

TIPP CITY EMS DIVISION



ANNUAL REPORT
2014

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Tipp City Emergency Medical Service Division is to
provide the highest quality emergency medical service
to all people who call upon us for help
and
to promote safety and good will in our community.

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SECTION I



End of Year Summary

Community:

We participated in Safety City, Varsity Football games, Drill Team Competition, Car Shows and the Mum Festival.

We received 20 compliments for excellent service. There was 1 complaint regarding mutual aid response time and 1 regarding bedside manner.

Personnel:

We hired 8 part time staff in late 2013 in anticipating changes in hours to comply with ACA. The extra hours of availability those new crew members added have allowed us to be in compliance. Part Time Paramedic Hamilton fell on ice at the station and suffered a knee injury that resulted in 8 months of lost hours. Volunteer Paramedic Pittenger was injured at her other EMS job and was off ten weeks. Part Time EMT Proctor left for other work. Part time Paramedic Supervisor Holfinger retired and moved to Florida. Volunteer Paramedic Channel left for Graduate School. Volunteer EMTA Browning left for Medical School. Volunteer EMTA Lees retired. We hired Volunteer EMT's Sammons, Jones and Barth. We have three volunteers in the pipeline for 2015. They are doing well and should pass the National Registry exam required by the State of Ohio.

Our long time Medical Director, Dr. Denis Grove retired in December. Dr. Grove served the community for 25 years. Dr. Christopher McIntosh has been hired. He has been well received by the staff.

Operations:

Fifteen years ago we predicted exceeding 1500 calls in 2015. In 2014 we responded to 1557 calls.

We moved into the new facility in mid-December 2013. The staff is adjusting to new ways of doing their work. There were problems with the HVAC system that took the whole year to resolve. The painted floor had to be repaired twice. We had a major ice buildup on the roof and just below on the bell. Heat tape was added and we will see if this helps during the winter of 2015. The boiler failed and was repaired.

The staff began using computer based medical records reporting (eMR) and computer aided dispatching. This is a major undertaking and was a source of grief. Our experience is however similar to those of our neighbors, hospitals and physician offices as staff migrated to this format. The staff has done very well and is back to pre eMR performance standards. As medical protocol changes eMR will also change so this will be an ongoing education effort.

We completed the purchase of two new ambulances, a cardiac monitor, two extrication chairs, two ambulance cots and two LUCAS CPR machines.

Our quality assurance program tracked 30,057 medical actions required of our crews. Only 446 actions were not completed. Thus, the crews achieved a 98.5% compliance with medical protocol.

Calls increased 9% this year. The increase was entirely within the City as Township calls remained constant. There were across the board increases at all call location types. There was a notable increase in calls to homes and to elder care facilities with the addition of Randal Residence. ALS calls declined 6 %, BLS increased 5% and no transports rose 1%.

Planning:

A committee started work on revising the Standard Operating Guidelines in late 2014. They are converting the SOG to an ISO 9000 format, revising sections that apply to the new station, response guide changes due to case law, ACA changes, medical protocol and operations.

The Chief will start the evaluation of the City Emergency Operations Plan. Functional and full scale drills are set up for 2016/17. This is necessary to meet MVRMA, State and Federal requirements.

SECTION II



JOE E.M.T.

STAFFING TRENDS

We continue to find replacements for retiring volunteers by targeting young adults who desire to enter public safety. Our neighbors in Miami County continue to add part time because they are unable to maintain volunteer recruitment. In the last ten years volunteers have declined 50% in Ohio and 13% nationwide as reported by the Toledo Blade. During this time Tipp EMS volunteer staff has held steady.

HISTORY

Citizens and members of the Fire Department formed an Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Association in January of 1975 when they realized the City needed a trained medical response crew. Frings and Bayliff funeral home provided the service up to this time. The City formally accepted the EMS Division in March of 1975. The EMS Division was established independently from the Fire Department because many volunteers did not have the time to be involved in both organizations. Authorization for the EMS Division is in Chapter 35 of Tipp City Code.

The EMS Auxiliary operates for fund raising, Division social activities and promotion of CPR and First Aid education in the community. In 1996, the EMS Auxiliary attained tax exempt, charitable status.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

The EMS Division is composed of one full-time, twenty one part-time and sixteen paid volunteer staff. Six of the part-time staff have dual status as volunteers. Dual status staff and volunteers must live within 3 miles of the station or Monroe Township. Full-time staff must live in Tipp City. Part-time staff does not have a residency requirement. City, State and Federal Code govern personnel matters. The City has established minimum employment standards regarding physical and mental capability. The City provides worker's compensation for all staff. In addition, the volunteers receive pay for on duty activities and supplemental injury insurance. Full-time and part-time staff members receive benefits established for each position.

The State of Ohio certifies all personnel as Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced EMT or Paramedic. Our staff trains in motor vehicle crash, confined space, hazardous material and trench rescue activities. Training time for certification as an EMT begins at 152 hours, an additional 100 hours for Intermediate and an additional 800 hours for Paramedic. We conduct most of our training at the Safety Building. The Division provides 40 hours of training in house and pays for training sponsored by other schools. We are a State certified continuing education school.