



## REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Meeting Report  
26 August 2016  
1000 Hours  
EHSF Conference Room

### ATTENDANCE

<b>Present:</b>	Eric Fahler	Chair, Lebanon County PSAP
	John Eline	Adams County PSAP
	Jim Shenk	Adams County PSAP
	Shawn Melhorn	Cumberland County PSAP
	John Quirk	Cumberland County PSAP
	David (Tom) Vogelsong	Cumberland County PSAP
	David Shade	Dauphin County PSAP
	Bryan Stevenson	Franklin County PSAP
	Tim Baldwin	Lancaster County PSAP
	Jeff Garner	Lancaster County PSAP
	Rich Fultz	Perry County PSAP
	Cindy Dietz	York County PSAP
	Melony Kearns	York County PSAP
	Amy Smith	York County PSAP
<b>Staff:</b>	Megan A. Ruby	Director of System Operations
	Michael J. Guerra	Resource Coordinator
	Timothy S. Melton	System Coordinator

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Fahler called the Regional Communications Committee (RCC) meeting to order at 1001 hours.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### RCC Chair FY 2016-2017

Mr. Fahler announced this is his first meeting as Chair of the RCC.

### EMD v.13: Chest Pain Dispatch Inquiry by York Hospital

Ms. Ruby stated at the previous RCC meeting, Ms. Smith was asked by York Hospital why all patients with chest pain are not dispatched as a class one response. Since the meeting, Ms. Ruby spoke to Dr. Reihart. The only determinant level not assigned a class 1 response is 10-A-1 for chest pain, breathing normally < 35. According to Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), this determinant level should be a class 3 response. However, Dr. Reihart decided to increase the response level during the EMD version 13 review for our EMS system. At this time, there is no known benefit to increase the response level.

### Reports on EMS Response Times

Ms. Ruby reminded the committee about the EHSF's comprehensive report and the priority objective to decrease response time. Mr. Melton will work with Franklin County PSAP to determine if any reports can provide the requested data. Mr. Shade stated Dauphin County PSAP may also be able to provide the requested data.

### Communication Manual Review

Ms. Ruby thanked the members of the working group, Melony Kearns, Bart Shellenhammer, and Tim Baldwin, for their involvement with the RCC Manual update. The manual was e-mailed prior to the meeting for review. The revisions were discussed by the Committee with no objection to the revisions. Currently, EHSF is waiting on confirmation from Lebanon and York Counties about the location of their tower sites. Once this information is provided, it will be added to the manual for final review at the November meeting.

### Intermediate ALS

Ms. Ruby announced the Department of Health, Bureau of EMS provided a pathway for EMS agencies to obtain a licensure level as an Intermediate ALS ambulance or squad. Discussion occurred regarding the complexities of CAD revisions to dispatch this new level of service. The EHSF will continue to work to find the best use of this licensure level within our system.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### EHSF Future Growth

Ms. Ruby announced the growth of the EHSF region by two additional counties. Effective 01 July 2017, the EHSF will also be the regional EMS council for Chester and Delaware Counties. Ms. Ruby provided Mr. Lyle is working with the current staff of those regions to prepare for a successful transition. Ms. Ruby also suggested inviting the Chester and Delaware Counties communication staff to upcoming committee meetings to learn more about their system.

EMD Training Needs

Ms. Ruby asked about upcoming training needs for EMD. Each county provided their projected needs for the fall. Mr. Guerra will coordinate scheduling an EMD course to be held at the EHSF office in late October or early November.

Licensed EMS Agencies

Mr. Guerra responded to a request to provide a current list of licensed EMS agencies within a county to the respective PSAP. Each county received a listing of licensed EMS agencies. Mr. Guerra will e-mail a listing as well.

QRS versus Mutual Aid

Mr. Stevenson asked questions pertaining to QRS versus mutual aid. Discussion occurred among members. Mr. Guerra and Ms. Ruby answered questions to explain the difference between a licensed QRS agency and a fire department providing mutual aid.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Legislation Update

Mr. Baldwin announced there are 80 bills being tracked for this current, two-year legislation session relevant to emergency services and public safety.

During the previous quarter, there was a change to prohibit the release of 911-caller information through the release of the Open Records Act.

Displaying Location of Medical Incidents

Mr. Fahler questioned if it is prohibited to display the address for a medical incident through the public software used. Mr. Baldwin responded this is permitted. Mr. Baldwin stated Lancaster County PSAP displays an incident within the 100-block of the event rather than the exact address. Ms. Dietz provided York County PSAP does not display any medical incident information on their public display. Discussion occurred regarding encryption.

EHSF Staffing Updates

Ms. Ruby announced since the previous meeting, two coordinators are no longer employed with the EHSF. One coordinator position was hired. Carol Kauffman is the new Program Coordinator. The second coordinator position is open, and EHSF is seeking applications.

Collection of Fees

Mr. Garner announced the ruling in the Butler County regarding a case of non-paying collection fees from service providers was dismissed.

NENA

Mr. Garner announced the National Emergency Number Association regional meeting will be held September 14-16.

Dauphin County Construction

Mr. Shade announced the Dauphin County PSAP is pending construction to correct a current sanitation issue.

EMD-Q

Ms. Smith asked if anyone has a need for an EMD-Q class. Discussion among the committee resulted in a need for a class near the end of the 2016 calendar year. Mr. Guerra will coordinate an upcoming EMD-Q class.

APCO

Mr. Shade questioned if the region would give consideration to changing from EMD to the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO). Mr. Shade provided he learned APCO permits PSAPs to have train-the-trainers for new dispatcher certification unlike EMD where certification can only occur if they send an instructor. The cost for the training is expensive, and the counties could save money by training their own staff in the future. Ms. Ruby provided the EHSF office will never force the use of a specific product. If the committee wishes to evaluate a different dispatching program, we would support and aid in the process. No actions were made by the committee but will consider APCO in future discussions as warranted.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Fahler adjourned the meeting at 1100 hours.

The next Regional Communication Committee meeting is scheduled for 04 November 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan A. Ruby  
Director of System Operations