

November 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 called to order at 1900 hours

Special advisory board meeting called to address the recent social media regarding ems availability in the county and mutual aid.

There was mention about the email that I sent requesting the special meeting, this was done after speaking with co-chairman Prentice and him asking me to send it out and see if there was an interest in having a meeting, we had enough positive response that there was enough for a quorum and obviously more delegates felt there was either a need and or concern because we had almost all of the delegates in attendance. Also present was Legislator Nick Salamone, Thomas Farney (who were invited) and Legislator Joe Perrello ( who was not formally invited)

Nancy started out by speaking about the recent social media that resulted from the public safety meeting regarding a specific situation, the availability of ems and the mutual aid situation. Also the chaos this has caused and the questions it has raised amongst the community and the responses from everyone including long time ems members like Ralph Bressler. It also included the public post of training the Sullivan county Sheriffs department. Legislator Nick Salamone then spoke. There was discussion on how this would work, cost of doing this and specific location of cars or would they be dispatched from the sheriffs department. Legislator Salamone and Tom Farney also mentioned on how they haven't heard much since the Benjamin study was done. After it started to be an attack fest and Connor mentioned how he has social media and how we should not be paying attention to it, I tried to explain why I was paying attention to it and that I reached out to Legislator salamone due to my affiliation with the college and the emt program to inquire about the training of the sheriffs and maybe all county law enforcement agencies. Connor also asked who Bill Liblick was, if he is a member of an ems agency and where is he getting his information from.

Albee spoke about this social media thing as well and how he has been speaking to a few of the legislators and other people regarding this and the effect it has on the community and explained how many crews he has on during the day and how many at night and how he does a lot of transports from the hospital back to nursing homes and the mutual aid in the county with his agency and the volunteers in the county.

Discussion followed on how the advisory board had made the decision to try the battalions for mutual aid but nothing was ever followed through with that. Discussion on how if the advisory board decides to have things done that they need to be initiated and to be followed up on. Many agencies spoke on how they cannot participate in the battalions as they have a mutual aid agreement with mobile medic so that it would create conflict and Nancy asked well what happens if mobile medic isn't available and alex rau said then it would go to the next closest agency. It was said that if any of the agencies want to enter into a mutual aid agreement for

example like the old tri squad that Woodbourne grahamsville and neversink had all they have to do is put it in writing and alex rau would make it happen.

It was also brought up by Nancy that alex rau at many previous meeting has mentioned that if you hear an agency struggling to crew and you are available to call the 911 center and let them know. Nancy said there were a couple of times that she has attempted to do that and had some issues. Connor mentioned that he has mutual aided for many agencies and has never had an issue. Said it sounds more like a personal issue and doesn't belong being brought up at this meeting alex should be called directly. Nancy responded in a way it does because it pertains to mutual aid. Someone also mentioned that it does depend at times on who is dispatching and the consistency.

Joe Perrello spoke about statistics etc and that also went back to the mention of the legislators getting information. There was mention of the two committees that were formed within the advisory board, one for a paid mutual aid system and then for a volunteer system. It was mentioned that Sue from Livingston Manor had done a lot of work for the rfp process but that her committee was pretty much defunct and albee mentioned that his committee hadn't met recently. Jeff ashdown ( a non delegate from mamakating) volunteered to help sue with her committee and albee mentioned that he would have his committee meet before the next advisory board meeting in December.

The meeting basically ended with no real resolutions and some people left and others lingered to continue discussions.