

Ambulance District Meeting Minutes 10/22/15

7:00 PM, 16 Croton Avenue, Conference Room

Chair Dr. Robert Seebacher, Ossining Town Supervisor Sue Donnelly, OVAC Chief Nick Franzoso, New Castle Town Administrator Jill Shapiro, and Dr. Emil Nigro were present. Village of Ossining Treasurer Thomas Warren was also present.

Richard Wishnie, Village of Ossining Village Manager Abe Zambrano, OVAC Chairman and Treasurer Alex Beck and Croton Village Manager Jeannine King were absent. Croton Chief of Police Anthony Tramaglino, Village of Croton EMS Captain Bill McCabe, Town Councilman Geoffrey Harter, Village of Ossining Trustee Bob Daraio, Village of Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity, Village of Sleepy Hollow Village Administrator Anthony Giaccio, William Hamilton, Ronald Dornau, Director of Croton Department of Emergency Management Dick Nagel, and Town of Ossining Attorney Wayne Spector were also absent.

Dr. Seebacher calls the meeting to order at 7:08PM. The first order of business is to approve the minutes from the prior meetings held on July 30th, 2015 (Q2) and September 9th, 2015 (the budget meeting): a decision was made to table both sets of minutes until the next meeting when more voting members were present.

Chief Franzoso begins discussion of the statistics for the third quarter of 2015, which is reported as being slightly slower than Q1, just as Q2 has been. The 1st page shows the call breakdown- out of 732 calls during the quarter, nearly 73% of calls came from the Village of Ossining (533), with 149 from the Town of Ossining, 18 from the Town of New Castle, and 32 Mutual Aid calls. The 2nd page shows Dispositions, which do not demonstrate any significant trends. The Chief explains that September was a slow month for OVAC, but maintained a consistent proportion of BLS to ALS as in past quarters. The 3rd page maps 9 years of Q3 statistics- the line graph demonstrates that call volume continues to rise steadily, and that calls were up 6.9% over the 3rd Quarter in 2014. They are up 40% over the 3rd Quarter in 2007, when OVAC first began logging these statistics.

The 4th page measures outgoing mutual aid, with Briarcliff Manor making the most requests (17), with Croton (6), Yorktown (5) and Sleepy Hollow (4) encompassing the rest, consistent with past quarters. As for incoming calls, Briarcliff Manor took 6 calls, and Croton took 10, which the Captain mentions are usually the calls on the North side of the District. The next page breaks down the calls for which OVAC requested Mutual Aid, including addresses, call type and call time.

The 7th page details the 2nd call in District, which in Q3 came to 28.1% of all calls, a number which the Chief reports is still less than the prior quarter, but still high. The 8th page shows a bar graph of call volume by hour, which, as usual, shows a slowdown between midnight and 6AM. The 9th page breaks down response times during the 3rd Quarter, with 93.5% of calls under 9 minutes, and 79.9% of calls under 6 minutes. The Chief explains that there was an increase in call times exceeding 9 minutes in the month of July, but there is no common factor (distance or 2nd call in district). The next several pages detail calls with a 7+ minute response time, including address, date and time, and whether the call was the 2nd or 3rd in District, with a color coded map to demonstrate the dispersion of calls. The page

following shows the same for calls with a 9+ minute response time. The Board discusses what some factors may be that are slowing the turnaround time, such as restocking the ambulances at the hospital. Dr. Nigro discusses the process of PCRs (Pre-Hospital Care Reports) and how Phelps has tried to accommodate the medics to speed the turnaround process along with a dedicated printer. Chief Franzoso also mentions that several of the Mutual Aid calls were on the Taconic and in Yorktown.

Following the maps and logs, the statistics turn to a comparison of response times, by quarter, over the past 2 years. The Chief notes that the breakout across quarters has been relatively consistent, but that the number of calls falling between 9 and 10 minutes has risen slightly.

The Captain also reports on the "Clinical Impression Breakdown". He displays all 6 quarters during which OVAC has used the system. The category that is most often cited is "Traumatic Injury, followed closely by "Other" and "Generalized Weakness", a complaint which the Captain explains leads to many lift assists. He does, however, believe that this number has gone down a bit due to new management at Atria who follows different list assist policies than in the past.

As far as patient age breakdown, roughly 16% calls are for patients between 80 and 90 years old, with patients between 50 and 60 not far behind. The final page of the report breaks down OVAC Hospital Destinations- Phelps is the closest and most often visited, seconded by Westchester Medical Center. The Chief mentions that patients brought to Northern Westchester tend to come from New Castle due to proximity.

Dr. Seebacher asks for updates on Croton and Sleepy Hollow, to which the Chief replies that everything has been running smoothly, and he is in the process of putting together a new budget for both municipalities. Supervisor Donnelly confirms that the contracts will cover the same range of services as in past years- 24 hour service in Croton and 12 hour service in Sleepy Hollow.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 21st, 2016 at 7PM, where the 4th quarter statistics will be presented and the entirety of 2015 will be discussed. Supervisor Donnelly made a motion to adjourn at 7:47PM, seconded by Chief Franzoso.