

SLV RETAC Minutes

March 9, 2006

Members Present:

Mona Lovato	Northern Saguache Ambulance
Lon Sawyer	Costilla EMS
Pam Gripp	Baca/Crestone Ambulance
Phil Leggitt	Mineral County Ambulance
Jim Clare	SLV Firefighters Assn.
Lorrie Crawford	SLV Citizens Corps
Jin Felmlee	Center Fire
John Gilmore	Flight for Life
Rodney King	Conejos County Ambulance
Darren Black	Del Norte Ambulance
Lora Hughes	South Fork Ambulance
Denise Stong	Conejos County Hospital
J. B. Alexander	Mineral County Ambulance
Arlyn Oakes	Monte Vista Ambulance
Jeff Babcock	Homeland Security
Dr. Norman Haug	Rio Grande Hospital
Doug Davie	County Commissioner
Jon Montano	RETAC Coordinator

Members Absent: Denise Trujillo, Ted Anderson, Dr. Hurley, Dr. Paterson, Dr. Wheeler, Deb Haverfield, Larry Zimmer, Beverly Martinez, and Bobbie Gibson.

Guests: Dave Pote – SLV Exercise Design Team, Jackie Montano – Cook on vacations for a month, Ginger Alexander – relief cook Creede Ambulance, Dr. Bill Brinton - SLV Public Health EPR, Pete Magee – SLV GIS/GPS, Ruby Garcia – SLV 211 Community Link, Shannon Odiet – Eagle Air Med.

First, kudos to Creede Ambulance and J. B. and Ginger Alexander for giving Jon and Jackie(mostly) a reprieve from always cooking for our group. The Chili, frito pies, and cookies were great.

Shannon Odiet from Eagle Air gave a short presentation on their new fixed wing stationed in Alamosa. The Valley now has a Beech King Air A90B stationed at the Alamosa Airport ready to transfer critical patients to higher levels of service in the metropolitan areas. For now, they will only be able to land in Alamosa and Monte Vista. When their crew is paged out for a transfer the Eagle Air Crew responds to the hospital in their van and packages the patient. When everything is ready for the patient to go to the airport, the local ambulance service will be

alerted. This allows local crews to remain in service until the patient is ready to be taken to the airport. They are set up to transfer pediatric, geriatric, medical, and trauma patients. They prefer neonatal and OB patients go out by specialty groups such as Children's, etc.

Pete Magee delivered GPS Units to the ambulance services at the meeting. He has graciously offered to provide training on how to use these units by going to each of the ambulance services. Please contact Pete at his office 587-0286 to set up a time for training. Funding for the Garmin Units was provided by the SLV E911 Board. Thanks to Jon for making that request.

Ruby Garcia joined our group to update us on the progress of the 211 service for the Valley. By dialing 211 or 589-0211 by cell phone you will be linked to any of 518 different services in the Valley. They can provide callers with contacts from everything from help with rent to finding a restaurant and everything in between. They can also help in disaster situations like the 'Million Fire' by fielding non-emergency type calls coming in to the 911 center. Their motto is "Linking people with needs.....to people with resources"

Financial Report – Rodney King: (See attached) M/S/P to accept the report as submitted. Pam/JB

Agency/Facility Reports:

Saguache Ambulance – Mona Lovato: Call volume has been down and they are having an open house with snacks to show off their beautiful new ambulance base on April 1, 2006 from 1:00 to 3:00. Everyone is invited.

Costilla County Ambulance – Lon Sawyer: They will be getting their new ambulance on March 23, 2006 and will donate the old unit to their fire department for extrication calls. They are still waiting on their DTRs and UHF pagers. Jon is working on these issues.

Baca/Crestone Ambulance – Pam Gripp: Their association held their annual Mardi Gras Ball and Silent Auction February 25. This year it was a benefit for the EMTs in the gulf coast who lost their homes. So far they have over \$750.00 profit to send the NAEMT Relief Fund.

Mineral County Ambulance – JB and Sheriff Leggitt: they have also been quiet probably due to lack of snow. They have ordered their new ambulance.

SLV Fire Fighters Assn. – Jim Clare: They have been working closely with law enforcement over the increase in meth labs discovered in the area. Jim is also a member of the Hazmat Team and they just received a new truck. There is now a truck in South Fork and one in Alamosa. In addition, CSP has a Hazmat Team that responds on State Highways only.

Citizens Corps – Lorrie Crawford: This group has just completed an educational flyer for the prevention of influenza. These stress hand washing and droplet isolation and are available in Spanish and English and will be handed out

at the upcoming Health Fairs. The Red Cross will be offering another CERT training the end of April or first part of May.

211 Community Link – Ruby Garcia: 211 is starting to take hold and they are getting regular calls for help. There is still much data entry going on and training of new people.

