

**Berks DES EMS Working Group  
December 1, 2020  
General Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order: 10:02

In Attendance:

Name	Representative(s)
Bally	
Bethel	Jeffrey Ringler
Bovertown	Jeff Knopf
Cetronia	
Counter Terrorism	
DES	Brian Gottschall, Sean Hart, Christina Wood
Elverson	
Eastern PA Medcom	
Eastern PA EMS Council	John Kloss, Chris Confalone
Ephrata Hospital	
First Aid and Safety	
Goodwill Pottstown	
Hamburg	Leslie Herring
Healthcare Coalition	
Kutztown	Rodney Freeman
Lower Alsace	Phil Salamone, Matt Stairiker
LVH/LVH Medevac	Shawn Silvoy
Muhlenberg	Chris Murray
Newmanstown	
Northern Berks EMS	Steve Bobella, Craig Huntsinger
Oley	
Penn Star	
Penn State - Life Lion	John Shook
Penn State - Saint Joes	Don Hirsh, Duane Siberski
Reading Fire Department	Walt Bauer, Kirk Litzenberger, Mike Sninsky
RHS School of Health Sciences	Merv Wertz
Saint Luke's Hospitals	Jeff Yanochko, Brian Wilson
Southern Berks	
Topton Ambulance	Mike Richards
RHMC – Tower	Chelsie Ober
Western Berks	Carrie Frey, Anthony Tucci

# **Berks DES EMS Working Group**

## **December 1, 2020**

### **General Meeting Minutes**

#### **Previous Minutes**

Motion to approve: Chris Murray  
Second by: Jeff Knopf  
Motion Vote: Approve

#### **DES Account**

- Pushing out Radio updates
  - RMI is working in alphabetical order
  - Software for laptops was sent in an email out by Brian
- PPE
  - Companies need to update spreadsheet
  - We are ahead of the curve
- Different tones per station
  - Are there thoughts for a station dispatch?
  - Appears small request from the multi station companies
- Crewforce
  - Not any further along
  - Provided pricing – not desirable
  - Need to sweeten the deal
  - Would companies want the expense of an additional tablet to keep up in the front of ambulance?
    - Multiple agencies use same tablet they use for PCR

#### **Task Force/Healthcare Coalition**

- Not present

#### **Eastern PA EMS Council**

- December 7 – Preventing EMS burn out (see attachment)
- KC webinar (see attachment)

#### **Eastern PA MedCom**

- Not present

#### **Tower Health System**

- New Visitor policy in place
- Con Ed coming out – Flyer to follow at a later date
  - Pediatric Emergencies

#### **Penn State Saint Joseph Medical Center**

- If you have an employee testing for COVID – call Don first so, he can get them to front of line
- Use exhaust fans in back of ambulance to help with air circulation

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#### Reading School of Health Sciences

- Students are out doing clinicals
- EMT's are finishing up
- AEMT class starting Mid-January
- NR refresher – waiting to see how things go

#### Lehigh Valley Health Network

- Virtual tour and ribbon cutting – December 3, 2020
- Ambulance row will open up December 8, 2020
  - Will have maps and signage to navigate through the new ED
- Remember Masks and Decon

#### St Luke's

- Education class
  - December 3 – COVID
  - December 8 – Musculoskeletal
- Policy in place for Covid patients
  - Travel pathways in hospital

#### Hershey Medical Center

- Not present

#### Ephrata

- Not present

#### Dr. Siberski

- Surge is back up
  - Volume up
  - Acuity not up
  - Uptick in positive patients – more testing being done
- Vaccine
  - Pfizer vaccine
  - Coming out soon
    - Must be stored at -60 degrees C
  - PA may get the roll out
  - Then comes in to who gets it first???
- Look at Divert procedures
  - Everyone is over loaded
- Employees symptomatic
  - Testing
  - Who needs to be tested
  - Physical distancing
  - Employee should report to other agencies they work at
- Unknown if masks are beneficial

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- Skills review
  - Will review with EMS Council if an extension needs to be done or other provisions need to be put into place
  - More details to follow

**Dr. Wilson**

- Thank you for invite to the meeting
- Thursday 12/3/2020 – COVID update
  - Check out St Luke’s Facebook page for details on class
  - Email was sent out prior

**Old Business**

- None

**New Business**

- AFG Grant
  - Instead of masks to get Paps for trucks
    - Unit would stay on truck, but each individual provider would get their own helmet
  - Further discussion needs to be done on this subject matter

**Next Meeting: January 5 2021 at 10:00**

**Motion to close**

Motion by: Mike Richards  
Seconded by: Chris Murray  
Meeting closed 11:04