



**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
EMS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
January 29, 2019
SHELTON CITY HALL / 7:00 p.m. / Room 104**

Commissioners Present:
Chairman Noreen McGorty
Karen Minopoli, Commissioner
Nancy Minotti, Commissioner
Mike Chaffee, Chief

1. Convene

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McGorty at 7:02 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 October 15, 2018 MEETING

Commissioner Minopoli made a motion to approve the October 15, 2018 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

Chairman McGorty referred the commissioners to the report submitted by EHAC. Chairman McGorty then thanked Mike Chaffe for coming and asked him to speak on the report and summarize 2018 and the goals of 2019. The Chief summarized and discussed the report in detail. Chairman McGorty asked to explain sectoring. Mike explained sectoring is placing an emergency vehicle at a place and time where call

volume is high. This was determined with the help to CMED. This helps the responders by knowing who is responsible for the call which saves time.

Mike Chaffe then announced that Joe is back with them from Trumbull.

Chairman McGorty thanked the Chief for the report and for coming.

There being additional questions or comments about the report, this portion of the meeting was closed. A copy of the report is below.

EMS Report

Report submitted by:

Michael Chaffee,

Chief Echo Hose Ambulance Corps

2019

2019	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Days	21												21
Total calls	301												301
EHAC Covered	292												292
Percent covered	97%												97%
Mutual Aid	9												9

2018

2018	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Days	31	28	31	30	31	30	31	31	30	31	30	9	
Total calls	473	403	407	411	432	414	424	453	406	392	429	446	5090
EHAC Covered	443	384	392	392	417	405	404	437	391	380	406	431	4882
Percent covered	94%	95%	96%	95%	97%	98%	95%	96%	96%	97%	95%	97%	96%

New Members in Training

We have 13 members in our Precepting Program. Our precepting team is working hard and providing exceptional training to our newest members.

Training

In December, Echo Hose Ambulance hosted a FEMA/DHS funded "Homemade Explosives Recognition" class. Over 38 local first responders from Shelton and around the state attended this free program at the Echo Hose Ambulance Training Center.

In January, we had 31 students registered for a FEMA/DHS funded "Incident Response to Biological Emergencies" class. Due to the recent major snow storm. The class was postponed until April.

The next free FEMA/DHS Funded course will take place the week of February 22nd. The topic is ICS 300 and there is over 35 Emergency Responders enrolled for this program.

We currently have two EMT classes running with a total of 45 students.

Our next EMT course begins on February 2, 2019. For upcoming class details, please visit our web site [Http://www.echohose.com](http://www.echohose.com)

The public was invited to join us for a free “Stop the Bleed Class” that teaches students emergency hemorrhage control. This program took place on November 26th. 8 local residents attended this class.

The new Echo Hose Ambulance Community Educational Center is officially opened at 430 Coram Avenue. The facility is being used on a regular basis by a number of not-for-profit organizations, Shelton Youth Service Bureau, BH Healthcare and is home to weekly substance abuse support group coordinated by the C.A.R.E.S group. The facility is also being used to provide free DHS/Homeland funded programs for emergency responders and healthcare providers. In addition, the Valley TEAM Toy Store will now be housed in this location for the holiday season. TEAM recently had their annual kick off breakfast in the gymnasium. In addition, the Valley Shakespeare group has recently used the community space for a program and we have been receiving multiple inquiries from other not for profit organization to use the space.

EMT Refreshers will begin being offered monthly at the training center starting in January 2019. In addition, three winter EMT classes will begin during the months of January and February.

The EHAC Community Training Center offers State EMT Testing twice a month.

We also continue to offer Community Access CPR/AED training on request.

Community Access to Narcan program has been ongoing. We are working with our community partners to schedule more public access events for the upcoming year.

Our list of classes and registration information can be found on our training website.

[Http://www.echohose.com](http://www.echohose.com)

Equipment Update

All equipment and vehicles are in service. The service purchased a new Chevy Silverado that will be used as a first responder/command/preparedness vehicle. This vehicle has arrived and will be in service once it has radios and lighting installed.

