

EMERGENCY SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Carroll County Emergency Services Committee met on February 26, 2009.

Present were: Debby Goad, Lola Sutphin, Lesa Ousley, Horace Leonard, Mike Musser, Markel Cockerham, Andy Jackson, Gary Larrowe, Ronald Newman.

Diversified Billing Discussion

The Committee discussed that the information CD from Diversified had not come in yet. The discussed that call sheets were supposed to be turned in to the State by Diversified and that these had not been submitted since April 2008. Diversified has answered that reports would be updated immediately. The County is not eligible for grants if these reports are not submitted. The Committee discussed considering looking for another billing company if Diversified does not perform.

Equipment Purchases

Gary Larrowe told that the Carroll EMS ambulance that was being purchased under an 80/20 grant would be delivered during the last part of March. He told that the County would not be buying a ladder fire truck. He reported that the pumper truck was completed. He told that two people had went to inspect the truck and found problems with the transmission but those had been fixed and the truck would be delivered the next week. He told that a mini-attack truck was being purchased and paid for with Aid-to-Localities money and would be delivered in mid-April. Gary Larrowe, Joe Roma, and Mike Musser then reported that the ladder truck had been repaired, Hillsville Fire Department unit 110 was being repaired, Hillsville Fire Department will get rid of unit 114 and transfer unit 102 to Cana Fire Department who will then also get rid of a couple of trucks. It was reported that the pumper truck being purchased would be placed at Hillsville Station 2 and the mini-attack truck would be placed at Station 1.

ISO Rating Report

Gary Larrowe reported that the Cana area was almost at the point of non-insurable but Joe Roma and Richard Sowers had worked to get the ISO rating to a 5-6.

Monthly Department Reports

Gary Larrowe and Joe Roma reported that the Board of Supervisors have asked for monthly reports from all emergency services agencies that the County provides funds, and that these reports are to be turned in by 2:00 p.m. on the Wednesday before the Board of Supervisors meeting.

Drug Ordering Issue

Gary Larrowe reported that Carroll EMS restocks the drug boxes on the rescue squad ambulances and informed the Committee that there had been a situation where the drugs were about to expire and new drugs had not been ordered. He reported that this was under investigation.

Audits

The Committee discussed having audits performed for all emergency services agencies by one CPA firm. The purpose of the audits would be to build credibility and to limit liability.

(Order)

AUDIT POLICY

Upon motion by Mike Musser, seconded by Lesa Ousley, and passed, the Committee approved the policy to have all fire and rescue agencies receiving funds from the County audited on an annual basis with the first audit due for the year ended July 1, 2009, did authorize a Request for Proposals for these auditing services with the cost to come out of funds for the agency, and stated this was being done as protection for the volunteers and for credibility of the system.

Note: The Committee discussed that this policy needed to be discussed with the Fire Chiefs and Rescue Captains.

Insurance Billing Reimbursements

The Committee discussed issuing rescue squad insurance billing reimbursements based on need to insure that all areas are covered with services.

(Order)

CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711(A1,A4)

Upon motion by Gary Larrowe, seconded by Ronald Newman, and passed, the Committee convened a Closed Session at 7:15 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. for the discussion of specific personnel and the discussion of a personal matter not related to County business.

(Order)

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Gary Larrowe, seconded by Ronald Newman, and passed, the Committee adopted the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Carroll County Emergency Services Committee convened a Closed Session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and on the motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Emergency Services Committee that such Closed Session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Carroll County Emergency Services Committee hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Session to which this certification applies, and (II) only such

business matters as were identified in the motion by which this Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

(Order)

POLICY REGARDING PERSONNEL CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL OFFENSES

Upon motion by Andy Jackson, seconded by Gary Larrowe, and passed, the Committee adopted the policy that any fire or rescue personnel that had been charged with a felony would automatically be suspended until the outcome of the trial and that anyone convicted of a misdemeanor would be eligible for reinstatement, subject to approval by the Emergency Services Committee, after fulfilling their obligation to the Court.

Training Position

Andy Jackson and Ronald Newman discussed the Training Position that Dr. Edsall had suggested and discussed with the Board of Supervisors. They reported that this would standardize training and would raise the level of service and care provided.

Debby Goad suggested that the Policies and Procedures should include a time schedule for personnel to meet certification levels.

Lesa Ousley discussed that not all people could reach the Paramedic level and suggested looking at State EMS regulations.

Debby Goad stated that the County could contract training services and advertise the trainings so all squads could participate.

Lesa Ousley commented that the Committee needed to look at the standards and stated that the Committee wanted to offer the highest standard of care that is reasonable for the departments.

The Committee discussed needing an inventory of the personnel from all departments and also a copy of the State Policies and Procedures.

Billing Issues

The Committee discussed some rescue calls not being billed because the patient had not received any notification or correspondence from Diversified. They discussed having one central person that all call sheets would go through and discussed that this person could also reconcile the calls with the 911 reports. They also discussed educating the squads on billing and filling out call sheets.

(Order)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Andy Jackson, seconded by Markel Cockerham, and passed, the Committee approved the minutes of their meetings held on October 23, 2008, December 11, 2008, and January 22, 2009.

The Committee adjourned until March 26, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.