

## EMS Committee 6/5/13

The EMS Committee of The Henry County Emergency Services Advisory Council met on June 5, 2013 at 7 p.m. Present were all five rescue captains, Jeff Fulcher , Bassett Rescue, Mike Helton, Axton, Skip Smith Ridgeway, Clinton McCloskey, Fieldale Collinsville and Traci Shelton, Horsepasture. Present from Henry County was Rodney Howell and Matt Tatum. Stuart Bowman was also present.

The first topic for discussion was developing a formula to determine the reasonable number of ambulances for Henry County. All agreed that the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services policy of one ambulance per 550 calls annually was appropriate. Based upon past response history calculations determined that Bassett, Horsepasture and Axton have one too many ambulances. Bassett Rescue Captain Fulcher stated that Bassett has five but one is a reserve only and would need to be restocked before being put in use. The committee discussed reducing the fleet by attrition or through two for one grants.

Apparatus standardization was then discussed and it was determined that most ambulances are very similar. Storage of less used items was identified as the most problematic and may be resolved by labeling compartments and drawers.

Discussion of countywide Standards of Operation was concentrated on radio protocols and the committee decided that on all incidents involving fire and rescue that upon arriving all emergency units will transfer radios to the F/R OPS channel. If a second incident occurs, 911 will designate a second channel for those operations. (Since the meeting it has been determined that channel will be "SAFE COM")

The committee addressed the Capital Improvement plan and agreed to switch from the current rotation cycle to a "needs based" system. Bench marks for determining recipients were mileage, age, cost of maintenance and number of agency calls. More discussion is needed before a consensus is reached.

Minimum officer and member training requirements were discussed and each representative is to send a copy of their SOP's and requirements to HCDPS for comparison.



