



**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
EMS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
February 1, 2015
SHELTON CITY HALL / 7:00 p.m. / Room 104**

Commissioners Present:
Chairman Noreen McGorty
Beth Tiberio, Commissioner
Karen Minopoli, Commissioner
Nancy Minotti, Commissioner

1. Convene

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McGorty at 7:06 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Portion

Chairman McGorty offered an opportunity for the public to speak. There being no one, the public portion was closed.

4. Approval of Minutes from December 21, 2015 MEETING

Commissioner Tiberio made a motion to approve the December 21, 2015 EMS Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Minotti seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

5. Correspondence

There being no correspondence this portion of the meeting was closed.

6. UPDATE from EHAC

It was noted that the report from EHAC was received that morning.

The panel took a moment to review the report.

Commissioner Minopoli noted that they seem busier than last year. Chairman McGorty agreed they are busier.

There being no additional questions or comments, this portion of the meeting was closed. A copy of the report is below.

**January 2016
EMS Commission Report**

Report submitted by: **Michael Chaffee, Chief
Echo Hose Ambulance Corps**

Snapshot of 2014

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Total calls	425	371	400	391	368	369	382	338	382	398	410	406	4640
EHAC Covered	408	360	384	384	351	361	372	326	371	373	400	389	4479
Percent covered	96%	97%	96%	98%	95%	98%	97%	96%	97%	94%	98%	96%	97%

Snapshot of 2015

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Total calls	421	335	432	406	419	376	435	381	399	383	387	412	4786
EHAC Covered	403	319	407	393	390	351	415	362	371	352	359	398	4520
Percent covered	96%	95%	94%	97%	93%	93%	95%	95%	93%	92%	93%	97%	94%

New Members in Training

We have 11 members in our Precepting Program. We have received 3 new member applications in the last month. 1 Member was cleared for active duty in the last month.

Training

The EHAC Community Training Center offers State EMT Testing twice a month and is running efficiently. EHAC holds bi-monthly EMT refreshers and an annual Paramedic Refresher that is well attended by our members and other responders from around the region and State. We also continue to offer Community Access CPR/AED training on request. Our list of classes and CME's can be found on our training website. [Http://www.echohose.com](http://www.echohose.com)

The Annual Medic Refresher is currently in session and held on Sundays. It is scheduled to complete in early March.

Our winter EMT class began January 7th. It is being held on Tuesday & Thursday nights with a few Saturdays.

There are currently 5 EMT's in our Driver Training program. We cleared 2 Drivers for duty in the last month.

Membership

EHAC current active roster: 108

EHAC held its annual holiday/awards banquet in January. Some highlights from the event included:

Member of the Year – Robert Jones, a long time member and constantly embodies the best we could ask for in a Volunteer Member.

Rookie of the Year – Nikki Cote, while new to our Corps, Nikki has shown brightly in her dedication and service to the community.

Crew of the Year – Ellen Lewis & Mike Krebs. Both have been with us for many years now and consistently ride and support the EHAC mission.

Lisa Infante – EHAC retired her car number in memorial of one so dear to us and taken too soon. Her children were in attendance for the dedication and were presented a plaque from the Corps. We also presented the family with a donation check of over \$10,000 raised through the “GoFundMe” campaign from EHAC and Lisa’s friend, Christine Guerrero.

Vehicles

All units are in service.

The two new ambulances are scheduled to be placed in service near the end of March at the start of spring.

Equipment Update

All Equipment is in service.

Operations

So far the winter has been mild. The One significant storm we had was well planned, staffed and deployed. As always, all emergency services agencies worked well together to ensure the safety of our residents and responders.

EHAC on duty crews and First Responders are on hand 24/7/365 with no first calls going to mutual aid services. EHAC’s Paramedics are assisting on calls and mutual aid responses when needed.

Community Outreach Team

Events planned for 2016 include:

Team “Men Who Cook” held in April
Memorial Day Parade May
National EMS Week May
SHS Mock Crash May
Relay for Life June
CT EMS Expo June
Shelton Fireworks July
Shelton Day October
Halloween Trick or Trunk October
Pictures with Santa/Team Toys for Kids December

We have several additional events the CORT team is working on. I will keep the Commission updated as they progress.

MRC

The Medical Reserve Corps is a statewide program that Echo Hose Ambulance and the Naugatuck Valley Health District has partnered together to establish for this area. The MRC prepares members of our team to help in the time of disaster. The MRC would help staff and coordinate mass dispensing of medications, vaccinations, sheltering and rehabilitation of residents and emergency workers in the Naugatuck Valley. Those members of the community who are interested in joining the MRC can visit www.echohose.com to fill out an application.

