

Meeting of the Talbot County Emergency Services Advisory Board (TCESAB)
January 29, 2020

Attendees:

Members

Wayne Dyott – Chairman	Jack Harald	Kristen Jones
Brian LeCates	Lois McDonald	Scott Mergenthaler
Steve Mroczek	Clay Stamp	Debbie Timms

Guest:

Jessica Duerstine

Wayne Dyott opened the meeting by introducing Jessica Duerstine, a reporter with the Star Democrat. In turn the members of the Board introduced themselves.

Clay Stamp provided an update to the group from the Department of Emergency Services:

- The whole department is currently working on their new budget submission. He promised to brief this Board on that submission at our next meeting in Mid-February.

- February is Save a Heart Month. A proclamation will be passed by Council on February 11. The annual CPR Marathon will be held at the Talbot Community Center on February 25.

- Call volume and the complexity of major fire calls are stressing the 911 staff. TCDES is currently looking at adding a fifth operator to each shift.

- Next Generation 911 is coming. The fee structure on phones that will support it is being worked at the State level. The Eastern Shore Counties are looking at a common solution.

- EMS unit saturation, that is when 4 or more ambulances are on calls continues to be an issue. The department is considering adding a surge unit at peak hours. They will bring this issue to Council soon.

- The Department is entering the final year of their Five Year Plan. Work is beginning on the next one. He promised to update the Board as this plan develops.

- Mobile Integrated Health began in Talbot County this Fall. Paramedic Greg Fries and a Nurse from Talbot County Public Health working with heavy users of the EMS system to try to better address their issues and to see if the load on the EMS system can be reduced. Currently they are doing home visits one day a week and working referrals and follow up other days. They hope to gather six months of results before evaluating.

Wayne said that the Talbot County Paramedic Foundation would be sending out a fund raising letter in February. These funds are to pay for the replacement of 120 community AEDs that are nearing end of life. To do this they need to raise in excess of \$150,000.

Wayne reminded everyone that the Board still needs a representative from the St Michaels area. A suggestion was made to advertise for volunteers.

The next meeting was set for 18 February 2020 at 6PM. It will take place at Talbot Center.