

Ambulance District Meeting Minutes 10/19/2017

7:00 PM, 16 Croton Avenue, Conference Room

Vice Chair Richard Wishnie, Ossining Town Supervisor Dana Levenberg, OVAC Chief Nick Franzoso, Dr. Emil Nigro and Dr. Barry Geller of Phelps Northwell, New Castle Town Administrator Jill Shapiro, Village of Ossining Citizen Representative Sue Donnelly were present. Town of Ossining Councilwoman Liz Feldman were also present.

Chair Dr. Robert Seebacher, OVAC Chairman and Treasurer Alex Beck, Village of Ossining Manager Debbie McDonnell, Village of Croton Manager Janine King, Croton Chief of Police Anthony Tramaglini, Village of Croton EMS President Bill McCabe, Village of Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity, Village of Ossining Trustee Manuel Quezada, Village of Sleepy Hollow Village Administrator Anthony Giaccio, Village of Ossining Citizen Representative William Hamilton, and Director of Croton Department of Emergency Management Dick Nagel were absent.

Vice Chair Wishnie calls the meeting to order at 7:05PM. The first order of business is to approve the minutes from the prior meeting on July 20TH, 2017—Dana Levenberg motioned to accept the minutes and Sue Donnelly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Franzoso begins discussion of the statistics for the third quarter of 2017, which brought in a total of 749 calls. The distribution of call locations is similar to past quarters (171 TOS, 519 VOS, 31 NC, 28 Mutual Aid). The 2nd page shows the increase in call volume over the past 11 years, with the highest being the 1st Quarter of 2015 at 778, although the 2nd quarter of 2017 was not far behind at 769. Calls are definitely trending up, and the Chief projects 2017 to top 3000 calls for the first year on record. The 3rd page breaks out the treatment types attached to the calls throughout 2017, with BLS calls accounting for about 2/3 of the call volume to this point. The 4th and 5th pages compare this same data to 2016 and 2015, which demonstrates the same relationship of BLS to ALS calls.

The 6th page shows outgoing mutual aid for Q3 of 2017 for a total of 28 calls: 6 from Briarcliff, 16 from Croton, 1 from Chappaqua (a fire standby), 4 from Sleepy Hollow, and 2 from Yorktown—Croton has lost some volunteers as of late, which could explain why their number has gone up over past quarters. Mutual aid coming into the District (page 7) shows 14 calls in total—3 from Briarcliff, 6 from Croton, 2 from Cortlandt ALS, 2 from Cortlandt VAC, 1 from Mt. Pleasant ALS, and 1 from WEMS. The Chief mentions how the tracking system used by 60 Command is able to track these more specifically and that this data will only get better going forward. The 8th page details all 14 incoming mutual aid calls by location and County call code. The Chief says that, based on this data, it may be wise to consider adding another paramedic if the trend continues. OVAC has applied for an AFG (Assistance to Firefighter Grant), which last time helped the Corps to buy new PPE. This time around, they are looking for a Life Pak 15—the 12s that they have are no longer serviced. Vice Chair Wishnie reminds the group that the District's 10 year anniversary is coming up in 2018, which may also be a great opportunity for a fundraiser.

The 9th page displays all of the 2nd calls in the District, which totaled 32% of all calls in Q3 that would have gone to Mutual Aid if OVAC did not have a 2nd ambulance—this is an average number of calls for

this category. The 10th page shows an hour-by-hour comparison breakdown of the all volume throughout the District this quarter, with call volume spiking in the morning (8AM-11AM) and dropping overnight, a typical pattern. The next two pages detail response times with no exclusions (page 11, 62.9% under 6 minutes and 92.3% under 9 minutes) and with exclusions (page 12, 66.8% under 6 minutes and 96.6% under 9 minutes), with a total average of 5.23 minutes, which is very good, even for OVAC. The exclusions listed were mutual aid calls or standby.

Page 13 is a map of all of the calls over 7 and over 9 minutes throughout the quarter, with the 7+ in yellow and the 9+ in red—those same calls are listed in the pages that follow (14-19). There does not appear to be any pattern—the Chief mentions that several of the 9+ calls were the 3rd or 4th call in hour, but some just took that long to respond to. Administrator Shapiro comments that several of the 9+ calls are in New Castle, to which the Chief responds that roadwork on Route 134 slowed down these responses.

The next two pages (20 & 21) compare response times across quarters going back to Q1 2013. The Chief mentions that call times will now be standardized because of the technology to 60 Control, which should help compare apples to apples. The Clinical Impression Breakdown (22) is similar to past quarters and reflects the higher overall volume of calls, although Behavioral Psych calls have been on the rise more than other quarter for which we have statistics—many of these calls for service happened during the lunar eclipse. For Patient Age Breakdown (23), the age range of 80-90 is the highest by a sizeable margin (the Chief notes that there are 7 assisted living facilities in the response jurisdiction, which certainly contributes), and the listing of hospital locations (24) is consistent with past quarters.

There is no one present from either Sleepy Hollow or Croton, but the Chief reports that everything is normal.

There is a brief conversation about the 2018 District Budget—the District was able to save about \$1,000 by moving from Paychex to another payroll service, which allows for a slight hourly raise for the paramedics and the EMTs. There are currently 7 employees on the health care plan. The budget is a 1.5% overall increase over 2017, coming to \$653,950.29 for 2018. Sue Donnelly moves to approve the budget, Supervisor Levenberg seconded. All in favor.

Dr. Nigro introduced Dr. Barry Geller to the group—Dr. Nigro stepped down as Director of Emergency Services, and Dr. Geller has taken over. Dr. Geller had been with the Hudson Valley Hospital Center for 19 years, for the last 7 years as Associate Director, before coming to Phelps. He has closely followed Dr. Nigro's career and is very grateful to Dr. Nigro for extending himself in such a gracious and nurturing way. Dr. Geller told the group about the hospital's plans to introduce the concept of paramedicine, or having paramedics involved in community healthcare by way of doing blood pressure checks and other types of preventative care, and goes on to say it has generally only been piloted in more rural areas before. Vice Chair Wishnie fully supports the idea. Dr. Geller also goes on to say that Chief Franzoso has been great about cluing him in to the needs that are present, and that everything is working out well.

Supervisor Levenberg shared with the group that the Town of Ossining hosted Organ Donor Enrollment Day for the 2nd year in a row, and got 31 enrollments with the help of OVAC.

Chair Wishnie suggests that the Q4 Meeting in January take place at OVAC's HQ at 8 Clinton Avenue. The date and time are set for Thursday, January 18th at 7PM. The group is also reminded that the OVAC Installation Dinner will take place on December 17th.

Supervisor Levenberg made a motion to adjourn at 7:39PM, seconded by Councilwoman Feldman.