I Administrator for MIEMSS, discussed the role of MIEMSS as a resource and regulatory agency for EMS in Maryland. There was also discussion on the role of the Jurisdictional Medical Advisor and the new appointment of Dr. David DeLo, who replaced Dr. Richard Perry. Dr. Perry will remain on the Medical Review Board and continue to be an advocate for improving the quality of EMS in Garrett County. The QA/QI (Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement) program administered by Wayne Tiemersma under the Medical Review Board was also discussed.

In addition, there was general discussion relating to Worker's Compensation and the type of coverage each department carried. The question was raised whether it would be more cost effective to have all departments covered under one policy and would the respective departments support such coverage. Dwayne Kitis stated that Allegany County was investigating the feasibility of consolidating Worker's Comp. for all departments. He will investigate and report back to the Board on any action they take.

Brad Frantz updated the Board on some of the initiatives undertaken by Garrett County to improve and facilitate the improvement of EMS in Garrett County, including the Emergency Services Clubs at Southern and Northern High School, training and exercise opportunities and communications upgrades. It was noted that both Southern and Northern Rescue Squads had made significant contributions to the Emergency Services clubs.

The next meeting date was scheduled for January 25 at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Conference Room.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION

Brad Frantz
311 E. Alder St.
Oakland, MD 21550
Ph. # 301-334-7619
Cell # 301-616-1930
bfrantz@garrettcountry.org

George "Sonny" Vincent
6997 Oakland-Sang Run Rd.
Oakland, MD 21550
301-387-2405
301-616-6791

Duane F. Stein
1342 Springs Road
Grantsville, MD 21536
301-895-5297
301-707-6655
dstein60@hotmail.com

Lou Battistella
2693 State Park Rd.
Swanton, MD 21561
301-387-2094
724-396-1524
lbatt859@aol.com

Paul Harman
258 Cove Rd.
Accident, MD 21520
301-746-8762
Paul.harman@mail.wvu.edu

Rick Harding
HC 76 Box 38
Mt. Storm, WV 26739
304-693-7685
301-616-1807
freezlucky69@yahoo.com

Bob Browning
P.O. Box 172
McHenry, MD
301-616-6997
cptbob@qcol.net

Ed McLellan

Dwayne Kitus
Cassleman Ventures Bldg.
Rm. 106
Grantsville, MD 21536
301-895-5934
410-350-1368
dkitis@miemss.org