

Emergency Response Oversight Committee

November 16, 2022 (In-Person / Zoom)

Meeting Minutes

Facilitator: Michael Stitley, Director, Department of Emergency Response

Notetaker: Geri Lockwood, Department of Emergency Response

In-Person Attendees: Mike Stitley, TC Department of Emergency Response (TC DOER)
Geoff Dunn, TC Department of Emergency Response
John Halaychik, TC Department of Emergency Response
Chris Saxon, TC Department of Emergency Response
Eldon Stevens, TC Department of Emergency Response
Karla Brackett, TC Probation
Dan Cornell, TC Probation
Chris Driscoll, TC Probation
Jenn Olin, TC Sheriff's Office (TCSO)
Ian Bilek, NYSP Troop C Zone 3 (SP)
Mikhail Wolchetsky, NYSP Troop C Zone 3
Vince Monticello, City of Ithaca PD
Tim Bangs, Commercial Ambulance Service, Bangs Ambulance
Mark Bell, Volunteer Fire/EMS

Virtual Attendees: Greg Potter, TC Information & Technology Services (IT)
Rich John, TC Legislator
Josh Tagliavento, Dryden PD
Joe Nelson, Trumansburg PD
Jerry Wright, Village Police Chiefs
Mark Conrad, Cornell University (CU)
Dan Maas, Cornell OEM
Samm Swarts, Ithaca College (IC)
Kevin Wescott, Town of Dryden
Unknown

Call to Order: Mike Stitley began the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Changes to Agenda (if necessary):

- The 9/21/22 Meeting Minutes could not be approved, due to the lack of a quorum.

Old Business:

a. Reimagining Public Safety:

- Tim Bangs shared that TC Legislator Chair, Shawna Black, met with Bangs Ambulance staff, and participated in a ride-along. He then shared some of the calls that she rode to with them and witnessed. She now realizes how important and critical law enforcement is on the total patient care (they were first on the scene) and how important law enforcement with EMS is in Tompkins County. Mike stated that this illustrates another really important point of not forgetting EMS and the fire service in the reimagining discussions. Rich John added that it was good to hear about Chair Black's experience and thought it would be good for the ride-along be offered to other Legislators.
- Jenn Olin announced that with the passing of the 2023 budget, TCSO received funding for two Sheriff's Clerks for the reimagining of public safety (one currently filled, and they're awaiting the Civil Service test scores before filling the other one). This position has also managing the sex offender program. It's a three-year pilot program that they're hoping to continue and possibly expand. There was also funding approved and she's working with Mental Health on a Policy between them and the TCSO. One team will be assigned to TC at the Sheriff's Office and one to the City of Ithaca. The goal is to have the program up and running as close to the new year as possible. A discussion was held about the program.
- Rick John added that interviews are being held for a Data Analyst position within the Community Justice Center.
- John Halaychik announced that November 17th is the 28th Annual TC Mental Health Symposium. He will be attending and spoke about initiatives with it.

b. NetMotion

- Greg Potter stated that ITS is waiting for finalization of grant money. There have been discussions about who needs to be included in the groups to have future access to the Touch application.

New Business:

- a. PowerDMS:
 - John stated that after the first of the year, he'll be working to upload TC DOER's policies and procedures. Once this is completed Jessica Verfuss will upload the EROC policies, possibly no sooner than mid-year 2023.
- b. Agreements (to be signed by AHJ):
 - Mike asked that everyone see Geri Lockwood with the completed signature pages.
- c. SIREN Messages:
 - Geoff Dunn has provided templates to the NYSPD, IPD, and TCSO. He mentioned that the system that we have right now works pretty well.

Additional Agenda Items:

- a. Flags:
 - Eldon Stevens will be sending flag information out soon for the bi-annual reviews. He's currently working on the ones that are not relevant and trying to clean the flags up. He also explained what a flag is. There was a discussion on different ways to flag staff who are on leave.
- b. Towing Policy:
 - John announced that since Julie Holcomb has retired, he doesn't know yet who will oversee the towing in/for the City of Ithaca, as he does not have authority to do it. He also mentioned that a Tow Company Meeting should be scheduled soon, but the City will need a representative.

Standing Sub-Committee Reports (Members):

- a. Law Enforcement (LE):
 - Jenn stated that there has not been a meeting since the September EROC Meeting, but two (2) new nature codes have been added.
- Fire and EMS:
 - Tim Bangs mentioned the body removal issue, stating that Bang's Contract will not be renewed when it expires at the end of the year, and that the Funeral Homes will need to handle removals. Mike stated that he has a meeting scheduled with Brenda Crosby and Frank Kruppa about this. Time added that Bangs will still need to be involved when law enforcement is involved.
- Dispatch:
 - John H. announced that the 911 Dispatch Center is moving forward with the Back-up-Center (BUC), which included refreshing the 911 phone system with technological add-ons for better communications (as well as the ability to locate cell phone callers).
 - Tompkins County is the first 911 Call Center in NYS to use technology to transcribe calls in real time, meaning that all Dispatchers have the ability to see the calls instantly. This technology should shave time off response times.
 - Eldon provided information on the 10-minute timers, including adding 10-minutes, or cancelling the timer – it will be up to the commander on scene to communicate their requests on the timers to the Dispatch Center. Mike provided information that will be brought up at the next EMS Leadership Meeting regarding alerts and acknowledgements.
- Training:
 - Jenn stated that Jeremy Zigenfus was working on a Mass Casualty event. Cortland County has one scheduled in January 2023 that TCSO will be participating in. Mike mentioned that representatives from Bangs, CMC, DOER, TCSO, Ithaca Mall, TC Health Department, and Lansing Fire Department recently participated in an Active Shooter (Mall) virtual tabletop exercise.
- Information Technology Administration:
 - No updates at this time.

Announcements (Personnel, Events, Projects, etc.):

- a. BUC:
 - Mike There have been some setbacks on this project that are currently being worked through.
 - Dan Cornell announced that a TRAUMA Seminar is being held on 11/30, 9:00-11:30 a.m., at the Ithaca Marriott Conference Room. Anyone interested in attending should contact him, at dcornell@tompkins-co.org, or Karla Brackett, at kbrackett@tompkins-co.org.

Adjourn:

- Next meeting scheduled for February 15, 2023, 10:00 a.m., DOER Lee Shurtleff Conference Room, in person and virtual.
- The meeting ended at 11:05 a.m.