

**Peter Lupkowski, Chair**  
**Andrew Tom, Vice-Chair**



**Myra Kreger,**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**

**Tioga County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Council**  
**99 William Farrell Drive**  
**Wellsboro, PA 16901**

10/25/2017 The regular quarterly meeting of the Tioga County EMS Council was called to order October 25, 2017 at 1900 hours by Chairman, Peter Lupkowski.

The Secretary's report was approved as read.

ALS report: Any Tom stated that Dr Messa will be the new Medical Director on January 1, 2018 replacing Dr. Donald Shaw who is retiring.(10/31/2017)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

\*Andy Tom stated that all EMS personnel need to take their training on NARCAN use. They will need to copy their certificate. Matt Russell will meet with departments for the practical training.

\*All personnel need to complete glucometer use training, also. Print their certificates for Dr. Doan, BLS Medical Director. Any Tom has prepared a protocol for the use of the glucometer.

Wendy Hastings stated that the region has applied for a grant to purchase NARCAN.

Andy Tom stated that when we have a patient that we have administered NARCAN to, we should have that patient go to the hospital. SSMH is working with Harbor Council to get help for these patients after they have overdosed. Statistically the first 6-8 hours are the hardest for these patients and hopefully this will help with their treatment to recovery. If the patient refuses transport, we need to contact Medical Command.

When(if) the region receives the grant for the NARCAN, our supply will be stored at SSMH. Please bring the hub to the hospital to exchange. This will aide in accountability. Even if the patient goes to another facility, exchange will be at SSMH.

Benton Best presented the SOP for EMS dispatch for Tioga and Potter County. The policy and procedures would be implemented on January 1, 2018. They have been distributed throughout both counties. Any person can make recommendations for change until November 30, 2017. Please forward all communications to Benton Best. This policy is designed to contribute to the County EMS Response Plan when one is implemented.

Aaron Rhone, Acting Bureau Director, was in attendance and listened to our concerns and added some insight. He stated that EMS still needs a County Wide Response Plan. He explained it is not their goal to shut anybody down, every case is individually reviewed. If a department is not meeting licensure requirement criteria, they would have to come up with a "corrective action plan". Their license would be a temporary status for 1 year and the fines could be up to \$5000 for each occurrence. He also stated that we need to work with the Department of Health to help resolve some of our issues.

After much discussion, there was a motion made and seconded that we work with and through the EMS Bureau for the benefit of the community(our patients). Motion so carried by roll call of all present representatives.

Benton Best stated that the BLS dispatch policy would have departments either attended or unattended. Status would be reset every day at 0600 hours, unless otherwise requested. If a department does not respond to their dispatch, they will be considered unattended until either 0600 hours reset or an officer calls and states they are now attended. If another dispatch comes for the unattended department, all they will hear is the tones. The next available attended department will receive the dispatch. If the unattended has a crew they can respond. He did note that the QRS policies would be addressed at another time.

Peter Lupkowski, inquired whether 2<sup>nd</sup> calls would be included in placing a department in an unattended status. There was much discussion. The priority still remains the patient and their care in a timely manner.

Discussion, again, included that we need to get a workable County Wide EMS Response Plan in place. The plan needs to include getting an ambulance on its way to the patient as quickly as possible. WE need to work together.

Matt Russell stated that a possible way of getting an ambulance out of the door quicker would be shorter dispatch intervals. He suggested every 3 minutes with a total of 6 minutes and then the next department dispatched. There was much discussion. A roll call vote of the departments present was taken. The vote was 9-2 against the change in dispatch time.

#### BUSINESS:

\*Wendy Hastings thanked everyone for their assistance at the Little League World Series in Williamsport.

\*Wendy Hastings stated that the annual awards were presented on the Hiawatha this year. A good time was had by all.

\*The dead line for signing up for the Tioga County Penn College EMT class is December 1, 2017. The EMT classes would be Monday and Wednesdays. The EMR class would be Thursdays.

\*It is recommended that all patient refusals be called to the Medical Command.

\*Tom Shaw is trying to set up a Traditional EMT class in Nelson.

#### Nominations of Officers for 2018:

The nominating committee recommended the following: Chairman- Peter Lupkowski, Vice Chairman- Andy Tom, Secretary- Myra Kreger. There were no nominations from the floor. The 2018 officers will remain the same.

The next Tioga County EMS council meeting will be Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7 PM at the 9-1-1 center, Wellsboro.

Respectfully Submitted,

Myra Kreger, Secretary

