



ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD

May 22, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 1903 with Chris Adams in chair. Roll call taken and duly recorded. Minutes of the last meeting were approved without corrections

Members present: Dick McDougall, Don Thompson, Curtis Newtown, Chris Adams, Wayne Love, Dan Parker, Kevin Wells, Craig Ballard

Members excused: Phyllis McDougall, Ken Garners, Jeannie McLear, Tom Tomlinson, Storm Cilley, Dr. Healey

Members absent: Carol Muench, Ron Hance, Gary Jarvis, Grover Katzman

Guests: Ann Smith – NCEMS Program Agency, Joe Gilbert - St. Lawrence County Car 1.

New Fire and EMS County Coordinator: Chris Adams introduced the new Fire & EMS Coordinator for St. Lawrence County, Mr. Joe Gilbert. Mr. Gilbert spoke to the board and expressed his goals for the county, especially drills, incident command and HAZMAT training. On November 1 he will have a walk through rehearsal for a major ice storm incident either at the Reserve Center or SUYM Canton gymnasium. The second disaster drill he is working on is a flooding exercise sometime in February 2013. We will receive a six month notice regarding this. On Tuesday a fireman pulled a female out of a burning car and Mr. Gilbert inquired “What does the county do for situations like this?” Ann Smith explained that her office has an Excellent in EMS Awards program in which an incident report form can be filled out for any call worthy of this award. Mr. Gilbert stated he would like to a Challenge Coin award in which the front would have an OES emblem on the front and back would have an emblem for fire, EMS and other possible entities. Deadline would be June 15th and 400 coins would cost \$2800.

Ann Smith – NCEMS Program Agency

1. She announced she has accepted a job as the Business Development Manager for Air Methods Helicopter service for the Tri-County region. So far, there have only been two applications received for her position as director of the Program Agency.
2. Ann announced that Lee Burns has been names the new Director of the State of New York BEMS.
3. The new EMS curriculum coming out soon will match that of the Nation EMS Standards
4. At this time, Don explained what some of those new changes would be.

5. The office of BEMS was in the process of moving this week to its new location at 875 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206-1388. No emails or phone calls would be advisable during this move as none will be answered.

Office of Emergency Services – report given by Craig Ballard

	March	April
EMS	621	97
Fire	570	98

Re: narrow banding. Craig stated some testing in the field regarding narrow banding for radios has been done by Wells Communications. The current radio system cannot be changed in the dispatcher's office until everything has been switched to narrow banding in the county. Craig is asking some departments if they could test the narrow banding and report back to him with any problems. Craig Porta of Wells Communications, and Bob Crowe are working diligently on the and also reported that Russell FD has already switched over all their radio equipment. Craig would like to see departments complete their change over by October 1st which would leave two months to work out any kinks by the end of the year.

Unfinished Business

1. Kevin Wells reported that Mark's Law had passed in the Senate and now moving to the state assembly.
2. Re: Air Medical Service. Watertown helicopter, housed at the Dexter airport, is here and training has begun but still need to do more. The living quarters have arrived and will be set up this week which will be located next to the hanger. Right now, if all goes well, the service is looking at a June 1 in-service date. As for the Potsdam location, Ann reported there will be the same PR when this service is up and running. Right now the aircraft is being painted and new quarters are being built at the airfield in Potsdam. On June 8th there will be a landing zone presentation at the NNY Fire Convention in Louisville at 3:30pm. The Clearing House will still be used for helicopter requests
3. MCI Plan – Chris wished to have the MCI plan updated and appointed Don Thompson and Dick McDougall to be the committee to complete this task. Chris asked that the plan include the First Response units (BLSFR) from the area colleges

New Business

1. Election of Officers – Motion was made by Dick McDougall to continue with the same slate of officers for the next year. This would be Chris Adams as president, Grover Katzman as Vice-President, and Donald Thompson as Secretary. Motion seconded by Curtis Newtown and carried.

2. Chris has a concern with the license to operate on the EMS frequency. The last he checked, SLC did not have a license to operate on frequency 155.340. Craig Ballard stated he would check this out.
3. Danny Parker stated that Clifton Fine Hospital is looking to change its status to a not-for-profit entity. This is due to concerns over retirement benefits and the cost savings involved. The Board of Legislators supports the resolution but needs to submit this to the state for approval.
4. Motion was made by Dick to suspend any meetings of the SLC EMS AB for the months of June, July and August unless a special meeting(s) is needed. Seconded by Wayne Love and carried. The next monthly meeting will be Tuesday, September 25th at 7pm at the Office of Emergency Services

Meeting adjourned at 2018 hours upon a motion made by Curtis Newtown and seconded by Dick McDougall.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Thompson
Secretary