

Calvert County EMS Advisory Council

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

In person at DPS and virtual via zoom

Agenda

- I. Call to Order -1902 by Chairman Weems
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Approval of Minutes- Motion to accept O. Bryant (Co.6) seconded by Co. 1
- IV. Guests- none present
- V. Calvert County Sheriff's Office – Officer Dean (virtual) no report. Co.4 Chief Gantt requesting a mock drill for Active shooter at the schools. Officer Deane and Chief 4 will get together to discuss. Thank you to MSP and Aviation for their assistance today with the chase into DC.
- VI. MSP Barrack U Lt. Meurrins (virtual) offer still stands for anyone wanting training for Handle with Care
- VII. MSP Aviation -New rep. Sgt Singleton out of Trooper 2. Contact information provided at the bottom of the minutes.
- VIII. American Red Cross- not present
- IX. Calvert County Health Department- Not Present-Chief 20 informed the group that the HD did receive their grant, but it will only serve the Health Dept. The grant has to do with high usage priority calls in the 231 region. This will assist in gathering data and streamline reporting for Heather at DPS. Heather (DPS) please email me the incident numbers, date of event, location and summary. All stakeholders are meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in May (5/8) and will sit down together to discuss how to disseminate information. Those that are already superusers will be integrated into the new system with all the information. Ultimately, we cannot refuse to transport but we are making progress with patients who are high utilization of EMS. Chief 4 asked how the feedback process will work as the patient progresses through the system process.
- X. Old Business
  - a. Limited Resources -Chief 4 has requested additional information from Howard, Queen Annes and Charles County on their programs.
- XI. New Business
  - a. Co 1 Backboard pickup can still use Co. 4 as a central point for stations passed 231 to come and pick up their boards. CHMC is moving their backboard storage area to the breezeway to open space.
  - b. Bylaws- Meeting scheduled for 4/22 at 7 pm. If anyone needs copies of the bylaws, Heather can get them for you.
- XII. Open Discussion
  - a. Co 1 -No report
  - b. Co 2 -Not present
  - c. Co 3 – New A39 is in service and has bariatric capabilities, Chief 20 wanted providers to be aware that bariatric capable is not the same as bariatric built. There is a kit that can be mounted in a bariatric capable ambulance to convert it, but the ambulances do not have pre-mounted hardware. There is a policy coming out from Chief 20 on how to utilize and request the bariatric mount system. Go through 911 and they will get in touch with the officer from Co. 20. The next closest bariatric unit is Riva in AACO. We can offer drills on how to move, evacuate and mount the bariatric equipment. MCD is scheduled for 5/10.
  - d. Co 4 -No report
  - e. Co 5 -Didn't know anything about the MCD, asking for a rep from Co. 3 to contact them
  - f. Co 6 -Didn't know anything about the MCD drill, unsure if the new A69 is bariatric capable. Will find out and report back.
  - g. Co 7 -No report
  - h. Co 10 -Chief 10 asking for feedback on proceed calls and QA results. Per Dr. Finklestein he has not received any emails but Chief 10's on calls. Please email him at [proceedqa@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:proceedqa@calvertcountymd.gov) Chief 10 also concerned with the comments made by the County Commissioners regarding in 5 years there will be no more volunteer system. Chief 10 wondering if their will be a statement released from DPS or this council, if we are trying to recruit new providers and the BOCC is making statements like that about who

would want to join. The volunteer system is still alive. Dr. Finklestein had not seen the article, it was forwarded to him. Crystal Dowd from DPS states she does not agree with what was said but cannot speak for the BOCC. She can send out the information to anyone who would like to contact the BOCC about their remarks.

- i. Co 20-RSI committee is forming with the medics to move forward. Tomorrow Chief 20, Chief 10 and Dr. Finklestein are having a meeting about whole blood usage. There is currently a hiring freeze from the BOCC. There is a contingent offer out currently for the new Assistant Chief. Reiterated that there was a bariatric call that went out this week and the process to get the bariatric parts for the ambulance was a challenge, he is again reminding everyone he will get the policy sent out. The call overall went well.
- j. Medical Director – Dr. Finklestein wanted everyone to know the volunteer system has his support.
  - a. Direct to triage has gone live as of 4/15, all calls will be reviewed for QA and to ensure the policy was followed. Do repeat vitals on hospital property. The gatekeepers are still the charge nurses. If there are any issues/concerns let me know. A huge thank you to everyone for getting trained so fast.
  - b. If you upgrade or downgrade a call, BLS can advocate if they don't feel comfortable with ALS decision. Do not feel like ALS is pushing the call off to you if you're uncomfortable. Doesn't happen too much with upgrades as much as downgrades. Please keep sending me information and I will review the call. Co. 7 Michelle is working on training at her station for downgrade/upgrade calls, will send PowerPoint to Dr. Finklestein to review.
  - c. Chief 4 asked if there was a form patients could fill out with their medical information that could be put on the fridge or door. Heather has those and will get them to Chief 4.
- k. CalvertHealth Medical Center- Chad spoke for Direct to Triage, they have not had any cases yet since the program went live. All staff are aware of the process. Yonnia is welcome to feedback. Co. 7 Michelle Weems asked if the hospital could do anything about AAA parking in the ambulance bay and taking up space when they don't have patients, or they are picking up from upstairs. They are blocking the entrance for other ambulances trying to drop off patients. Yonnia has a quarterly meeting coming up with Jimmie P and will discuss this with him. Chad will ask Dan in security to assist as well.
- l. Calvert Emergency Communications – Happy Telecommunications Week.
- m. Calvert County EMS Coordinator- IV tech class will be 6/8 at CALS 10 am. Dr. Finklestein will also be joining. There was questions about what the ACT team is, Cornerstone community sends out a rep for patients who have high utilization of EMS to work with the patient to help decrease the call use like a caseworker or social worker. Heather will get more information. Dr. Finklestein described it as a mobile unit to help mental health patients with appts etc. Yonnia also was not familiar with the program and states she was advised it's like a peer support program to help de-escalate patient who don't really need to go to the hospital. Chad asked for additional education and maybe a representative could come to the next meeting. PTSD presentation will be held at NBVFD.
- n. Citizen Reps- Erin requested to be the lead to get representation from the Red Cross instead of trying to change the bylaws and remove them as a voting body. Per the current bylaws only the BOCC can remove a representative so we should do our due diligence to try and get a representative before submitting an official letter to the BOCC asking for a removal. The committee agreed to let Erin handle it.
- o. Chair of Chief's Council – No report
- p. MIEMSS Rep- Andy is back to being our representative if we need anything right now.  
A.Robertson@miemss.org
- q. Public Comment- FREMS survey went out. Please fill it out. It's also on the website. K. Carleson will send it out also to this body. Please post on your departmental websites internally and have members fill it out.

XIII. Adjournment – 1952 by Heather (DPS) and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chief 4 Carlos Gantt

Trooper 2 Commander

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Topic: Calvert County EMS Advisory Council Meeting

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Time: Feb 19, 2025 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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