

Calvert County EMS Advisory Council

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

In person at DPS and virtual via zoom

Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order -1900 by Chairman Weems
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Approval of Minutes- Motion to accept J. Tippet (Co.3) seconded by Heather Howes (DPS)
- IV. Guests- none present
- V. Calvert County Sheriff's Office – Officer Dean (virtual) no report
- VI. MSP Barrack U Lt. Meurrens (virtual) Confirmed with Kelly Carleson the canister will fit, Kelly said yes
- VII. MSP Aviation -not present
- VIII. American Red Cross- not present
- IX. Calvert County Health Department- Regina and Dr. Polsky virtual) Dr. Polsky transitioned from the medical director role. There is also a grant coming this spring they are hoping to get that will help with the FREMS program similar to Queen Anns and Charles Co. program. This program will help patients who have a high utilization of EMS, will help to provide resources at home or medical treatment to help get better control of their medical conditions. Community health providers will team up with RN's and paramedics to assist patients. Dr. Polsky put his contact information in the chat box, please get a list of contacts from every department as a point of contact. This program will help alleviate the burden on EMS and run non-emergency calls. They are partnering with CHMC Community Wellness Erin Farley and Kenny on this project.
- X. Old Business
 - a. Limited Resources -stalled out. Chair asked representative from Co. 3 (Kailin and Brian) to help assist in transitioning the information from them to Carlos who is taking over the program.
 - b. Bystander Support Response- Regina has spoken at CALS virtual meeting and they now have palm cards, Denise has gone to Co5 and spoken with them. Co5 has the cards now, and next week 3/27 Regina will be at Co. 6 to talk with them and distribute the palm cards. If you haven't scheduled a time for the Health Department to come out please get that scheduled.
 - c. Direct to Triage- Dr. Finklestein will discuss later
- XI. New Business
 - a. Co 7 Backboard pickup
 - b. Chairman Weems brought up concerns that MSP Aviation and Red Cross have missed several meetings and there should be considering of removing them as voting members of the committee. Mike Cooney (MIEMSS) addressed concerns that you can remove them from the agenda but not the bylaws. Chair Weems recommends a change in the bylaw.
 - a. Motion made by Chair Weems to edit the bylaws to remove Red Cross and MSP Aviation as voting members. Seconded by Sewell (Co.2). Motion passed without any discussion, it was recommended to reach out to the contacts of those groups and find out who the member is supposed to be. Gary O'Connell is Red Cross
 - c. Chair Weems wants to assign a committee of 3 to review the bylaws and recommend updates (Kelly Carlson Co. 20, Crystal Honeycutt Co. 4, Mike Eversol Co.6)
 - d. Oct 17-19 at CSM LaPlata will be the next southern Maryland EMS conference, it will be hosted by Charles Co. Chief Cherry. There will be a survey coming out to get ideas for education.
- XII. Open Discussion
 - a. Co 1 -Direct to triage drill and the communication drill were great-J. Tippet
 - b. Co 2 -No report
 - c. Co 3 – 5/10 mass casualty drill, email have been sent to the stakeholders, please confirm ASAP
 - d. Co 4 -Association Banquet will be held at their department on April 11
 - e. Co 5 -No report
 - f. Co 6 -Direct to triage drill is available
 - g. Co 7 -No report
 - h. Co 10 -No report

- i. Co 20-Emergency Services- Assistant Chief position is now closed, there were 5 applicants, interviews will be scheduled. There is a Lt position open, if you know anyone please apply. Joe and Kenny are back in town. (Kelly)
 - j. Medical Director – April/May will be QA on airway, BLS able to come to the QA meetings. For clarification, proceed calls can be upgraded but it must be supported by documentation why there is an upgrade. In the past month there have not been any emails to the QA email about upgrading proceed calls. This must happen if you upgrade. S. McKeever (Co 10) asked if every call that is upgraded will be reviewed or is the QA group going to do it? Dr. F said every call will be reviewed. Carlos (Co. 4) questioned the rule of older than 75 or younger than 8 if we have the right to upgrade from proceed. Providers have the right to do that if the dispatcher doesn't do it and there is concern by the provider then you can upgrade the call, but please send an email. Train the trainer for Direct to Triage went well, there was a good response. Goal is to go live April 1st. Please get going and provide a roster do me of everyone who has taken the class. If you need help getting classes, I am willing to help teach.
 - k. CalvertHealth Medical Center- Dr. Tillet advised flu and COVID cases are declining. There should be a break in the volume, and he thanked everyone for their patience throughout flu season. There was a medical call that the providers took extra time with the family and gathered information that helped guide decisions ultimately stopping a patient from being intubated that didn't want to. Chad reported MIEMSS sent out an established protocol for what constitutes as forced offload. They are hanging up in the ED. The patient must 1. Be off the stretcher and 2. Hand-over must occur before clicking the button or radioing to communications that turn over has happened.
 - l. Calvert Emergency Communications – VAD data has been updated by S. McKeever
 - m. Calvert County EMS Coordinator- Direct to triage laminated copies are available for clipboards/flowcharts. Please send a list of who has taken the class and a list of members who are trained from EKG. This is an annual refresher. Chair Weems stated she has just updated the FTO/FTC program to the new protocols and procedures. Heather has a copy of it.
 - n. Citizen Reps- no report
 - o. Chair of Chief's Council – Sterling, coordinates drills for the county, if you want anything please let him know. There will be a consultation drill coming up with CHMC.
 - p. MIEMSS Rep- Mike Cooney thanked everyone for years of service and let everyone know his last day at MIEMSS will be March 24th. He has enjoyed his time working with great providers from Calvert and it is a bitter sadness. He will now be the new regional representative for Boundtree.
 - q. Public Comment- Moment of silence for the loss of paramedic Tim Manley, he was a Lt. in Anne Arundel, a paramedic in Calvert and a friend to many.
- XIII. Adjournment – 1943 by Kelly C and seconded by Olivia Bryan Co. 6