

MINUTES

LAND AMBULANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

to the

Joint Services Committee of Leeds and Grenville

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

The Land Ambulance Sub-Committee met on June 2,, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers, 25 Central Avenue West, Brockville, Ontario.

Members Present: John Conley, Chair
Mel Campbell, Warden
Ron Holman, Bill Gooch, Larry Dishaw, Bill Thake, Doug Struthers,
Roger Haley, Jim Pickard, Frank Kinsella, United Counties Council
Jim Garrah, Town of Gananoque
Suzanne Dodge, Town of Prescott
Dave Henderson, City of Brockville

Staff Present: Stephen Silver, CAO
Dan Chevrier, Manager, EMS
Nigel White, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer
Lisa Severson, CAO Support (Recording Secretary)
Michelle O'Connor, Administrative Assistant EMS

1.0 Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Conley welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Mr. Conley commented that Chief Chevrier made a presentation at the CPHC Men's' Meeting in late May providing this group with an overview of what EMS is and what it does in the community. Chief Chevrier has several similar speaking engagements in the upcoming weeks to various groups.

Chief Chevrier requested that an addition to the agenda be made under Item 6.0 New Business - 6.0.1 Communications.

2.0 Review and Approval of Minutes – April 7, 2009

Motion

Moved by: Mr. Thake
Seconded by Mr. Gooch

THAT the minutes of the Land Ambulance Sub-Committee meeting held on April 7, 2009 be approved as distributed. Carried.

3.0 Unfinished Business – No Report

4.0 Correspondence, Communications and Petitions – No Report

5.0 Staff Reports

5.0.1 Monthly Call Report – March and April 2009

Chief Chevrier reviewed the March and April 2009 monthly statistical reports with the Committee, The total call volume for both months are correct but the call distribution is skewed. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care have been advised of the issue and are working on a fix for the ADDAS data which is downloaded to the Counties.

It was noted that the WSIB active hours year to date for 2009 are down by 819 hours in 2008.

By a show of hands the Monthly Call Reports for March and April 2009 were received and filed.

5.0.2 Request for Correct Data Report

The question was raised as to whether the new electronic ACR system has the ability to provide the required data for monthly statistical reports instead of relying on the Province's system. Although the new system is excellent at tracking and retrieving data the format for specific data (i.e. stand downs) is currently not available and EMS management are working with the supplier of the system to integrate this type of data into the program. As well other services do not use the electronic ACR system and all cross border billing is based on ADDAS data and it is important that all parties be privy to the same data for this purpose. Other services are experiencing the same difficulties with the ADDAS system and are also requesting the province fix the technical issues with the program as soon as possible.

Motion

Moved by: Mr. Pickard
Seconded by: Mr. Struthers

THAT the Land Ambulance Sub-Committee recommends to the Joint Services Committee that the Chair of the Land Ambulance Sub-Committee write a letter to the Ministry of Health requesting the immediate need for proper and consistent ambulance call data from the Ambulance Direct Data Access System (ADDAS). Carried.

5.0.3 Fire First Response – April 2009

Chief Chevrier provided a brief overview of the Fire First Responses to April 2009. The information is consistent with no variances from previous months.

By a show of hands the Fire First Response Reports for March and April 2009 were received and filed.

5.0.4 Request for Special Events Coverage

Chief Chevrier gave a brief overview of the request made by the Brockville Hydroplane Races for the Counties to provide dedicated land ambulance services at their upcoming annual event June 6 and June 7, 2009 with the cost being absorbed by the Counties. The insurance coverage for the event stipulates that there must be an ambulance on site at all times during the races or the event will not proceed. The anticipated cost to man an ambulance for the two day event is estimated between \$1300 to \$1900. Other events held in the area that request ambulance service agree that if an ambulance is dispatched to a call it will leave the event and return when the call is over. This event mandates a dedicated service. The Counties have not been included in the planning process and were notified of the request three weeks prior to the event. This event and the additional cost to EMS have not been allocated into the 2009 budget. The City of Brockville Fire and Police will be on hand at the event and have been encouraged to waive fees whenever possible as these types of events assist in promoting the downtown area of Brockville.

Motion

Moved by: Mr. Henderson
Seconded by: Mr. Pickard

THAT the Land Ambulance Sub-Committee recommends that the Emergency Medical Services Division provide special event, dedicated, land ambulance service to the Brockville Hydroplane Races being held June 6, 2009 and June 7, 2009. Defeated.

6.0 New Business – No Report

6.0.1 Communications

Chief Chevrier reported that the first Communications Strategy meeting was held in May with excellent representation from both fire and police from all areas of the Counties. Discussion of protocols and ways to improve working together were key topics. It was agreed that this group would meet quarterly to brainstorm and recognize new and best practices which can be implemented to make the system more efficient and effective. Members felt that it was important to continue with the meetings and to work together to ensure the system is operating at its utmost potential.

7.0 Other Business – No Report

8.0 In-Camera – No Report

9.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Land Ambulance Sub-Committee shall be held on July 7, 2009.

10.0 Adjournment

Motion

Moved by: Mr. Dishaw
Seconded by: Mr. Gooch

THAT the Land Ambulance Sub-Committee adjourns its proceedings until the next regular meeting scheduled on June 2, 2009.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.