



## VT EMS Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday April 10, 2019

St. Johnsbury at Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital. Conference Room 127  
1:00 pm

In room:

Dan Batsie  
Pat Malone  
Mark Considine  
Forest Weyen  
Michael Wright

On phone:  
Drew Hazelton  
Ellen Walsh, Rescue Inc  
Charlene Phelps  
Brad Reed  
Leonard Stell  
Leslie Lindquist  
Mark Podgwaite  
Adam Heuslein

Meeting called to order 1401

Review Question 1

Dan Batsie - information regarding other states and their requirements to provide EMS

- Heard back from 18 states: 4 have EMS plan requirements in statute, obligation for municipality to have EMS plan. 4 states have an Administrative code – plan needs to be in place.
- Dan will continue to survey for more information.

Question 1 review:

- Review of 2015 legislative report response on Question 1
- There are no requirements under statute for law enforcement or fire. May be required by municipal charters.

- Dan Batsie – this is a burgeoning problem as communities rely on mutual aid that is taxing other systems. Every town should have arrangements for EMS, EMS should be an essential aspect of municipal budgets.
- Drew Hazelton – town administrators may not have enough understanding of EMS to decide on a plan
- EMS buyer’s guide needs to be updated. The update has been on the State EMS office project list for a year. Dan will look into having the update project moved forward.
- Consensus – support for towns to have an EMS plan, with that they need to be educated with an updated EMS buyer’s guide
- Fire service and law enforcement have been around for much longer. Why have they not gone down this road? Municipal charter?
  - Brad– upcoming fire joint chief meeting – will look to get feedback from the group, maybe all emergency services should be part of required emergency plans
  - Dan Batsie – Coalition of Fire and EMS – Volunteer and Career – Dan will bring up the question at next meeting
  - Leonard Stell – he is police chief in Swanton, and will look for law enforcement opinion on statutes for EMS plans
  - Drew looked for VLTC opinion previously – league does not typically support this type of question, they don’t support mandates
- Update on this topic to be added to June meeting agenda

#### EMS office update

- Special Fund is available. Required: certificate of insurance, W9, and email from district
- 7 interviews for training administrator position, hopes for choice and acceptance by end of May
- Conference Oct 31-Nov 2. Education suggestions welcome
- EMS awards - nominations are due by April 21

#### June meeting work plan:

- Education focus of meeting, hosted by UVM
- Move meeting time to 1200 on Wed June 12. Lunch will be provided
- Dan will be looking into tuition offsets that nursing and allied health get for this meeting
- Any EMS educators that may have helpful information are welcome to attend
- Leonard and Dan were going to investigate other ways to fund EMS education
- How do we measure demand for education?
- Dan will investigate measure of student’s success through licensing process
- The information may not be available, but Dan will attempt to look at number of students that enter classes vs number licensed.
- Special invitation should go to VTC to be at this meeting. Drew will invite Inga and President.
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- Pass rate for State EMTs:

1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2018 until 10 April 2019

EMT 1<sup>st</sup> attempt success NREMT – 74%

EMT success after 6 attempts NREMT – 83%

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AEMT success after 6 attempts NREMT – 83%

Paramedic 1<sup>st</sup> attempt success NREMT – 84% (11/13)

Paramedic success after 6 attempts NREMT – 92% (12/13)

- Drew will investigate additional ways to attach to collegiate program, reaching out to GCC. Other states tuition costs may just be lower, per hour costs higher in Vermont. Dan will reach out to colleges for sampling of tuition numbers.

#### Survey Questions

- State EMS office has approved funds for survey/data collection
- Dan will look to get survey questions from other states
- Money must be spent by August for grant funds for survey. Results would be September/October
- Dan will formulate the broad proposal for the vendors
- Recruitment/Retention topic is planned for discussion at August meeting but should also come back up again for October conference meeting as survey results should be available
- Dan will look into what questions can be added to the service license application
- State EMS office assessments? May help to generate questions. NH may share result

Other potential questions that were discussed:

##### *Service Questions:*

Why are people leaving?

Real challenges of retention/recruitment

Among Paid/Volunteer agencies: how many open spots. How many for optimal staffing.

What are the realistic minimum staffing needs?

Follow up on questions from last year's questions?

What appropriations do services get?

##### *Provider Questions:*

Do you plan to leave EMS in one year?

What is most significant factor making you leave?

If you did leave, what field did you go to?

What would've made you stay?

##### *Student Questions*

Approve minutes from last meeting – March 20, 2019 – Approved

No other business

Next meeting June 12, 2019 – 12:00 pm. UVM. Lunch will be included. Pat will provide directions, etc.

Adjourn: 1421