Flight For Life – John Gilmore: They are pleased to have Eagle Air as a partner in the Valley. He is very grateful for the local services to have the new GPS Units for landing the helicopters. Flight for Life has done several trainings here in the Valley with local ambulance services including Saguache, Baca, and Monte Vista.

Monte Vista Ambulance – Jackie & Arlyn: Monte is also expecting their new ambulance soon. Arlyn reported on the increase in huffing of the computer cleaner air cans. Arapahoe County has had 11 deaths of young people from this practice recently. The propellant can freeze lung tissue or occupy space in the lower lobes crowding out oxygen.

Valley Commissioners – Doug Davie: Rio Grande County has a new jail and there is an Open House March 24th & 25th from 2:00 until 6:00.

Center Ambulance – Jim Felmlee: Their call volume has been down a little too and they are pleased to report that Dr. Paterson will be the PA for Center.

SLV Public Health – Dr. Brinton: The Public Health Group is working with Jon and Homeland Security to get NIMS training to all those in the San Luis Valley who need it. They have put on several classes already and can come to individual agencies as needed. They are also offering PPE Review to local agencies.

Del Norte Ambulance - Darren Black: Del Norte has already had the opportunity to work with Eagle Air on a patient transfer and they were quite pleased with the smooth operation.

South Fork Ambulance – Lora Hughes: South Fork has had 5 calls in the past month with some unusual injuries.

Conejos County Hospital – Denise Stong: The hospital is working on an influenza disaster drill for this May. They Have had 36 call this past month. The TNC report is attached.

Rio Grande Hospital – Dr. Haug: RGH just completed an In Service on frostbite in MVAs where cold exposure is very likely. Sometimes we get blinded by other injuries and forget how important it is to keep patients warm.

Homeland Security – Captain Babcock: Pretty much business as usual with getting DTRs out to providers as well as some generators and other equipment to be distributed.

Old Business:

1. Plans/Profiles, EMS Grant – Jon has received all the agency profiles and has been paying each ambulance service as their plans are turned in to RETAC. There were only 3 State EMS Grants this year and Jon wants to encourage more participation in this opportunity.

2. NIMS 700 Training – The next training will be offered in Del Norte at the Fire Department March 14th and in Antonito at their Fire Department March 24th. Jon Montano, Don Chapman, Dave Pote, and Lorrie Crawford are all trainers.
3. Exercise Design Team – Dave Pote reports they are progressing right along with their planned Table Top disaster exercise testing out DTR protocols. Alamosa and Conejos County will be the main players this time around and it is being held at Ortega Middle School. This event will take place on April 1st.
Dave also reported on a new SLV Communications team lead by Saguache County Sheriff Mike Norris.
4. Lorrie Crawford – Website update: Lorrie reports that the Website is up and running in a minimal fashion. There is a home page, contact page, council page, and a meeting page where SLV agencies can post training opportunities available to all of us. Let Jon know if you have an event or training to post and he'll get it on the calendar.

New Business:

1. DSL Connection for RETAC Office – Not yet available
2. AED – Jon researched the need for a PA for each AED placed and there is no such entry in Rule 500. Jon ordered 18 new units with 15 of those being on a grant.
3. SLV EMS Grant Review Committee – The RETAC members on this committee will review the grants April 12th at 5:00 at the RETAC Office. Ted Anderson, Pam Gripp, Beverly Martinez, Rodney King, and Jim Felmlee are this year's volunteers.
4. Disaster Trailers – Jon would like to find good homes at locations around the Valley for these stocked trailers. They need to be in a place where insurance, licensure, registration, and maintenance will be readily available.
5. Reimbursement rates for Federal Disaster Assistance – There was discussion over RETAC voting to use current FEMA pay rates to EMS personnel and ambulance services for all Valley participants in a Federally declared disaster such as the Million Fire or disasters in other parts of the country. This item was tabled until the May meeting.

Announcements:

1. Physician Advisor List – Jon is in the process of updating the Physician Advisor list for the ambulance services in the Valley. Please send Jon contact information for your ambulance service's doctors serving as PAs.
2. LifePak 12/Auto Pulse Grant – Jon met with the Grant Review Committee and 9 of the 10 judges voted for full funding with 1 judge

dissenting. The judges will meet again and let Jon know within the month. Good Job Jon!

3. North Central EMS COOP – This is the supplies and equipment coop that all EMSAC Members may take advantage of for stocking you ambulances. By consensus RETAC members agreed to utilize their current suppliers and to pass over North Central's offer to come to our meeting for a presentation of their services.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 20:30.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting is scheduled for 18:30 on May 11th at the Monte Vista Ambulance Base

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Gripp
Acting Secretary