

Department of Public Safety Review Team  
May, 27 2015 10:00 AM  
Department of Public Safety, Training Room B  
1 Public Safety Drive, Carlisle, PA

**Present:** Commissioners - Barbara Cross, and Jim Hertzler; Chief Clerk - Larry Thomas; Deputy Chief Clerk – Sandy Moyle; Recording Secretary – BarbaraSue Hershey; Department of Public Safety - Bob Shively, John Quirk, Brian Hamilton, Michele Parsons, Claudia Garner; Communications Department - Megan Silverstrim; Finance - Dana Best; IMTO - Mark Adams; Facilities - John Lopp; Upper Allen FD #23 Fire Chief – Jim Salter; Shippensburg FD Fire Chief – Randy O’Donnell

**Commencement of Meeting:** Bob Shively welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

**Action/ Discussion Items:**

1. DPS updates (15 min)

a. Technical Systems Update – Brian Hamilton

i. Silent Dispatch updates / meeting presentations comments

DPS met with the Advisory Board last week to give a presentation; they will meet tomorrow evening; 05/28/15 at 7:00 PM with the Fire and EMS chiefs to give them a presentation.

b. 911 Operational Updates – John Quirk

i. Staffing updates

The six new dispatchers are still in call-taker and Police Dispatch training. Two of the qualified Dispatcher I’s have completed their EMS dispatch training and are moving onto Fire Dispatch training next.

ii. Kronos update

There continues to be on-going training & clarification between DPS Management Staff and ERP, Beth Chornak. The second trial run with a holiday was completed.

- Commissioner Cross asked when Kronos will be live – John Quirk stated – July 12th

iii. 911 Staff - Recognition and Citations

One staff member will attend the Commissioners Workshop on 06/04/15 for Special Recognition for providing Life Saving Efforts. There are also several pending in-house unit citations for exemplary efforts.

c. Emergency Management Updates – Michele Parsons

i. MS-1 Exercise Recap

Follow up to TMI for Carlisle Hospital that receives patients who may become injured or contaminated was conducted last week without any deficiencies noted. Those participating demonstrated good skills, knowledge, abilities, and transport to Carlisle regional, all went well. This included simulation of one patient with a possible fractured ankle and some contamination on the hands and face. The key is to “treat the patient” not the radiation. We have not heard anything back officially, however, the unofficial comments was that all passed with flying colors.

ii. Upcoming Events, Exercises, and Training:

- Full TMI siren test scheduled for 06/04/15 – full siren activation beginning at noon. Software person will be at 911 center to make sure everything works without a glitch.

- Carlisle Barracks is doing an IED exercise that DPS is assisting them with on 07/15/15 and will involve as many as 22 K-9 handlers here at the same time.
- Little League State Tournament 07/25/15 – 08/01/15: to be held in Newville, PA. Newville Borough has been doing a lot of planning for this event. We are going to be sending the communications unit there for support. Megan Silverstrim is providing Public Information Officer (PIO) support and will assist with press releases and social media information as needed.
  - Commissioner Cross asked how many they anticipate in attendance. Bob Shively stated – he doesn't think they really know. He believes they are anticipating 1000 – 2000 people on any given day because the early days there are 3 or 4 games which start at 9:00 or 10:00AM in the morning and the last game starts at 7:00PM. However, DPS is doing staffing from 7:00 or 8:00AM in the morning until 10:00 or 11:00PM at night, for coverage and situation awareness, traffic issues, weather, weather alerting (lightning or severe weather) heat exhaustion, etc. There is no immediate secure shelter at the Little League fields; Newville Elementary is the current plan to walk those who can't get to vehicles to drive if needed. Other coverage includes general security.
  - There was discussion that Governor Wolf may attend opening ceremonies on 7/25/15 to kick off the event. Commissioner Cross asked if Newville has contacted Pennsylvania State Police (PSP). Bob Shively stated yes, Police Chief Koser has been in contact with PSP. Megan has also been in contact with PSP PIO Trooper Hicks, we are using some of the task force radio cache for auxiliary police, traffic management staff, etc.
- Severe Weather State Wide Exercise 10/21/15 – The State always does a spring weather exercise to prepare for the summer weather, the past several years they have not done one in the fall to prepare for the winter so they are reintroducing that again. As a group it was decided to work on the Recovery portion to be held on 10/28/15 (exactly 1 week later).
- “Wide Vigilance 6” 09/14/16 - 09/21/16 - This is an 8 county regional exercise that involves all the task force assets (hospitals, EMS units, etc.) The scenario that is carved out for this year is a hurricane with a subsequent health emergency involving a transmittable disease. We don't know which order the events will unfold but should add complexity to the exercise.

UPDATE – just received a letter from FEMA advising that they are changing some verbiage for after action reporting on TMI exercises moving forward. To allow evaluators to give more discretion if they observe something that wasn't in their observation packet. They can document it – if they observe something but it has no hindrance towards operations or the outcome they can document it; or they observe something and it will have an impact if we do not correct it, then they can document that as well.

