



**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
EMS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
July 18, 2016
SHELTON CITY HALL / 7:00 p.m. / Room 104**

Commissioners Present:
Chairman Noreen McGorty
Beth Tiberio, Commissioner
Karen Minopoli, Commissioner
Tom DeMarco, 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 February 1, 2016 MEETING

Commissioner Tiberio made a motion to approve the February 1, 2016 EMS Meeting Minutes. Commissioner DeMarco 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

Chairman McGorty advised the committee that Michael Chaffe was to attend but was unable to at the last minute. 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 busy. She also commented that the increase Narcan kits is scary.

Chairman McGorty asked Commissioner Tiberio to get the date of a complaint call she received along with an idea of what went wrong so she can follow up.

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

July 2016 EMS Commission Report

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

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% |

Snapshot of 2016

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Total calls | 400 | 375 | 397 | 389 | 438 | | | | | | | | 1999 |
| EHAC Covered | 369 | 356 | 373 | 364 | 419 | | | | | | | | 1881 |
| Percent covered | 92% | 95% | 94% | 94% | 96% | | | | | | | | 94% |

New Members in Training

We have 21 members in our Precepting Program. We have received 9 new member applications in the last 3 months. 3 Members were cleared for active duty in the last 3 months.

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 CT EMS Expo was held the week of June 4th at the Mohegan Sun Casino. Several EHAC members attended classes and the vendor expo to see the latest and greatest in training and equipment for our service.

EMS Region 1 recently offered the TECC program (Tactical Emergency Casualty Care) course and I was able to attend. We are in process of working with our regional partners to deliver more of these type of classes and open them up to additional responders. There is also an instructor path being worked on as right now there are no instructors in CT. More to follow on this as this type of training becomes more prevalent and our response guidelines adapt to accommodate it.

Several other offerings will include Pediatric Disaster Response and Medical Response to Bombing Incidents. These will be listed on the CT OEMS calendar and I will update as they come available. There are also several courses the councils are bringing to the state for City Leadership, EOC management and the like that I will advertise.

Our accelerated Summer EMT class began June 13th. It is being held Monday through Thursday with a few Saturdays. There is a day & evening program available and we have 29 students enrolled.

There are currently 8 members in our Driver Training program. We cleared 3 Drivers for duty in the last 3 months.

Membership

EHAC paintball outing May 14th

EMS week May 15-21st EHAC members were given a small gift and on duty meals at the Riverview Diner. Our Paintball trip kicked off the week. Griffin Hospital and St. Vincent's Medical Center also provided small tokens of appreciation for our members and staff during the week.

EHAC Member picnic August date & venue TBD (probably at our HQ)

EHAC current active roster: 122

Vehicles

All units are in service.

New V30 & V50 were cleared for service in March and replaced V25 and old V30. We are currently reviewing our options with re-tasking or selling the old units.

Equipment Update

All Equipment is in service.

We recently placed 2 new Stryker Power Cots into service. These replaced the last 2 manual stretchers so all 7 ambulances now have the new ones. This will significantly reduce the risk of injury caused by lifting patient while on a stretcher. These will be used typically in our "box" style ambulances as they have a new side rail design that can more easily accommodate bariatric patients with a center mount stretcher.

We have also added Naloxone (Narcan) treatment kits for our BLS providers and First Responders. This is mandated by CT OEMS for all EMS services as of October 1st so we are well ahead of the deadline. EHAC has offered several classes at our Training Center for all EMS providers and also to the services around our region. This has also been advertised on our training center for public access to information to obtain the kits. We will host additional sessions in the near future and will advertise them again. We have seen a surge of overdose related deaths related to opiate use in our response area and the region. This addition to our service we hope will help combat this problem and save more lives.

Operations

EHAC crews have responded to several fire rehab requests here in Shelton and mutual aid calls into our neighboring communities.

The bridge replacement on Route 25 between both the Capital Ave and Lindley St. overpasses caused minor delays for our crews transporting to the Bridgeport hospitals from June 11th to June 25th. This occurred mostly during rush hour. This construction has been completed as of June 25th on the Southbound side. The Northbound replacements will commence July 14th and should not impact our operation. Information on this project can be obtained at <http://www.rt8bridgeport.com>

Our Special Response Team held an open house for our members and area responders on Saturday June 25th. This was held in conjunction with our new member orientation that saw 9 volunteers join the EHAC ranks! The highlights were a run through of our Rehab V22 command unit, the gator team, bike team and the inflatable shelter we have deployed at several large scale events.

