

Ad-Hoc Emergency Committee Meeting

October 10, 2013, 4:00 p.m., Eastville

Members Present: Spencer Murray, Larry LeMond, Pat Coady, Martina Coker, Dr. Federico Molera

Members Absent: Willie C. Randall, Dr. Pamela Gray

Also present: County Administrator Katie Nunez
Hollye Carpenter, EMS Director

The meeting of the Ad-Hoc Emergency Committee was convened at 4:06 p.m.

Martina Coker moved to accept the minutes of the 9/26/2013 meeting and was seconded by Spencer Murray. The motion was approved unanimously.

Update on Ken Cook

It was reported that Mr. Cook had been contacted regarding a clarification of his proposal with such proposal to be mailed to the committee in time for the next meeting.

Closed Session

Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mrs. Coker, that the Committee enter Closed Session in accordance with Section 2.2-3711 of the Code Session of 1950, as amended:

Paragraph 5: Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Randall and Dr. Gray and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

After Closed Session, the Chairman reconvened the meeting and said that the Committee had entered the closed session for that purpose as set out in paragraph 5 of Section 2.1-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. Upon being polled individually, each member confirmed that this was the only matter of discussion during the closed session.

Committee Comments:

Mr. Coady stated that after hearing the comments from the last meeting and input from everyone, it appears there are several tiers of concern that need to be addressed:

First: 1st-tier patients – highly critical {car accidents}. They will be handled and generally are not the problem of this committee. It is the second tier of patients that is of greater concern relative to access to a medical facility as well as a primary care provider. We need a facility that is open 10-hours per day in the off-season and a facility that is open 16-20 hours per day in-season. He indicated that the standard ratio is one primary care provider for every 2500 residents which will most likely be the case for Northampton County in the future. The questions he feels need to be answered are: what do we do about emergency service; how do we increase telemedicine outreach; and how do we outreach medical services in general.

Ms. Carpenter indicated that the last question in particular is a concept being pursued through other localities known as “community para-Medicare”. Mr. Coady and Ms. Carpenter indicated that the helicopter volumes are quite low and do not support a permanent helicopter placement on the Shore. However, it would be an important part of this committee’s task to work on recommended helipad locations and associated facilities to support an emergency medical helicopter landing.

As a summary, Mrs. Nunez indicted that the committee, based upon its work to date, is not recommending a community access hospital or a stand-alone emergency room as a solution for our problems. The committee will continue to work on the examination and analysis of:

- (1) increased hours of service of existing facilities;
- (2) plan for helipads;
- (3) continued conversations with existing providers.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2013 @ 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Nunez
County Administrator