## 2. DPS Project Reports & Status Updates (30 min)

### a. THANKS Program update – Megan Silverstrim

Introduced new intern Paige; she is currently a junior at West Chester and a graduate from Boiling Springs High School.

b. Emergency Services Training Academy Presentation

Bob Shively stated that we have had a fair amount of discussion regarding the Emergency Services Training grounds. What precipitated today's discussion was the submission of a Capital Request to complete general maintenance for the Drill Tower to include re-sheeting of the tower. Discussion over whose responsibility for repairs came into question since we have had discussions before with John Lopp and the Fire Fighters Association regarding the ongoing status of the lease. Also, Commissioner Hertzler had been approached by a couple of fire departments requesting improvements at the training grounds. In attendance today is Jim Salter, Fire Chief at Upper Allen Fire Department #23; he serves on two associations; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for the Fire Fighters Association and Vice President of the Fire Chiefs Association. He has been involved with all of the discussions between the Associations for the training grounds. Randy O'Donnell, Fire Chief at Shippensburg Fire Department and Fire Chief at the Navy Depot in Mechanicsburg; Randy also serves on our External Advisory Board.

Today is mainly to frame where we are at, the current status and use of the grounds and how we arrived at this point. *Please see Power Point presentation and Agreement of Lease*

Some Key Slides are:

**ESTA Facilities Overview**

- The facility is roughly 3 acres
- Items highlighted in red indicate usage since 2008 (see slide for detail)

**Training Capabilities**

- Technical Rescue Teams have used it for all of their specialty classes
- Trench Rescue
- High rise evolution with the ladder trucks and or smoke ventilation practice
- Rope Rappelling.
- Amateur radio uses it the last weekend in June every year where they connect around the world via amateur radio communications.

**Training Capabilities**

- General equipment used (forcible entry simulator, smoke machines, Rescue Randy, and fire extinguisher simulator)
- Drill Tower
- Smoke Trailer – the prison uses this for their certification and training of their emergency response fire brigade
- See Slide for total listing

**Who uses the Facility?**

- Since 2008; 16 of the 37 fire companies haven't used it

**Expense to the County**

- Expenses average approximately \$20,000.00 per year
- Insurance, there are two different policies: one through Carlisle Insurance for accident & health and the other; McNeil is for the property and equipment along with liability for Association leadership. Both are approximately \$5,000 each.

- Middlesex Township Municipal Authority installed water and sewer access to the frontage of the property including placing a hydrant on the grounds for training use. This enables future connection of bathroom facilities should a classroom or permanent bathroom be built.

### **External Advisory Board Feedback**

Randy O'Donnell - Fire Co 37 & Shippensburg FD

- When we lost the Training Coordinator's position the training ground lost its luster
- Drill Tower is an asset
- Smoke building would be an asset to get started
- Burn building takes a lot of assets to get up and running and to maintain
- Suggested creating a working committee divided into two groups: one for Facilities and one for training to develop a strategic plan for that site.

John Rausch - Fire Co 30 (absent) (Bob Shively reviewed)

- Seeing some scheduling problems with HACC
- While we could use the room at DPS, we don't really want the fire fighters in this room and trying to move back and forth to the training grounds. Looking at a portable classroom at the facility.

Frank Williamson - LA PD (absent) (Bob Shively reviewed)

- HACC's indoor range for firearms training, obviously we are not looking to build any type of firearms facility, however if there was a smoke or tactical building – multidiscipline use for them to do operations moving through the building, etc. This could be marketed for all the services and convenient for daylight law enforcement personnel to come here and have more available use than trying to reserve facilities at HACC.

Nathan Harig - EMS Co 40 (absent) (Bob Shively reviewed)

- Add a designated area to do Emergency Vehicle Operation Driving (EVOC)

Commissioner Cross

- Asked if there is availability of additional funding. Stated that if you're really going to look at this parcel, the committee should consider working more into beyond just a smoke building to possibly find additional funding through other first responders such as law enforcement, criminologist, etc.

Commissioner Hertzler

- Stated that at one point he thought there was an insurance policy funding that is available.
- Asked if there is a way to have this conversation with all of our fire companies to put this committee together to see who all is interested.
- The County at this point has reserved and preserved those 3 acres for this purpose, however, if it is not going to be used, then we need to know that as well.

Jim Salter - UA FD #23

- In Cumberland County we have to make sure that we are training our firefighters that are volunteers. For those volunteering their time, we need to be able to train them to the best of their ability.
- Volunteers are dropping drastically

- Training is being done at York, Dauphin, and Franklin Counties. Some are even being sent to Reading. Cumberland County doesn't even train together.

Claudia Garner

- Brought up the fact, what precipitated some of this is the fact that the Drill Tower requires approximately \$16,000.00 in re-sheeting costs. Asked if DPS should move forward with this.

Chief Clerk Thomas

- Stated that a meeting should be scheduled with the appropriate parties from the County and the Fire Chiefs; to get a commitment that this is going to move forward.
- He is recommending that a plan be put together to present to the Commissioners

**Grants / Contract Management:** (5 min) – Claudia Garner

New Contracts – None

Recurring contracts - None

Contracts for next month - None

Grant Agreements/Updates:

1. Grant Status Updates (RER, HMRF, Wireless)

**Other Business:**

DPS Explored a product that PEMA makes available to the counties and found that it is actually going to be better and at no cost with unlimited use to the county. Bob Shively and Michele Parsons reviewed the weather site that provides real-time radar, lightning strikes, etc., <http://weather.weatherbug.com/>. The change occurred last week due to our yearly subscription with <http://www.weathertap.com/> was coming due for renewal.

**Public Safety Q & A:** (10 min) - Open questions and answers / Good of the order

Meeting adjourned at 11:30AM

Respectfully submitted,

BarbaraSue Hershey  
Administrative Coordinator