

Calvert County EMS Advisory Council
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
January 18, 2023

Members Present in person: Heather Howes, Sterling Myers, Thomas Yowell, Chuck Threlfall, Kenneth Miller, Paul Nicholson, Torrin Doonan, Austin Lavigne, Erik Morgan, Stanley Harris, Mike Clarke, and Stephanie Cleaveland.

Persons attending virtually via Zoom: Jennifer Tyrrell, Richard Sewell, John Hassler, Kelly Carlson, Crystal Honeycutt, Dave Skaggs, Stacy Clay, Sarah Vaughan, Crystal Dowd, Jason Finkelstein, Courtney Gosse, Kailin Case, Steve Scelzo, Abbi Webb, James Richardson, Doris McDonald, Steven Bailey, and Lakesha Estep.

- Quorum established; meeting called to order 1902
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Motion for approval of minutes from last month by Richard Sewell, seconded by Kenneth Miller
- Guests: None
- Calvert County Sheriff's Office- Not Present-Dave Canning will no longer be the representative. They will assign a new representative and they will be present at the next month's meeting.
- MSP Barrack U: Not Present-No Report
- MSP Aviation: Not Present-No Report
- American Red Cross: Courtney Gosse-First time so not sure what to report. One disaster this month, appreciate the support. Starting to build up programming again post-Covid. Chuck advised the type of information previously conveyed.
- Calvert County Health Department: Doris McDonald-Trying to build up crisis units. 24-hour stabilization available on site. Not able to mobilize overnight right now.
 - Kenny Miller-Is the stabilization center a call center or can people be sent there?
 - They are available for intake in person 24/7. Entrance is around back, lower level of health department.

Old Business

- Waiting on Commissioners for approval of Dr. Craig Jeschke as a citizen representative
- CCNC having no AED- Heather and Dr. Finkelstein will be going to all nursing homes in Calvert County over the next two weeks-AEDs, appropriate/not appropriate for 911 dispatch, billing.
 - Per Medical Director-Do not dissuade patients from going to ER, advocate for patient. Treat and transport patient then send email if abuse of system.

New Business

- Nominations: No term limits on online by-laws.
 - Chairman of the Board- Chuck Threlfall (accepted) unable to determine who nominated, Thomas Yowell (declined) nominated by Heather Howes. Chuck Threlfall is the Chair

- Co-Chair- Thomas Yowell (accepted) by Chuck Threlfall . Thomas is the Co-Chair.
- Secretary- Stacy Clay (Declined) nominated by Kelly Carlson, Kenneth Miller (Declined) nominated by Heather Howes, Stephanie Cleveland (Accepted) nominated by Kenneth Miller. Closed. Stephanie Cleveland is new secretary
- BLS/ALS Skills Day- Sterling Myers- Many of our classes for Southern Maryland providers are 2+hours away. Sterling would like to Chair up a new conference, similar to Pyramid, to bring an annual training conference to the region. Positive feedback from council. Committee establish:
 - Sterling-Head
 - Dr. Finkelstein
 - Thomas Yowell, Heather Howes, Torrin Doonan, Kailin Case
 - Additional support from Kenneth Miller and Stephanie Cleveland/Hospital
- Company 6 backboard pickup-Pick up equipment if you are around the facilities
- Company 20 QA/QI Report-Read by Chief Miller. (1 good, 1 needs improvement)
- Emergency Communications QA/QI-Deferred to February

Open Discussion:

- Company 1: No report
- Company 2: No report
- Company 3: No report
- Company 4: No report
- Company 5: No report
- Company 6: Chuck Threlfall: Bingo on Saturday, Raffle online
- Company 7: Sterling: Zoom meeting for pediatric assessments went great. Trauma decision will be presented by MSP next week, link forthcoming. Working on the CEUs. Will gladly set up county wide drills as part of a team effort.
 - Can we address the “Not Alert” issues?
 - Dr. Finkelstein states a date needs to be set for a sit down to discuss the whole issue
 - Stanley Harris-715 Not Alerts, total 7878 calls. Breakdown between call types associated with the “Not Alerts”.
 - Pull eMeds reports to see final transport priority and then set up a meeting to discuss.
 - Company 4 is continuously failing and taxing their mutual aid stations with limited resources. Sterling is looking for what Co.4 is going to do to improve the situation.
 - Kenneth Miller-Meeting held with Chief 4 and membership at her request. Productive meeting with good dialogue, misinformation clarified.
 - Jennifer Tyrrell (Co.4)- Limited on EMTs, couple people starting class soon. We can't force volunteers to sign up. Officers are trying to get units out as we can. We have duty crews w/required hours. We only have 10-13 EMTs. Will give full report at next month so it is not a rushed report.
 - Dr. Finkelstein-Requests an internal audit to see what they can do and bring that report back to see how we can best support them.

