

**June 29, 2021
Tuesday 3:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Robert H. Rohner, Jr. called the meeting to order at 3:02 P.M. Also present were Theresa Laino, Vice Chair, Aaron Springs, Supervisor, Ambulance Service Review Committee members Kyle Rohner, Township EMS Director, Sally Bensley, Susanne Duffy, and Edwina Wolfe, Assistant Secretary

Ryan Hoff, Director of Operations, Suburban Emergency Medical Services and Jeffrey Young, Executive Director, Suburban Emergency Medical Services (SEMS) were also in attendance to discuss operations at SEMS.

Mr. Rohner began by explaining the issues the supervisors are experiencing with the current emergency medical service provider for the township and discussed the need for a Lehman Township Ambulance Corp. Mr. Young commented that they are aware of the problems in Pike County. SEMS is called for service in Lehman Township when Bushkill Emergency Corp is unavailable and it is putting a strain on their operation.

Mr. Hoff asked if anyone on the committee has an understanding of how the ambulance business works. Ms. Duffy explained she has extensive business background in the field. Mr. Hoff then asked if the committee has discussed how they plan to staff the new ambulance corp. Mr. Rohner responded the plan right now is to hire staff and pay them a competitive salary with benefits. Mr. Hoff described the job as both mentally and physically demanding and said there is an issue right now finding EMT's and paramedics for staffing. He estimates that Lehman Township will need at least 16 people to staff the corp for 24/7 coverage for 2 rigs and said that staffing will be the biggest hurdle to overcome.

Ms. Bensley questioned how coverage SEMS provides for Lehman Township on a weekly basis. Mr. Hoff said the coverage has increased substantially in the last year. Additionally, ALS coverage has increased over the past 2 weeks due to the fact Bushkill Emergency Corp no longer has employees to provide this service.

Jane Neufeld, Delaware Township Supervisor, discussed the training academy accepting outside students. Mr. Young responded that they haven't to date, but this is something they would consider. He also stated there is a need for more EMT training centers.

Mr. Young informed everyone that SEMS currently has 21 ambulances. They usually replace 3 ambulances a year but this year are having trouble obtaining new ones and will be refurbishing the current ambulances they have instead of purchasing new.

Mr. Young told the committee that they are willing to do whatever they can do to help such as helping to develop and manage the Lehman Township Ambulance Corp. Mr. Hoff agreed and would like to have more conversations in the future to know the expectations.

Mr. Young and Mr. Hoff left the meeting at 4 P.M.

Kyle Rohner would like to know what the cost to the township would be for SEMS to house an ambulance in Lehman Township.

Mr. Rohner will find out how many calls were made in Lehman Township and how many were transports in the past year.

Ms. Bensley asked about the Bushkill Emergency Corp Subscription Drive. If people subscribe to Bushkill Emergency Corp and they go out of business, what would become of the money paid and will the neighboring ambulance services honor the subscriptions? Nobody had an answer to these questions.

Mr. Springs voiced concerns about the length of time it will take to get an ambulance and would like to develop a back up plan.

There being no further business motion made by Mr. Rohner to adjourn the meeting at 4:29 P.M. second by Mr. Springs. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by,

Edwina Wolfe
Assistant Secretary