The Ambulance Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M. by Chairman Cassidy. Present were: Larry Cassidy, Dennis Keiser, Randy Bricker, Sr., Louis Fantini, Shawn Wonnacott and Les Atchison. William Marvin had an excused absence.

Also in attendance were Marty Krupa, County Administrator; Larry Hansen, Emmet County EMS Director; Dr. Thomas Charlton, Medical Control Authority Director; Toni Cone, Recording Secretary.

There was no public comment.

Motion made by Bricker and seconded by Fantini to approve the minutes from the Ambulance Advisory’s March 23rd, 2015 meeting.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Charlton gave a demonstration to the AAC of hands-only CPR that any bystander can use. The AAC, staff and any audience members that wished were invited to participate.

Dr. Charlton noted that coronary disease is the leading cause of death across the U.S., especially among the older population. In 2014 there were 81 cardiac events in the local MCA (Medical Control Authority), with 13 survivors. Early CPR and AED administration are the best interventions to save someone’s life. Compression-only CPR is just as beneficial as CPR utilizing rescue breathing. Charlton recommended using the beat from the song “Staying Alive” by the Bee Gees to keep the correct pace of compressions.

The MCA has obtained a grant to train businesses and others in the community. Fourteen AED’s have been obtained through a federal grant and will be available for distribution by the MCA.

EMS Director Hansen presented run information through March 31st, 2015. Run volume is very similar to last year, but transfers are up. Emmet County EMS has also turned down 50 transfer runs to-date. Attachment #1

Laura Emery, billing specialist, gave a report from a conference she attended that focused on Medicare billing, legal issues and the transition to ICD-10. Emery also became a Certified Ambulance Coder at this conference. It was noted that Medicare is the biggest insurer/rule-maker in the industry.
Hansen informed the committee that there are now eight ambulances licensed through the State of Michigan and on the roads of Emmet County and the additional service areas. Vents will be arriving soon and after the staff is trained on this equipment, EMS will be able to provide critical care transports which will be a great service for the community and also can be billed at a higher rate.

Supervisor Chris Krupa noted that he has been working with the State of Michigan on adjusting the radios obtained from Allied to make them more user-friendly.

Administrator Marty Krupa gave an update on facilities:

- The M-119 facility has a goal of completion by June 15th.
- There will be drawings of the Mackinaw City/northern location next month. A coffee hour was held in Mackinaw City with the EMS Director and had a good turnout.
- The sub-committee is working on finding a site for the Petoskey/southern location.

Hansen and Atchison discussed their meeting with the medical first responder agencies. The agency representatives noted that they need education and funding.

A first responder course will begin in September and a continuing education consortium is also being worked on.

The AAC noted that before finalizing a first responder funding program that coverage for the “donut hole” must be addressed.

Other items:
- The EMS website is up: www.emmetcountyems.org

May 17 – May 23 is EMS week and many community events will be attended by the EMS staff and ambulances.

There was no public comment.

The next Ambulance Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26th, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room, 200 Division Street, Petoskey, Michigan.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.