

**CECIL COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
PUBLIC SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 7, 2008**

Attendance

Member	Present
Henry Shaffer Chairperson	yes
Donna Deckard Vice Chairperson	yes
Jeff Clewer	yes
Sarah Colenda	no
Shawn Day	no
John Denver	yes
Patricia Folk	yes
Chuck Smyser	yes
Vicki Strause	no

Other Attendees	Affiliation
Chief Richard Brooks	Director, Emergency Services
Tony DiGiacomo	Principal Planner, Office of Planning, Zoning, et al.

Call to Order (*time/date/location of meeting*)
2:00 p.m. on May 7, 2008 at the GWC Board of Education Office

Meeting outcomes were reviewed. *Please refer to attached meeting agenda.*

Old Business

Committee members reported as to the status of departmental and/or agency contacts.

PUBLIC SAFETY:*(Dick Shaffer, Jeff Clewer, John Denver and Donna Deckard)*
 John Denver and Donna Deckard have met with the Cecil County Firemen’s Association and will be meeting with the Fire Chief’s Association in the near future to gather information on fire and rescue services. A letter of explanation as to what our committee is doing and a questionnaire will be given to them to seek input. Chief Richard Brooks, Director of EMS, will assist in the gathering of information.

Emergency Services was reported at this meeting and notes can be found in New Business.

Dick Shaffer met with Chief Darryl Hamilton, NEPD, and Chief Al Michael, RSPD relative to gathering information pertaining to Police Protection (Sheriff, Municipal Police, State Police, et al). They will meet with all law enforcement stakeholders on May 15, 2008 to request their input.

Dick Shaffer met with Tyra Kenly, Supervisor of Juvenile Services, and information has been provided. A draft will be completed and shared with the Committee in the near future.

Jeff Clewer has submitted information relative to Correctional Services and this information will be shared with the Committee in the near future.

PUBLIC HEALTH (*Chuck Smyser, Dick Shaffer*)

Chuck Smyser and Dick Shaffer met with Stephanie Garrity, Public Health Director, relative to services of the Health Department and Union Hospital.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS (*Dick Shaffer*)

Draft report is being prepared.

HIGHER EDUCATION/CECIL COLLEGE (*Sarah Colenda*)

Draft report is being prepared.

PUBLIC LIBRARY (*Pat Folk*)

Pat Folk and Dick Shaffer have met with Denise Davis, Director of the Public Library and Pat will be working with Denise to gather information.

SOLID WASTE (*Vicki Strause*)

Vicki Strause is reviewing the County's plan and other information on solid waste.

New Business

Dick Shaffer reviewed outcomes of the meeting which were to receive information on the Department of Emergency Services long range plan, review completed drafts of some plans, and discuss status of departmental and/or agency contacts.

Richard Brooks, Director of Emergency Services presented information on the Department of Emergency Services long range plan. The following represents the Department of Emergency Services Public Services Plan – Response to Interrogatories.

- I. The development of a long range plan is currently under way. The new Director of Emergency Services has identified several initiatives to be included in the plan and has extended the plan to 10 years. Recently, the department has initiated discussion on EMS expansion to include a new station in the Perry Point area in 5 years and a replacement station for the North East area on the campus of Cecil College.
- II. Growth and population appear to be two focal points. One is the constant discussion of the BRAC initiative. BRAC will certainly have an impact on Cecil County Emergency Services. This impact will play out in increased call volumes to the PSAP, increased demand for EMS, and increased planning requirements for Emergency Management. The actual impact in numbers is purely hypothetical at this time.

- a. Recently, the department has initiated discussion on EMS expansion to include a new station in the Perry Point in 5 years and a replacement station for the North East area on the campus of Cecil College.
 - b. Expansion of the 911 center will need to be addressed probably around the year 2015.
 - c. The communications system will be addressed in the state expanded 700mhz system. This is currently in planning with a potential implementation in 7 years.
- III. Sprawl of the population will dictate the location of future EMS stations. The Rt. 40 corridor continues to demand the most attention for response. Geographically, the Fair Hill section deserves attention for services as well. Land acquisition will continue to be fiscally challenging as the real estate climate remains unsettled.
- IV. Each of the divisions within the DES agency have specific needs over the next 10 years. This is still a fledgling organization.
- a. EMS - Paramedic career advancement and opportunities will plague the agency until firm quarters are establish in acceptable structures. Recruitment of personnel is difficult when quality of work life is compared to metropolitan areas.
 - b. Communications - The current center will be at capacity in 5 years. Expansion will be a top priority to maintain a high level of service. Specifically with the county growth it will exceed the call taking position capacity. Additionally, the state project for 700mhz interoperability program will result in a complete re-tooling of all radio equipment.
 - c. Emergency Management – As a result of Hurricane Katrina and Sept 11, 2001 the focus on Emergency Mgt. has increased. Specialized efforts in Debris management, special needs sheltering, animal sheltering, and Continuity of Government will require continued attention in planning, education and preparation.
 - d. Education and Training - DES will continue to provide quality education in the areas of Dispatch, EMS, Hazardous Materials, IMS, Safety, and Homeland Security.
 - e. Electronic Services - January 2009 will see the opening of the Electronic Services Division. This is necessitated by the new radio system and the expiration of the warranty period. The division will expand to include not only radio installation and maintenance of the system, but, site management of towers. The future will demand appropriate shop facilities for many of the topics. As the fire and EMS fleet grows, so does the demand for installation and repair of warning devices, as well as, radios.
 - f. Hazardous Materials -Homeland Security and terrorist activities will keep hazardous materials technicians active for some time to come. The Department of Homeland Security views terrorist incidents as a potential hazardous materials incident. Certainly, any terrorist activity that uses chemical, biological, radiological, incendiary explosive will result in a hazardous material incident. Technology will continue to mainstream equipment into the Haz-mat arena. This equipment because of its field use will require not only advanced

training, but, special care and transportation. Currently the DES HM vehicles are the original program vehicles. Plans and funding sources for new vehicles must be included in the overall Emergency Services funding plan.

- V. 2006 Statistics
 - a. ICIS - 30,973
 - b. EMBRS - 1 1,633

911 TRANSFER STATS
YEARLY, 2006

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
CECIL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	4,926
ELKTON POLICE DEPARTMENT	3,806
MARYLAND STATE POLICE--JFK BARRACKS	3,008
MARYLAND STATE POLICE--NORTH EAST BARRACKS	6,793
HAVRE DE GRACE, MD POLICE	14
NEWARK, DE POLICE	33
CHESTER COUNTY, PA	111
DELAWARE COUNTY, PA	3
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	103
HARFORD COUNTY, MD	442
KENT COUNTY, DE	7
KENT COUNTY, MD	33
LANCASTER COUNTY, PA	23
LANGUAGE LINE	126
NEW CASTLE, DE	910
POISON CONTROL CENTER	36
QUEEN ANNES COUNTY, MD	4
SALEM COUNTY, NJ	5
SUSSEX COUNTY, DE	0
YORK COUNTY, PA	2,109
TOTALS FOR MONTH	19,152

Recommendations/Action Items for Staff and Consultants

The Committee is concerned about the change in format for reporting to the Consultants. It is requested that Michael Bayer, ERM, take those drafts that have been completed, and in a timely manner revise them as needed and send them back to the committee.

Recommendations/Action Items for Oversight Committee

None at this time.

Adjournment – 4:10 p.m.

Next meeting is May 28, 2008

Minutes Prepared by: Henry Shaffer, Chairperson

Date: May 28, 2008