

**COMMITTEE MEETING
LAKE PLEASANT, NY
WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 16, 2013**

**CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE
11:00 AM**

Present: John Frey and Bob Edwards

Also present: Bill Farber, Brian Towers, Clark Seaman, Brian Wells, Don Purdy, Gary Wickes and Pete Klein

Bill stated in absence of the Chair of Central Government Committee he will Chair the meeting. The meeting was setup to work out the logistics of the EMT Classes.

They were successful in setting up two EMT Classes, one in Blue Mountain Lake and one in Lake Pleasant. There are fifteen signed up for Lake Pleasant, ten new and five re-certs. Blue Mountain Lake has twenty eight.

Brian Towers asked if the re-certs take the whole course.

Bill stated the re-certs take a test that will gauge what they know and what has changed. Then there are transition classes that give them specific changes. They then test out at the completion of the course.

Brian Wells asked if both Lake Pleasant and Blue Mountain Lake are doing new students and re-certs. Gary stated yes.

Brian Wells asked if the test was offered in both places for re-certs because he heard it wasn't offered in Blue Mountain Lake.

Gary stated he understood they were offering it at both locations, but he will follow-up.

Brian Wells then asked if it is mandated that you give the challenge exam.

Gary stated it is and it isn't and went on to explain.

Bill stated we have to be careful how we use the word mandated; there are pretty specific criteria of how you give the class or how you can challenge the refresher. It clearly is not mandated that you do the two side by side. Different instructors have different preferences of how they teach.

Bill stated part of the meeting was to clarify some questions and address some issues and concerns that he had also heard. A number of things that he heard he felt was caused by poor communication.

Brian Wells stated he just wanted to make sure they were being done correctly and Gary stated yes they are.

Bill reported that there was the impression within an ambulance squad that there was going to be a cost by individual squads and that they would get it back. He is not sure that was the way that they had discussed it here at the County; this is one of the areas that he wanted to make sure there was consistency between the two classes.

Bill's understanding was that if someone has to front the money for the class itself and the instructors that the County saw itself in this role.

Brian Towers agreed with Bill.

Gary explained how everyone will get paid at the completion of the course.

The committee then discussed reimbursement for class expenses. The County is willing to put up some money to fill a gap. Bill stated the towns and ambulance squads that have participated talked about the need to have this be an expedited structure.

Gary stated that he is averaging around \$200 - \$250 per week for food for both classes. Gary stated if each Town could kick in around \$700 he thinks that will cover them.

Don asked if all the vendors have been paid for the food, Gary stated yes.

Bill stated this is what he is talking about, it's not fair for it to be an out of pocket expense for Gary and he wants to get Gary paid.

Bill asked Gary what is happening with the Regional Council meetings. If the group cannot identify or cannot find the by-laws then we should ask an adjacent EMS Council for theirs. Then send them out to all the squads along with a meeting date. Then meet and review the draft by-laws. They can then meet a month later to adopt them.

We have had success with Fire, having meetings first monthly and then bi-monthly. We need to get to this point with EMS.

Gary stated he would love to do this, but every time he tries no one shows up. It was reiterated that whatever it takes we need to do this.

As there was no further business the meeting ended.