

Emergency Services Advisory Board

December 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Rick Baker, Director Michael Robinson, Commissioner Steve Wantz, Eugene Curfman, Robert Buckley, Bruce Fleming, Dan Plunkert, Michael Karolenko, David Coe, Suzanne Swisher, Dr. John Murphy, Linas Saurusaitus, Eddie Ruch & Lynn Karr-Kratz via tele-conference

Members Absent: Dr. Mike DiNapoli

Guests: Susan Mott, George Wentz, Bridget Weishaar, Alan Barnes, Bill Rehkopf

Chairman Baker opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Director Robinson introduced the new Administrative Assistant/Executive Secretary of ESAC, Callie Williams. All members introduced themselves.

Chairman Baker asked for a motion to approve the November meeting minutes. Motion by Dr. John Murphy, seconded by Dan Plunkert. The motion was passed.

Chairman Baker asked if any council representatives had comments. No representatives had comments at that time.

Director's Report:

-Director Robinson shared the new logo and patch design for Carroll County Department of Fire & EMS and briefly discussed the plan for new uniforms.

-Director Robinson shared the department's new mission statement.

-Director Robinson discussed hospital delays/alert status. Carroll Hospital is on reroute status again. Many area hospitals in Maryland and Pennsylvania are also on reroute/diversion. The Director met with officials (Commissioner Rothstein, County Administrator, Emergency Management, Acting Health Officer and VP of Carroll Hospital) to discuss hospital issues. Director Robinson believes action from

the Federal Government is needed. The Dept of Fire & EMS plans to release educational information to the public about when not to call 911.

-Director Robinson reviewed his staffing plans which are works in progress. There will be a Plan A and Plan B. He will meet with Commissioners in January to present both plans. He plans to hire 226 people incrementally, with focus on assuring coverage and limiting response time. The Director is meeting with a labor attorney this Friday to answer questions related to FLSA.

Commissioner's Report:

-Commissioner Wantz continues to be impressed by Director Robinson's accomplishments and his ability to think outside the box.

-Commissioners are gearing up for the next budget process.

-Commissioner Wantz listed the days county government will be closed for the holidays and relayed that there are currently 28 county job openings.

-He reiterated that the Commissioners do not want to issue vaccine mandates, but they do feel vaccinations are key to combating COVID.

Committee Reports:

FROPS: Bruce Fleming had nothing to report.

EMSOPS: Eddie Ruch reported they have three new safety officers. The committee recently met to go over policies they are developing.

-Chairman Baker reiterated that we still have no statistics from the county. Statistics are needed to help in future staffing discussions and response plans.

Old Business:

-Presentations were given by each of the 7 Strategic Planning Workgroups. Workgroup topics and presenters are listed below. Presentations were well received with guidance provided for the next update in January. It was impressive with the amount of work that the groups have put into developing the Fire/EMS Strategic Plan.

1. Administration- Dan Plunkert
2. Budget- Eugene Curfman
3. Communications- Bill Rehkopf
4. Operations- Eddie Ruch
5. Staffing- Michael Karolenko
6. Training- Alan Barnes
7. Volunteer Enhancement- Bridget Weishaar

-Chairman Baker suggested that the Medical Advisory Board SOP that was sent out be put on hold for EMSOPS to review. There are discrepancies. He suggested that General Orders should be issued in the meantime.

-Director Robinson attended the Medical Advisory Board meeting last week. He believes cases need to be reviewed sooner than 30 days.

New Business:

-Director Robinson reports that the Dept of Fire & EMS will now handle the 508 funding instead of the Dept of Public Safety. There will be no changes for this year. The Director intends to examine best practices for distributing the funds.

Action items:

- Callie Williams will send the 5 minute response map of the county that was presented by Director Robinson via email to ESAC members.
- Strategic Planning Workgroups will upload presentations and notes to CCVESA website.

The meeting was adjourned at 22:02.