Echo Hose Ambulance just recently purchased an ambulance from the Town of Weston EMS. This vehicle has very low mileage and was kept in pristine condition. The ambulance was built by one of the leading manufacturers in the industry and has the capabilities of being remounted in the future onto a new chassis. The ambulance is being outfitted with new radios and will be inspected by the State of Connecticut soon. We hope to have this vehicle licensed and on the road by the end of March.

Operations

We recently added a dedicated 3rd ambulance on duty each weekday 0900-1700 to assist with the surge we often see during the weekdays. This additional resource is helping to cover the high demand of calls the service responds to during business hours. This ambulance is posted in the area of Bridgeport

Avenue and Old Stratford road and is available to help cover the large number of calls that take place on the southern part of the city.

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/Training

The winter months slows down for the service in regards to ambulance standby's but we do a number of community outreach events.

In December the service had its annual "Story Time with Santa" event in partnership with TEAM and the HFD #3. The event offers children an opportunity to meet Santa and get a free picture with a toy donation to the TEAM Annual Toy Drive. The event brought almost 100 local families to the Huntington Branch Library and we were able to collect a large amount of Toys.

In addition, In December we helped TEAM Inc. with the toy drive pickups around the City. The service spends two days driving around to local businesses collecting the Toys that are being donated to the annual Drive. This year, the TEAM toy store was held at the Echo Hose Ambulance Educational Center.

The Shelton Fire Department, company #1 held their annual Toy Delivery fundraiser in December. Due to their firehouse being under construction, they were able to set up a collection office at the educational center.

In December, and then again in January, the training center hosted the Emmet O'Brien Sophomore and Junior Health Science students for a day of training on the topic of Bleeding Control. 48 Total students visited the Educational Center and were trained on Bleeding Control techniques.

The Echo Hose Ambulance Board of Directors has just announced two scholarships for the 2019 graduating senior class from Shelton High School. Echo Hose Ambulance will be offering two graduating students, entering into the field of Health Science, each a \$500 cash scholarship and a seat in the summer EMT program.

In addition to helping support the continuing education of our graduating seniors, we also have started a new program with the Shelton Fire Department. At the discretion of the Fire Chief, two selected Shelton Firefighters will be given the opportunity to take the EMT program for each EMT class that we offer. In addition, all First Responders and immediate family members will now receive a 15% discount for all initial EMT classes that are offered at Echo Hose Ambulance.

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.

MEMBERSHIP

Echo Hose Ambulance acknowledged a number of our members at our recent awards recognition dinner. Awards were given out for a variety of achievements.

We recognized and award "Cardiac Arrest Save" challenge coins to three crews. These crews intervened and provided life-saving interventions for patients in full cardiac arrest. Their quick interventions and excellent patient care helped the patient survive the event. We thank

Michael Sereno, Robert Voss, Cameron Liggins, Michael Egan, Jeffrey McKee, and Andrew Halpin for their hard work and exceptional service to their patients and our community. In addition, Alan Bensen was awarded “Volunteer of the Year”, Steven Schwartz and Sam Hansom where awarded “Rookies of the Year”, and Robert Caponi was selected and presented the “Chief’s Award”. We thank all our award recipients and the entire membership and staff for their hard work and dedication to our patients, the organization and the entire community.

Echo Hose Ambulance has launched a new website. Please visit www.echohoseambulance.org

7. UPDATE From VEMS

Chairman McGorty asked the committee to refer two reports from VEMS. Chairman McGorty stated she asked VEMS to provide a snapshot of 2018 and an outlook for 2019. This is the second report.

Chairman McGorty also pointed out we currently have an outstanding balance with VEMS of 16,000.00. The committee had passed on paying this invoice. The Mayor has decided to pay the original invoice semi-annually and this balance should be paid at the end of this month. Chairman McGorty indicated she would confirm.

The Committee took a moment to read both reports submitted by VEMS.