7. UPDATE From VEMS

Commissioner Tiberio asked if Jason was still running VEMS. Chairman McGorty replied yes.

It was also noted that their dispatch volume is down 20% but this is seen as a positive as new protocols are in place and a paramedic may not need to be dispatched for every call.

The panel took a moment to review the report. There being no additional question or comments, this portion of the meeting was closed. A copy of the report is below.

REPORT TO THE SHELTON EMS COMMISSION
January 25, 2016

SHELTON: VEMS Responses

	<u>Sept 2015</u>	<u>Oct 15</u>	<u>Nov 2015</u>	<u>Dec 2015</u>
Total Responses	188	177	169	170
Response Percentage	98.5%	98.5%	99%	99.5%

VEMS: Municipal

	<u>Request</u>	<u>Town Budgeted</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Ansonia	\$30,900	\$30,900	\$30,900	\$0
Derby	\$30,900	\$0	\$0	\$220,900
Oxford	\$30,900	\$30,900	\$30,900	\$0
Seymour	\$30,900	\$30,900	\$30,900	\$0
Shelton	\$30,900	\$30,900	\$30,900	\$0

The VEMS/Derby Lawsuit is continuing to move forward. Pretrial date is set for July-2015. No new updates other than more depositions have been performed.

VEMS: Operations

Staffing levels are optimal and overtime needs are well within acceptable standards.

One new vehicle will be purchased during the first quarter of 2016.

VEMS total dispatch volume is down by 20% as a result of new EMD procedures out of Northwest Public Safety. This is not necessarily a bad we do need to evaluate whether certain types of patients are not receiving a paramedic because a paramedic is not being dispatched under the new protocols. It should be noted that trip counts are down by an even greater percentage in Shelton because the EMD procedures utilized by Southwest Public Safety are more limited than Northwest.

8. Update on CMED

Chairman McGorty referred the commission to the call report from CMED. She explained that the report is the entire call report. It is broken down on priority calls vs non-priority calls. The commissioners took a moment to review the report. There being no questions on the report this portion of the meeting was closed.

9. Approval of Payment Bills

There were no bills to pay. This portion of the meeting was closed

10.2016 Budget

Chairman McGorty then turned the committees attention her budget report passed out at the meeting and a letter from VEMS requesting their charges be budgeted for 2016 budget. A copy of this letter is attached.

Chairman McGorty then got into the breakdown of her budget report. She explained that page 1 is just the summary report. The summary report shows last year's budget amounts and what we are requesting for 2016.

The summary report outlines our request to decrease our personnel Training. The increase in C-MED is per Mike Maglione as that is the amount they will charge. The next line item is to stay open with a minimum budgeted amount. The next item Chairman McGorty is requesting be removed as she does not believe bundle billing will be coming back. The Paramedic Service will have a modest increase as indicated in the letter from VEMS and Clerical Fees will remain the same. These changes will decrease the committees overall budget.

Page 2 is the statement of goals and program activities. It has not changed from last year. Chairman McGorty then stated we will come back to this item.

Page 3 of the Budget report refers to Personnel Training. A reduction for this item will be requested for 2016. The rationale for the decrease is to help offset the increases in the other line items.

Page 4 is C-MED, our dispatch system. This item is going up a modest amount and has been budgeted accordingly.

Page 5 is Professional Services and is budgeted at \$1.00 to keep the item open in case there is a need for it. Chairman McGorty stated that it is difficult to open an item.

Bundle Billing, page 6, however Chairman McGorty is requesting be closed. This item is for bundle billing. Chairman McGorty does not feel this item will be coming back and is no longer needed.

Page 7 is Paramedic Services will have a modest increase. The requested increase amount is outlined in the letter received from VEMS.

Page 8 is Clerical Fees. There is no change requested for this item.

Page 9 is a six year capital outlay request. Chairman McGorty indicated this page does not really pertain to this committee but left it in the report. It is used to budget large expense items.

Chairman McGorty then went back to page 2 of the budget report. She did not feel any changes were needed and asked the committee if they had any recommendations. There were no recommended changes.

Commissioner Minotti Minopoli made a motion to approve the 2015 Budget with the noted changes. Commissioner Minopoli seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman McGorty stated she will submit the budget to Finance.

11. Report of Chairman

Chairman McGorty advised she had no additional reports. There being none this portion of the meeting was closed

12. Report of Commissioners

There were no additional reports or comments. There being none this portion of the meeting was closed.

13. Adjournment

Commissioner Minopoli made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Minotti seconded the motion.

The vote was unanimous; motion passed.

Chairman McGorty adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Terri Gannon/Clerk
1 tape on file in Town Clerk's office.**