- Chuck Threlfall-Is there an incident action plan to address shortfall of staffing? Jennifer Tyrell-Yes, we have an officer meeting coming up to discuss this.
 - James Richardson- Significant number of EMTs have left Co.4 and become productive at other stations. Recommends leadership evaluate why retention is such an issue and do a Strength/Weakness (SWAT) Analysis.
- Company 10: No report
- Company 20: Kenneth Miller-Still in the waiting stages with HR for hiring of 15 candidates. In the final stages. New EMS Lieutenant, PMIC Ashley Madariaga has been promoted. Did an assessment center for the first time, went very well. As always, please call me with any questions or concerns.
- Medical Director: Will try to get training sessions going monthly or quarterly, we will get the not alert thing figured out with stats. Wants to revamp this meeting-looking for any suggestions or ideas to make meetings more productive or streamlined.
 - Refusals have been a big QA issue lately-We don't push refusals. Do your jobs.
 - Be prepared. Take your equipment with you.
 - Working on nursing home situation
 - Draw up Epi-End of February for first roll-out for people who still need training.
 - Please ensure your people affiliate
 - Accepted position at St. Mary's as their Medical Director. I will stay involved and more involved with Calvert. Still Interim in Calvert and not planning on going anywhere.
 - Cancelled before response-If you don't mark up, you don't have to do an eMeds report. People are dragging their feet because they don't want to do a report. Per COMAR, if you go on air you MUST do a report. A lot of subpoenas are coming in from all counties, we need these reports done.
 - Chuck Threlfall-Do suppression units do a report? If they arrive first, provide patient care, do a lift assist, they should be doing a report. Dr. Finkelstein will sit with Chief Council to determine policy.
- Calvert Health Medical Center: Stephanie Cleveland-Gearing up for stroke recertification, please make sure you are calling in stroke alerts early. A lot going on at MIEMSS regarding offload times. Statewide committee putting together policies and guidelines. Calvert is not close to being identified as needing improvement. I will bring it back when it is complete.
 - Sterling-We have had issues with consults-hospital refusing consults and stating we must contact our medical director. Is there a policy/standard for how Covid patients are treated/left in ambulance.
 - This has been addressed and rectified (consults)
 - Patients should not be kept in the ambulance due to Covid precautions. All patients should be brought into the ED unless previously directed for a good reason. Covid is not good reason.
- Calvert Emergency Communications: No report
- Calvert County EMS Coordinator: Heather Howes:
 - We got a \$40,000 ALS training grant. Looking at classes we can do throughout the county that stays within guidelines but benefits the most. Career EMS will book the training and manage the grant, but it will be in coordination with volunteers and open to all.
 - Please do reports, a lot of subpoenas are coming in very quickly and States Attorney needs them asap. Signed refusals need to be attached to your eMEDS report. If you

need help doing that please let me know, but it HAS to be attached. Recommendation is to use the on the tablet and not paper copies.

- When doing narratives, if you have someone listed as “other medical personnel”, they need to be listed in the narrative. If you do not have a certification, you can apply for an ePins number.
- CRMC-If you have issues consulting with them, please send Heather an email and she can request the tapes to review.
- BLS 12-lead and IV-Tech class-Being reviewed and updated, should be out in a few weeks. We are working on a better tracking system for BLS 12 lead.
- Citizen Representative: No report
- Chair of Chief’s Council: Mike Clark-Chair has not been in attendance last couple years, Sterling will remain rep, but I will try to be available at all meetings.
- MIEMSS Representative: No report
- Public Comment: No report

Motion to Adjourn: 2025 By Richard Sewell, Seconded by unknown. A lot of people.

Submitted by Kelly Carlson
February 1, 2023