

EMS System Oversight Committee Meeting

October 11, 2007

Members/Liaisons Present: Faye Barefoot, Tom Czaplinski, Jack Cote, Jimmy Garris, Kyle Willis, Duane Holder, Jack White, Chuck Owens

Staff Present: JoAnne Burgdorff, Noel Lee, Scott Elliott

Absent: David Lusk, Ted Delbridge, MD, Juan March, MD, Melonie Bryan

Open: Jack White called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda: Agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of minutes: The minutes from September 13, 2007 were approved. Jimmy Garris made the motion to approve the minutes and Tom Czaplinski seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Old Business:

- A. Non-Emergency Questionnaire:** The Total Population and Population Served was added per request of the committee at the 9-13-07 meeting. Page One and Page Three of the Questionnaire was distributed to replace these pages in the previous handouts. At the time of the meeting, we had received responses back from 8 of the 13 counties who had initially responded to the questionnaire.
- B. Lease on Pactolus EMS Building:** JoAnne Burgdorff reported that the lease has been mailed to Pactolus Fire Department. Have not had a response back from them yet.
- C. Financials and Service Data Reports:** Melonie Bryan was not present at the meeting. The reports were distributed. It was noted that Falkland is still not reporting, and Kyle Willis reported that Farmville's reports are not in the packet as they are not due until October 15.

Committee Reports:

- A. Forms & Finance Subcommittee:** Duane Holder distributed the minutes from the September 26 meeting of the subcommittee. Duane reported that the group needs at least a full fiscal quarter of data before any trend analysis can happen. This is a cash flow vs. a budget problem where you must find other revenue or cut expenditures. The recurring theme throughout the meeting was the hope that uniformity in operations can be achieved.

The subcommittee will meet again in mid November.

Discussion: Jimmy Garris reported that everyone has got to work together as one entity to save money. Scott Elliott reported that the county purchases through state contract and this may be an option.

Another option of reducing costs would be to partner with City of Greenville, Pitt County School Garage, etc. for vehicle repairs. Jimmy Garris reported that we need to determine the total cost of vehicle maintenance among all the squads and look at ways to reduce costs.

Kyle Willis reported that he was notified today by the hospital that EMS squads cannot purchase the initial doses of narcotics from the hospital any longer. Squads will have to purchase narcotics from outside sources. This will create an additional cost to the squads. However, the ED will replenish the narcotics for the squads after the initial purchase of the drugs. Kyle reported that there are other charges for services that can be passed on to the patient based on services provided.

The subcommittee will go ahead and look at items that can be purchased in bulk.

Eric Deans, Captain, Bell Arthur EMS, reported that he is in favor of consolidating the purchase of supplies, gas, etc. in an effort to reduce costs.

Duane Holder reported that he would be willing to assist the squads with completing the paperwork for receiving a refund on sales tax.

New Business:

- A. AmbuMed NC:** Noel Lee reported that he was notified by Ralph Schaeffer on 10-1-07 that AmbuMed, NC was ceasing service for 72 hours and that he would notify the Emergency Management office as to the outcome. On 10-3-07 at 3:00 p.m. Ralph Schaeffer notified Noel Lee that AmbuMed, NC was totally shutting down all services in North Carolina.

Noel Lee reported that the county is currently working on the system modification to remove AmbuMed, NC from the plan. NCOEMS is waiting for all counties to submit their system modification plans and then they will approve the plans.

Motion: Kyle Willis made the motion to cancel the franchise for Non-Emergency Services for AmbuMed, NC. Jimmy Garris seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Noel Lee reported that he, Scott Elliott, JoAnne Burgdorff, and Melonie Bryan met with Tim Bazemore of Coastal Medical Transport on 10-11-07. His request for a franchise was denied due to no valid provider license in the packet. He did not meet the \$1 million requirement for vehicle insurance. There was some questionable results of the criminal background checks, etc. His argument was that the county had worked

with other entities allowing them to rectify the items in question. Scott Elliott asked Tim Bazemore to submit a letter with his concerns and he will take his appeal to the County Commissioners.

- B. EMSSTAR:** Scott Elliott reported that he had contacted EMSSTAR to let them know that the county is looking for a more comprehensive plan to include emergency and non-emergency services in a study. EMSSTAR submitted a new Proposal for Professional Services for a Comprehensive System Assessment of Pitt County EMS. Scott distributed the document at the meeting. The cost is \$51,339. Scott reported that he has an outside entity who has agreed to pay for part of the cost.

Kyle Willis reported that he sees a problem with Dr. Delbridge being associated with EMSSTAR and that he would like to see more than one quote. Scott Elliott reported that Dr. Delbridge will not participate in the study.

Tom Czaplijski pointed out that Dr. Delbridge is a liaison to the committee; a non-voting member. Dr. Delbridge previously disclosed to the committee his association with EMSSTAR.

Scott reported that with a service contract you do not have to have more than one quote.

EMSSTAR has done proposals for Nash and Edgecombe counties and Scott has requested to get a copy of their final product.

There will be a called meeting on Thursday, October 18 at 3:00 p.m. to discuss the EMSSTAR proposal. This will allow time for everyone to review the document and also to contact some of the references listed.

Questions/Comments from Members: There was some discussion about some of the squads going over in budgeted line items. Scott Elliott reported that the squads have been asked to explain when there is a difference in the percentages.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

(Note: Next meeting October 18, 2007 in the EOC at 3:00pm)

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Bryant