

Ambulance District Meeting Minutes 7/21/2016

7:00 PM, 16 Croton Avenue, Conference Room

Chair Dr. Robert Seebacher, Ossining Town Supervisor Dana Levenberg, OVAC Chief Nick Franzoso, New Castle Town Administrator Jill Shapiro were present. Ossining Town Councilwoman Liz Feldman was also present.

Vice Chair Richard Wishnie, OVAC Chairman and Treasurer Alex Beck, Dr. Emil Nigro, Village of Ossining Interim Manager Paul Fraioli, Village of Croton Manager Janine King, Croton Chief of Police Anthony Tramaglini, Village of Croton EMS Captain Bill McCabe, Village of Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity, Village of Sleepy Hollow Village Administrator Anthony Giaccio, Village of Ossining Citizen Representative William Hamilton, Village of Ossining Trustee John Codman, Village of Ossining Citizen Representative Sue Donnelly and Director of Croton Department of Emergency Management Dick Nagel were absent.

Chair Seebacher calls the meeting to order at 7:11PM. The first order of business is to approve the minutes from the prior meeting held on July 21st, 2016. As there were not enough voting members present to accept the minutes, Supervisor Levenberg made a motion to table, seconded by Chief Franzoso. The motioned passed, and the minutes will be voted on at the Q3 meeting.

Chief Franzoso begins discussion of the statistics for the second quarter of 2016, which he reported was down 12% over 2015 with a total of 641 calls, primarily from the Village of Ossining (501), with similar proportions in other municipalities as in past quarters (90 in the Town of Ossining, 8 in the Town of New Castle, and 42 Mutual Aid). The 2nd page shows Dispositions, which do not demonstrate any significant trends, everything is dropping in proportion with the decreased call volume. BLS (basic life support) calls continue to be roughly twice as common as ALS (advanced life support calls). The 3rd page maps 10 years of call volume statistics- the line graph demonstrates that, while call volume decreased slightly since 2015 in Q2, that the district's call volume is up 25% over a ten year period.

The 4th page measures outgoing mutual aid (42 calls in total), with Briarcliff Manor making the most requests (30), with Croton (5), Yorktown (4), Sleepy Hollow (3), Tarrytown (1) and Cortlandt (1) encompassing the rest, consistent with past quarters. As for incoming calls (page 5), Briarcliff Manor took 3 calls, and Croton took 4 for a total of only 7 mutual aid calls coming from the District. There does not seem to be any trend in where the Mutual Aid was deemed necessary, as indicated by the breakdown of disposition location/ call type on page 6.

The 7th page details the 2nd call in District, which accounted for 187, or 29.2% of all calls, during Q2, which is why having a 2nd ambulance on the 8AM-midnight shift is important. The 8th page shows a bar graph of call volume by hour, which, as usual, shows a slowdown between midnight and 6AM with the busiest hours during the daytime, which justifies the timing assigned to the second ambulance. The 9th page breaks down response times during Q2, with 94.8% of calls answered in under 9 minutes, and 79.5% of calls were answered in under 6 minutes of calls. The Chief notes that many of the 9+ minute calls had an ALS on scene or were 2nd or even 3rd call in district, as detailed on the coming pages. The next several pages map and detail calls with a 7+ minute response time and a 9+ 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. Manager Shapiro asks whether the Mutual Aid calls with times in excess of 9 minutes should be reported separately, and whether it unreasonably skews the results, since the utmost responsibility is to the District itself.

Following the maps and detailed logs of response times, there is a chart of response time comparison since Q1 2013. Over this time span, 86.2% of calls have been answered in 7 minutes or less, and 94.5% answered within 9 minutes.

The Chief also reports on the “Clinical Impression Breakdown”, which was an addition to the statistics starting in 2014. He displays all 9 quarters during which OVAC has used the system. There do not appear to be any noteworthy trends except a roughly 12% decrease across the board and a nearly 50% drop in the category of “Abdominal Pain, which in the past, had been one of the most common complaints.

As far as patient age breakdown, roughly 16.9% calls are for patients between 80 and 90 years old, with patients between 50 and 60 at 9.8%, both of which are an increase over prior quarterly stats. The final page of the report breaks down OVAC Hospital Destinations- Phelps is the closest and most often visited, as in past quarters.

There is a short conversation about Sleepy Hollow and Croton—there was some necessary change to the language in both contracts regarding insurance, and both municipalities have confirmed that they agree to the changes and will sign the revised contracts for 2016-17.

There is no new business.

The Chief gives a short presentation on new safety precautions being implemented by OVAC. In light of recent events wherein first responders have been targeted for acts of violence, OVAC employees and volunteers have been cross-training with the Ossining Police Department and have also put ballistic vests into service. While it may not seem likely that anyone would try to injure someone providing medical service, the Chief points out that especially with the increased volume of calls related to heroin overdoses, patients can sometimes behave in unpredictable ways and it is better for to be safe than sorry. The Chief mentions a grant for assistance to first responders, which provides safety gear for rescues, high visibility jackets, defib monitors and the like.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 20th, 2016 at 7PM, where the 3rd quarter statistics will be presented and the District budget will be set. Chief Franzoso made a motion to adjourn at 8:04PM, seconded by Councilwoman Liz Feldman.