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

REPORT TO THE SHELTON EMS COMMISSION January 4, 2019

SHELTON: VEMS Responses

	<u>Jan 2017</u>	<u>Feb 2017</u>	<u>Mar 17</u>	<u>Apr 17</u>	<u>May 17</u>	<u>Jun 2017</u>
Total Resp.	221	187	199	172	201	187
Response %	97.7%	96%	99.5%	97.7%	98%	98.5%
	<u>July 2017</u>	<u>Aug 2017</u>	<u>Sept 2017</u>	<u>Oct 2017</u>	<u>Nov 2017</u>	<u>Dec 2017</u>
Total Resp.	209	181	176	171	186	203
Response %	99.1%	98.9%	98.9%	98.2%	97.0%	99.1%
	<u>Jan 2018</u>	<u>Feb 2018</u>	<u>Mar 2018</u>	<u>Apr 2018</u>	<u>May 2018</u>	<u>June 2016</u>
Total Resp.	234	212	208	210	196	193
Response %	99.1%	100%	98.6%	98.1%	98.5%	98.5%
	<u>July 2018</u>	<u>Aug 2018</u>	<u>Sept 2018</u>	<u>Oct 2018</u>	<u>Nov 2018</u>	<u>Dec 2018</u>
Total Resp.	203	208	176	179	200	192
Response %	98.5%	99%	98.3%	98.4%	97.5%	98.5%

VEMS: Municipal

	Cost	Town Budgeted	Paid	Balance
Ansonia	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$0
Derby	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$0
Oxford	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$0
Seymour	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$0
Shelton	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$16,000	\$16,000

VEMS: Operations

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

Vehicles are operational with no issues identified.

(Report 2)



VALLEY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
Shelton EMS Commission
2018/2019 Report

Dear Commissioners,

Valley EMS was formed in 1984 with the sole purpose of providing paramedic care to the residents of the Lower Naugatuck Valley. We serve the towns of Seymour and Oxford, and the cities of Ansonia, Derby and Shelton. In addition, approximately five years ago we began providing paramedic staffing services to the Town of Monroe and two years ago expanded that to EMT services, as well.

VEMS remains the largest and busiest EMS (or fire) provider in the Valley.

Last year was a very successful one for us.

Our financial performance has been strong and we have managed our expenditures wisely and kept them below budget. Our overtime rates have remained low at under 2% of our total hours.

We continue to apply for and receive grants, most of which go toward the purchase of new medical equipment. One 12-lead cardiac monitor costs nearly \$40,000 and should be replaced after seven years.

The contributions from our Valley towns (\$32,000 per town) make a difference in our ability to keep equipment and vehicles updated. To date, four of our five towns have paid their full budgeted share. Only Shelton has not and \$16,000 is still outstanding.

Operationally, our response statistics are very strong. On average we receive 500 calls for service each month and pass only 5.6 of them, or 1.1%. Approximately 71% of our calls for service result in a paramedic transport. We encourage our paramedics to be aggressive in their treatment but, at the same time, not wasteful or inefficient.

This year we look forward to more success.

We are currently negotiating with the Town of Trumbull to enter into an agreement with VEMS to provide paramedic staffing. This will be very similar to our agreement to provide staffing to Monroe Volunteer EMS. Importantly, it is consistent with our goal to expand in areas that (a) build upon our talented roster of paramedics (b) in geographies that make sense.

We have begun plans for an expansion and rebuild of our offices and vehicle garage in Seymour. This capital project is likely to begin in the summer of this year.

As we have since 1984, we enjoy working closely with the City of Shelton and we are proud to be an integral part of the emergency services system.

Sincerely,

Jason Perillo
Executive Director

8. Update on CMED

Chairman McGorty referred the commission to the call report from CMED. A copy was also sent to them via email. The Chairman encouraged the members to review and reports at home. 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

10.2019 Budget

Chairman McGorty then turned the committees' attention the budget report. She asked the committee to review and hopefully approve the budget. It is due February 15, 2019. The budget is the exact same as last year. The only change is CMED amount. Our current balance for CMED is \$91,979.00. The new invoice is \$94,738.00. This will increase the budget by \$2,759.00 which represents a 3% increase.

Chairman McGorty again stated all other points of the budget remained the same including their goals.

Commissioner Minopoli stated she thought the budget was fair and that the slight increase was beyond their control.

Chairman McGorty requested a motion to approve the 2018-19 budget proposal.

Commissioner Minotti made a motion to accept the Budget as presented and discussed. 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.

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 7:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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