

AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Minutes	Air Ambulance Services Committee Meeting
Date	March 22 nd , 2021
Time	10:00 am
Location	665 Mainstream Drive Nashville, Tennessee (WEBEX)
Participants	Robert Tester (Chairman); Brandon Ward (Director EMS), Nita Jernigan (TN OEMS), Tory Ferguson (TN OEMS), Chip Cook (TN OEMS) Jeanie Diden, Kenneth Walker, Matthew Owens, Teddy Myracle, Kevin Nooner, and Mark Pierce. (Jan Weatherhead and Mitchell Hathaway joined 19 minutes into the meeting)

Overall Lead	Topic	Summary/Decisions	Assignments / Next Steps	Responsible Person	Time Frame
Chairman Tester	Roll Call	Conducted by Ms. Ferguson; of the 13 members 7 were present and quorum was declared.			
	Minutes	<p>Last Meeting's Minutes were unavailable for reading.</p> <p><u>Air Ambulance Committee Participation</u></p> <p>Discussion: Director Ward, spoke to the assistant commissar's concern about the lack of participation in the Air Ambulance Committee by the membership organizations. At his request those organizations will be polled by the Office of EMS to see if they wish to continue to participate. Failure to respond will result in their organization being removed from the committee. The Air Ambulance Committee will be dissolved due to lack of participation if a quorum is not present at the next two meetings. Their responsibilities would be task to the Ambulance Committee.</p>			

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		<p>Chairman Tester has contacted all the Rotorwing services about their representatives attending the meetings.</p> <p><u>2015 Air Ambulance Rules</u></p> <p>Discussion: The 2015 Air Medical Services rules are held up in review and they have been resubmitted to the Attorney General's Office.</p> <p>The process takes 3-5 years to complete, and Director Ward will follow-up with the Attorney General's regarding their status.</p> <p><u>Unmanned Aircraft</u></p> <p>Discussion: Unmanned aircraft operations continue to be an issue Tennessee HEMS providers. Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Nashville RMCCs all have a deconfliction process to communicate with drone operators and HEMS aircraft in their region.</p> <p><u>Air Ambulance Strike Team</u></p> <p>Discussion: The need exists for an Air Ambulance Strike Team to fill in the gaps prior to Federal Government Response to disaster within our state. All agencies expressed their willingness to participate,</p>			

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		and break-out sessions were suggested for future meetings on this topic.			
	Old Business	LZ discussion was held on the status of the latest Aero-Medical Rules, drone activity, aero-medical strike team development, and LZ Control.com			
	New Business	<p><u>Committee Structure</u></p> <p>Discussion: The State Office of EMS will send out a form letter polling the participation status of each agency will be sent out prior to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Air Ambulance Strike Team</u></p> <p>Discussion: Kenneth Walker spoke to the need for a communication plan for Air Ambulance Strike Team response. Chairman Tester reaffirmed the need for the Strike Team.</p> <p><u>COVID Update</u></p> <p>Discussion: COVID related topics including vaccination, patient load, and staffing were covered. Director Ward provided a Vaccine Update for the State.</p> <p><u>TASA</u></p>	<p><u>Letter/Status Update</u></p> <p>Office of EMS</p> <p><u>Strike Team</u></p> <p>Chairman Tester will lead the discussion and meeting.</p>		

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		<p>Discussion: Congratulations were given to the recipients of the recent TASA awards.</p> <p><u>Retirement</u></p> <p>Teddy Miracle is retiring, and the group congratulated him on this accomplishment.</p>			
		<p>A motion to adjourn was received from Mr. Walker and was seconded by Mr. Nooner. Motion passed on voice vote.</p>			
		<p>Next meeting: TBD Meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am</p>			