

**Berks DES EMS Working Group
February 1, 2022
General Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order: 10:01

In Attendance:

Name	Representative(s)
Bally	
Bethel	
Boyertown	Jeff, Knopf, Brian Benoit
Cetronia	
Counter Terrorism	
DES	Sean Hart, Christina Wood, Michael Smith, Brian Gottschall
Elverson	
Eastern PA Medcom	
Eastern PA EMS Council	John Kloss
Ephrata Hospital	
First Aid and Safety	
Gilbertsville	
Goodwill Pottstown	
Hamburg	Leslie Herring
Healthcare Coalition	
Kutztown	Rodney Freeman
LGH	
Lower Alsace	Matt Stairiker
LVH/LVH Medevac	Shawn Silvoy
Muhlenberg	Chris Murray
Myerstown	
Newmanstown	Matthew Sonnen
Northern Berks EMS	Craig Huntsinger
Oley	
Penn Star	
Penn State - Life Lion	John Shook
Penn State - Saint Joes	Don Hirsch, Duane Siberski
Reading Fire Department	Mike Sninsky
RHS School of Health Sciences	Merv Wertz
Saint Luke's Hospitals	Jeff Yanochko
Southern Berks	
Topton Ambulance	Mike Richards
RHMC – Tower	Chelsie Ober, Dr. Schiffer, Anthony Martin, Brad Cosgove, Steve Johnson
Western Berks	Carrie Frey, Anthony Tucci

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Previous Minutes

Motion: Jeff Knopf
2nd: Leslie Herring
Motion Approved

DES Account

- Radio Fleet Update
 - Ongoing issues – mostly with law enforcement
 - EMS – final programming
 - RMI – will reach out for update
 - RMI is currently working in alphabetical order
- Text paging outages
 - 10-15 minutes every Sunday at 1900 hours
 - No communication from CAD regarding outage
- Death and Retirement Policy
 - Michael Smith is working with small group on what should and can be done
 - Radio announcements
 - If interested in being in working group email Michael at mikesmith@countyofberks.com
- New Agency
 - Berks County Search and Rescue
 - Berks County Company 2
 - Run cards – add them as you see fit
- Security Checks
 - Will be eliminated when going into other counties
 - Eliminates having to monitor both radio systems
- Mutual Aid Agency
 - Out of county text paging
 - Berks county will only manage 1 account email per agency
 - Process has begun
 - Berks County Chief - sign off on agreements
 - County interoperability
- Crew Force
 - 4th Quarter of 2022
 - Changes implemented
 - Commitment date they have made
 - Clear timeline
 - Small subgroup when date gets closer
- Web CAD changes
 - Email was sent from Christina Wood on 1/31/2022 to Chiefs
 - Old link expires 3/1/2022
 - Start using new link
 - See helpdesk in email if you have problems
- Fire Agency Working Group

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- Sit with DES and go over run cards
- Incorporating best practices with run cards
- EMS Chiefs want? email Christina at cwood@countyofberks.com
 - Tony??
- Radio assignments
 - Keep your radio assignments up to date
 - Part of agreement

Task Force/Healthcare Coalition

- Not present

Eastern PA EMS Council

- PA Medic site – www.pamedic.org
 - Register for an account
 - Intent
 - 2-way communication from hospital to EMS
 - Tool
 - EMS Providers
 - Make most appropriate destination for patient and advise patient of hospital status
 - Educate patient on what the hospital is capable of doing.
 - NJ and MD added to site
 - Can search by state, word, etc
 - Status is color coded
 - Webinars will be available for further training

Eastern PA MedCom

- Not present

Tower Health System

- Remember to grab your Equipment
- New Director of Security
 - Steven Johnson
 - 484-628-5099
 - Steven.johnson@towerhealth.org

Penn State Saint Joseph Medical Center

- Nothing to report

Reading School of Health Sciences

- 3 weeks until EMT are out on the streets
- AEMT class – still taking applications

Lehigh Valley Health Network

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- Heart Education coming up
 - Flyers to com
- Watch out for the large crane in the area

St Luke's

- Educational events coming
 - See Facebook

Hershey Medical Center

- Nothing to report

Lancaster General Hospital

- Not present

Dr. Schiffer

- Covid numbers more tolerable
- Wait times are down to a reasonable time
- Montgo and Delco – divert has gone away
- Chester – still have high volumes

Dr. Wilson

- Not present

Dr. Siberski

- BA2 variant – don't travel
- Moderna – FDA approved for younger ages
- Capacity full at hospitals (DUH!!)
- Death rates are up because of lag in reporting

Dr. Stauffer

- Not present

Old Business

- Nothing

New Business

- Brandywine Hospital is permanently closed as of 1/31/2022

Guest

Bill VanEtten – Grant Writer

BVE Grants
484-219-3531

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bvegrants@aol.com

Reach out if you need any help or have questions on Grants. Paid per use.

Next Meeting: March 1 2022 at 10:00

Motion to close

END: 1100 hours

Motion: Chris Murray

2nd: Leslie Herring