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 for 2016 include:

Team "Men Who Cook" April 23rd. EHAC Captain Quake and I were the chefs representing EHAC at the event. Our Shepard's Pie was a hit!

Capstone show and tell at SHS May 18th.

Touch a Truck May 22nd for the Jewish Federation and JCC of Greater New Haven

Memorial Day Parade and Picnic for our members and Relay for Life Team May 30th

Live Free Day at the Sports Center June 5th for Pediatric Cancer support

Flag Day Old Fashioned Picnic June 10th with Shelton Economic Development & Iroquois Gas Relay for Life-held June 11th-12th. EHAC was the presenting sponsor. Great event enjoyed by all and raised money for the ACS

Standby unit for SHS Graduation June 10th

Shelton Fireworks July 3rd "rain date"

Swim Across the Sound July 30th – EHAC and Trumbull EMS have 2 joint relay teams

Fundraisers to support our teams include:

TruNorth in Bridgeport event with proceeds to Swim. June 28th

Boot Dive July 2nd and 17th

Softball Tournament July 10th at Island Brook Park in Trumbull.

Family BBQ/picnic July 16th

Shelton Day October

Halloween Trick or Trunk October 31st

Pictures with Santa/Team Toys for Kids early December

We have several additional events the CORT team is working on. Some of these include:

Special Olympics – Many of our members are on the safety squads for the games each year. EHAC also provides a gator team and staff for logistical support.

Senior Safety Fair

Soupstock Medical Standby

Warrior Road Race

Children Safety Fair with the Boys & Girls Club

Food Drive for the Valley Food Bank

Coat drive in the Fall

Red Cross Blood Drive

Boys & Girl Scout touch a truck and CPR/First Aid

Blood Pressure Screenings at local establishments

Boy Scouts Goshen Jamboree in October with focus on emergency services.

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 and advised the committee the position is now a part time position. The hired a full time operations manager.

Chairman McGorty then referred to the Municipal Balance showing a balance as we have not yet received the bill.

Chairman McGorty then mentioned the Derby lawsuit is still pending. There was a hearing on 14th and was hoping Jason would be present to provide an update.

Chairman McGorty will follow up with him to get an update.

It was also noted that their dispatch volume is covering around 99% of the calls.

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

July 18, 2016

SHELTON: VEMS Responses

| | <u>Jan 2016</u> | <u>Feb 2016</u> | <u>Mar 2016</u> | <u>Apr 2016</u> | <u>May 2016</u> | <u>June 2016</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Total Resp. | 181 | 172 | 215 | 186 | 224 | 172 |
| Response % | 99% | 98.5% | 99% | 99% | 97.5% | 99.5% |

VEMS: Municipal

| | <u>Request</u> | <u>Town Budgeted</u> | <u>Paid</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Ansonia | \$31,827 | \$31,827 | \$0 | \$31,827 |
| Derby | \$31,827 | \$0 | \$0 | \$252,727 |
| Oxford | \$31,827 | \$31,827 | \$0 | \$31,827 |
| Seymour | \$31,827 | \$31,827 | \$0 | \$31,827 |
| Shelton | \$31,827 | \$31,827 | \$0 | \$31,827 |

The VEMS/Derby Lawsuit is continuing to move forward. Pretrial date was July 14. Case was continued.

VEMS: Operations

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

One new vehicle was placed in service in June.

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 thing, though 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. She suggested the members when they can and if they had any questions to let her or Mike Maglione know. There being no questions at this time, this portion of the meeting was closed.

9. Approval of Payment Bills

There is one bill due. The semiannual invoice for Southwestern CMED. Commissioner asked if the funds were in the account to pay the invoice. Chairman McGorty stated they should be as the new year started July 1 and she budgeted the amount Southwest told us their cost.

Commissioner Minopoli made a motion to pay the Southwestern CMED Invoice in the amount of \$43,980.21. Seconded by Commissioner Tiberio. A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

10. Report of Chairman

Chairman McGorty advised the committee she would follow up on the calls. She had no additional reports. There being none this portion of the meeting was closed

11. Report of Commissioners

Commissioner DeMaco asked if people can do if they are unable to pay their bill and not covered by insurance.

Chairman McGorty replied that she received an email from City Hall with a resident with a similar problem. Have them submit the bill to Noreen and she will talk to EHAC and VEMS to see what can be done.

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

12. Adjournment

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

The vote was unanimous; motion passed.

Chairman McGorty adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Gannon/Clerk

1 tape on file in Town Clerk's office.