

## MINUTES

### LAND AMBULANCE SUB-COMMITTEE TO THE LEEDS AND GRENVILLE JOINT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 6, 2010

**Council Chambers**  
**25 Central Avenue West, Brockville**

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#### **Sub-Committee**

**Members Present:** Chair John Conley, Bill Thake, Warden, Mel Campbell, Roger Haley, Doug Struthers, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville  
Suzanne Dodge, Town of Prescott  
Jim Garrah, Town of Gananoque  
Dave Henderson, City of Brockville

**Other Members Present:** Ron Holman, Frank Kinsella, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

**Staff Present:** Steve Silver, Chief Administrative Officer  
Nigel White, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer  
Chief Dan Chevrier, EMS Divisional Manager  
Andrea Bolton, Deputy Clerk

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#### **1.0 Opening Remarks**

Mr. Conley called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m. and offered regrets on behalf of Mr. Pickard.

#### **2.0 Adoption of Agenda**

##### **Motion**

**Moved by Mr. Haley and seconded by Mr. Struthers  
THAT the agenda for April 6, 2010 meeting of the Land Ambulance Sub-Committee meeting be adopted. Carried.**

#### **3.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof - Nil**

**4.0 Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Committee Meeting – February 2, 2010**

The Committee discussed emergency responses to incidents on the 401 and 416 corridors. Mr. Dishaw advised that during the meeting with the Minister at the Ontario Good Roads Association conference, it was noted that municipal Councils determine their level of response. He advised, since that time his municipality has informed the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) that their fire department is not to be called off once they are deployed. Several members noted that they respond regardless of who arrives on scene first, Fire or OPP. Mr. Dishaw further advised that this matter is already listed as an item for discussion at the next Fire Chiefs meeting. The Committee discussed the possibility of recouping costs for vehicle accidents through the insurance of the vehicle owners. It was observed that this can present a challenge when those drivers involved are from out of province or out of the country.

**Motion**

**Moved by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Haley  
THAT the minutes of the Land Ambulance Sub-Committee meeting held on  
February 2, 2010 be approved as distributed. Carried.**

**5.0 Delegations/Presentations - Nil****6.0 Correspondence, Communications and Petitions – Nil****7.0 Information Items – Nil****8.0 Staff Reports****8.0.1 Fire First Response – January 2010****Motion**

**Moved by Mr. Dishaw and seconded by Mr. Struthers  
THAT Fire First Response Report January 2010, be received and filed. Carried.**

**8.0.2 Monthly Call Report – January 2010****Motion**

**Moved by Mr. Struthers and seconded by Mr. Dishaw  
THAT the Monthly Call Report for January 2010, be received and filed. Carried.**

### **8.0.3 Monthly Call Report – February 2010**

Chief Chevrier provided the Committee members with a sample of a new and more meaningful style of report the department is developing. He explained the difficulties staff has encountered in adapting the report format to fit the numbers. He noted there is a discrepancy between the call volume by station and the call volume by municipality, and speculated that this could be related to calls out of county and cancelled calls where the ambulance has already left the station. Chief Chevrier advised the new report will provide the percentage of call volume for each station for the month, percentage of patient carrying calls and information on patient demographics. In addition, the report will include information on the level of service as viewed from the public perspective, by including both complaints and positive feedback received. It is anticipated that the new report will be available at the next meeting.

The Committee reviewed the statistics regarding standby and discussed the deployment of vehicles when on standby. Chief Chevrier described the geographic area that the vehicles must cover when redeployed; noting that when on standby, the vehicles are deployed to pre-determined locations in order to provide fluid coverage for Leeds and Grenville, and in the event that a supervisor determines a vehicle may be occupied for some time, a fourth vehicle can be staffed to ensure coverage is maintained. It was observed that lack of space at other locations is the reason standby deployment is often positioned at exterior locations.

The Committee discussed the idling of vehicles, which causes wear and tear, with one hour of idling equal to 80 km driven; to avoid idling, additional equipment purchases, or station modifications would need to be made. Chief Chevrier advised that diesel fired heating units have been considered at a cost of \$4,000 per vehicle; however, due to the amount of heat they produced, they were not recommended. With respect to air conditioning units that could be plugged in while at the station, Chief Chevrier reported they were considered; however, a rooftop unit would be required.

In response to a question by Mr. Holman, Chief Chevrier advised the department is looking at cross border calls into other Counties, in order to more accurately budget for the future. The Committee discussed cross border deployment by Lanark County vehicles, noting Smiths Falls would serve the northwest part of the Counties and Perth would serve the southwest portion.

#### **Motion**

**Moved by Ms. Dodge and seconded by Mr. Garrah  
THAT the Monthly Call Report for February 2010, be received and filed. Carried.**

#### **8.0.4 Executive Summary Report – Ambulance Service Review**

Chief Chevrier advised members that copies of the full report are available and can be obtained through the Deputy Clerk. Chief Chevrier commended the Deputy Chiefs, Supervisors and Paramedics for their involvement in the Review. Chief Chevrier described the types of deficiencies/recommendations that were identified, noting that there was one in each of the 12 areas reviewed; he pointed out that a deficiency can be something as simple as one missed chicken pox vaccination.

In response to a question from Mr. Kinsella, Chief Chevrier explained that the department meets certification standards. He noted the 12 recommendations will be addressed by the department and a solution forwarded to Michael Bay of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The Ministry will then send an inspector down to follow up on the solutions and issue the certificate. It was observed that there were 26 recommendations in 2006 and only 12 in 2010.

In response to a question from Mr. Dishaw, Chief Chevrier reported there were 12,548 calls in 2008 and 15,857 in 2009.

#### **Motion**

**Moved by Mr. Henderson and seconded by Mr. Thake**

**THAT the Land Ambulance Sub-Committee recommends:**

- 1. THAT the Report dated April 6, 2010, entitled “Executive Summary Report, Ambulance Service Review” be received by the Joint Services Committee. Carried.**

**9.0 Sub-Committee, AdHoc Committee and Member Reports – Nil**

**10.0 Unfinished Business – Nil**

**11.0 Announcements - Nil**

**12.0 Notice of By-laws/Notice of Motions - Nil**

**13.0 Media Questions**

No members of the media were present.

**14.0 Questions from the Public**

No members of the public were present.

**15.0 Closed Meeting - Nil**

**16.0 Adjournment**

**Motion**

**Moved by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Haley  
THAT the meeting of the Land Ambulance Sub-Committee adjourn at 11:15 a.m.  
Carried.**

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John Conley, Chair