

Meeting of the Talbot County Emergency Services Advisory Board (TCESAB)
June 27, 2018

Attendees:

Debbie Timms – Vice Chairman

Jack Harrald

Brian LeCates

Lois MacDonald

Diana Mautz

Scott Mergenthaler

Steve Mroczek

Richard Smith

Ruth Sullivan

Ruth Sullivan, acting for Debbie Timms who was running late, called this meeting of the TCESAB to order at 6 pm.

Ruth asked if there were changes or additions to the Minutes from the last meeting. A spelling error in the name of WOR-WIC College was noted. With that correction, we agreed they will stand as prepared.

Scott Mergenthaler discussed staffing in the Sheriff's Office. Most of their recent hires have come from the Academy and from the "overflow" of higher paying near by counties recruiting efforts. Laterals come to Talbot largely because of leadership, good here and issues in other counties. Deputies leave largely because we have the only 30-year retirement.

Brian LeCates said that they have not been able to attract new paramedics. They have been able to hire EMTs who want to become Paramedics. They are attracted to Talbot County because of the educational opportunities offered and by access to modern equipment.

Brian presented the major items approved in this year's approved DES budget

- 800 MHz Paging Upgrade - Making system P-25 compliant - \$115,000.
This upgrade to the pager system is intended to address reception problems in northern Talbot County
- Salary Increase - 8% - 10% which made TCDES competitive again
- Retrofit 3 ambulances with Stryker Power Load system - \$90,000
- 50% Cost New LP 15 heart monitor to replace an aging LP12 - \$17,777
- 50% cost of a new Lucas CPR device (other 50% from Paramedic Foundation) - \$7,900
- Replacement Carpet for Station 93 and new beds (frames/mattresses) - \$9,000
- Replacement of 5 desktop computers and 3 TOUGH PAD tablet computers - \$22,069

Brian told the group that the salary increases in this year's budget did not address the salary compression issue the Board has previously discussed.

Brian described the up swing in the number of calls that TCDES has been responding to. In 2018 there has been an over 40% increase year to date over 2017. No identifiable cause seems to be behind the increase, just more of what TCDES normally does. The Department will monitor this issue and look at changes if the increase negatively impacts response times.

Scott discussed salary increases for the Sherriff's Department in the 2019 Budget. They received a 2% across the board increase as well as Step increases. He also discussed the positive effect on recruitment the Deferred Compensation has. They have noted positive comments on Facebook discussions among Law Enforcement professionals.

Debbie Timms described the experience the Hospital has had since the Cardiac Cauterization Lab began accepting EMS patients. When it opened on February 27 2018, they expected 50 – 60 STEMI Alerts a year. So far they have had 59, so there is a larger need than anticipate. They plan on conducting a continuing education for EMS providers in the fall.

Richard Smith told the Board that Talbot County had a student graduated from the Firefighter Career Tech this spring.

There was no other Old Business or New Business.

Next Regular meeting is as below. It will be held at the Talbot County EOC at 6PM.

August 29, 2018

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.