January 17, 2018

Chief Richter, called meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Self-introductions of all present (see attached list of attendees)

**Legislative Update**

Many bills out are out not. None that will have a definite impact on EMS. If you are not on Chief Kemp’s email list please send an email to a-emsp-subscribe@yahoo.groups.com

Federally the DEA bill passed and was signed by the President. This was a huge win for EMS nationwide. Each state will have to figure out how to enforce the rules.

Michael Davis would like to be part of a committee to define the new DEA legislative update.

Bills that may impact EMS this session:

* + 401 Bill
	+ COPCN Bill
	+ Cancer Bill
	+ Mental Health Worker’s Comp

**New business**

Cancer Prevention-questionnaire - Email was from State Fire Marshall through the A list about getting a grant for protective measures against getting cancer from suppression trucks, they will provide clean kits for units that carry water.

Everyone seemed to have a problem with Hurricane Irma and resources to include sheltering and transportation.

Succession Planning should be on every department’s agenda and who will be attending the EMSAC meeting

**Agency reports**

Stuart -Chief Dyal is retiring. They are considering a third station on the north side of the St. Lucie River due to a new development that could house 5,000 new residents, new memory care facility is also being built.

Marion County-Opioid overdose numbers have been cutting back and pressure has been put on rehabs to help clean up. Narcan use is down. New Fire Chief - hopefully changing structure in department. Hoping to get more staff and trucks. More shifts are coming. Getting new Hazmat truck and a Heavy for rescue trucks. Paramedic shortage-they are hiring single certified and sending them to fire school. They have a sign on bonus in their contract for $2500.00 first six months and $2500.00 after one year.

Pinellas County - 180,000 transports, 200,000 responses, some hiring shortage issues

Charlotte City - Paramedic shortage, hiring single certified paramedics and sending to fire school. They have a new Fire Chief as well as getting a new green city, and solar panel farm. Allegiant Airlines just purchased land in Charlotte for a new tourist destination. Charlotte would have likely see more transports for evacuations during storms from their 3200 ALF’s & Nursing homes.

Bay County - Needs nine medics-having luck getting out-of-state employees, they are sending employees to school to help them move up to Paramedics, they added two new ALS Engines, Bay County is on the west coast of Florida-Panama City.

St. Lucie County - 33,000 responses Fire District, six new rescues, five new engines. They have new leadership.

Lifeguard Ambulance - Also short on staff

Tequesta - Drug shortage-there must be some place to get meds instead of borrowing, they are working with partners in their part of the county.

Transcare - All volunteer average age is 70, 6,000 BLS runs a year, BLS numbers are up, staffing is short there as well to constant recruiting and have added five new units is twelve months

Liberty Ambulance - Paramedic shortage, they run 25 units a day

Indian River approved two new stations; Paramedic shortage; they lose 40-50% of new employees after each hire; they are getting a new Fire Chief and new Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Marshall

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Waite, Secretary

**Attendance**

Sally Waite PBC EMS

Lynette Schurter PBC EMS

Cory Richer Indian River Fire Rescue

Dave Dyal Stuart Fire Rescue

Brian Blizzard St. Lucie Cty Fire District

James Trube Tequesta Fire Rescue

Joel Medina Tequesta Fire Rescue

Scott Bendert Transcare/Crisis Center

Melissa Hiles Pinellas County

Will Sanchez Apopka Fire Department

Michael Davis Charlotte Cty Fire & EMS

Joel Welch Bay County EMS

Troy Dichard PBCFR