



South County Emergency Medical Services

Report to the Board of Oversight

March 21, 2023

Operations:

South County EMS has started coordinating with SDFD to conduct joint UTV training on their equipment. Last summer and fall SoCEMS responded to multiple incidents across multiple towns that required the extrication of patients from woods and trails. In our internal debriefings we found that the inconsistent types of off-road equipment being used lead to additional operational hurdles for EMS staff than was necessary. After reaching out to SDFD, it was agreed that they could create an orientation program on their UTV equipment, and incorporate our feedback on changes or alterations that could be made to increase patient safety. We expect that as a result of this training SDFD will be requested specifically by SoCEMS for these types of rescues whenever they may occur.

FY24 Budget:

Paramedic McComb recently presented a grant request with WRHSAC to purchase a third LP15 cardiac monitor for \$50,000 to upgrade our BLS ambulance and bring all 3 to the ALS level, and be able to provide Paramedic level response more regularly throughout the region. Unfortunately, the WRHSAC subcommittee decided not to recommend we are awarded the money, opting instead for other projects including a new pickup truck for Greenfield Fire. Our AFG grant for a replacement ambulance as well as the included micro grant for a cardiac monitor are still pending a decision.

A new FY24 draft budget (v8 dated 03/21/2023) has two updates made to it.

On the advice and recommendation of the Deerfield Town Accountant, it was noted that the IV Pump Capital request of \$7,000 paid for out of retained earnings falls under the threshold for capital, and could more easily be included within the regular budget "Medical Supplies" line item. This additional expense has been added and the retained earnings applied to the budget has been increased by the same amount, resulting in a net 0 change to the operating expenses.

More significantly, overtime costs have been revisited now that we have almost three months of operation under the new employee schedule. Since the 2 additional FT staff members were hired in March of 2022, the department has seen a 30% decrease in OT (not related to early/late calls or emergency hold-overs). Additionally, the schedule change as of January 1st 2023 has provided another 30% decrease to that. Based on these numbers, the estimated OT hours have been decreased and the corresponding line item has been reduced by \$15,000

At the previous meeting, Tim Hilchey had asked how our ratio of OT costs to regular salary costs compares to other agencies and whether it was an appropriate way of evaluating it. While there are many variables that could necessitate OT spending, perhaps the most significant one is the actual size of a department compared to how large it should be. South County EMS is unique compared to our neighbors in that our small size and minimum shift staffing of only 2 people means that any employee absence can require someone who is not otherwise scheduled to work to cover. In comparison, a larger department (with 4 people on shift at a time for instance) can absorb employee absences and not have their ability to staff an ambulance be impacted in the same way.

In doing research I was able to compile a few local departments and a municipal EMS third-service from the eastern part of the state. I found the following budgeted ratios of OT spending to normal salaries. Without expense reports I was unable to compare actual spending ratios.

Greenfield Fire:	7.3%
Northampton Fire:	8.4%
New Bedford EMS:	26.5%

Under the previous budget revision our spending ratio was 10.1% and in the most recent revision the ratio is 8%.

The final FY24 Budget presentation is scheduled for Whately on April 4th.

Scheduled 2023 Board of Oversight meetings:
Jan 17 - Feb 21 - Mar 21 - April 18 - June 20 - Sept 19 - Nov 21

Respectfully,
Chief Z. Smith

2023	Total Runs	Transports	ALS	BLS	INT	REF	OTHR	Drfld	SndInd	Whtly	Primary	Amh	Asfld	Colrn	Cnwly	Gill	Gnfd	Htfd	Lvrtt	Mont	Noho	Nfid	NwSlm	Rowe	Shlbn	TrnFls	Mutual Aid
January	102	80	70	10	1	12	9	51	22	14	87	2	1	0	3	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
February	92	63	56	7	3	21	5	44	23	17	84	0	0	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	8
March	0	0									0																0
April	0	0									0																0
May	0	0									0																0
June	0	0									0																0
July	0	0									0																0
August	0	0									0																0
September	0	0									0																0
October	0	0									0																0
November	0	0									0																0
December	0	0									0																0
Totals:	194	143	126	17	4	33	14	95	45	31	171	2	1	5	0	11	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	23

2022	Total Runs	Transports	ALS	BLS	INT	REF	OTH	DRF	SUN	WHA	Primary	Cnwly	Gnfd	Htfd	Trnrs	Mont	Lvrtt	Amh	Noho	Nthfld	Shlbrn	Nw Slm	Ashfld	Rowe	Gill	Mutual Aid	
January	115	85	69	16	1	19	10	57	31	16	104	3	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
February	79	54	43	11	1	16	8	41	20	12	73	1	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
March	87	67	61	6	0	15	5	50	19	12	81	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
April	96	69	59	10	1	22	4	45	30	12	87	3	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
May	107	74	62	12	1	23	9	52	27	12	91	2	6	1	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	16	
June	105	74	63	11	0	20	11	49	32	15	96	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	9
July	97	62	50	12	3	27	5	50	23	11	84	2	5	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	13	
August	121	79	69	10	4	31	7	60	29	14	103	4	11	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	18	
September	110	75	62	13	1	22	12	56	28	13	97	4	7	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	13	
October	92	68	57	11	1	17	6	39	24	15	78	1	10	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	
November	102	66	49	17	3	26	7	43	29	12	84	4	9	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	18	
December	105	67	56	11	1	26	11	58	21	14	93	2	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	12	
Totals:	1216	840	700	140	17	264	95	600	313	158	1071	28	77	7	9	1	3	6	6	2	2	1	1	1	1	145	

2021	Total Runs	Transports	ALS	BLS	Intercepts	Refusals	Other	Deerfield	Sunderland	Whately	Primary	Conway	Greenfield	Turners	Montague	Amherst	Hatfield	Nhmptn	Pelham	Mutual Aid
January	95	65	51	14	0	21	9	60	18	12	90	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
February	79	57	44	13	0	16	6	39	23	14	76	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
March	86	46	34	12	1	31	8	51	14	11	76	3	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	10
April	92	74	59	15	0	14	4	44	33	12	89	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
May	114	73	55	18	1	36	4	61	31	17	109	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
June	84	62	50	12	0	18	4	55	15	10	80	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
July	90	65	44	21	0	22	3	41	29	14	84	2	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	6
August	108	83	69	14	0	21	4	57	21	17	95	4	3	3	0	1	2	0	0	13
September	84	66	58	8	0	15	3	47	23	11	81	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
October	104	69	58	11	0	25	10	43	26	22	91	3	0	1	1	3	1	2	2	13
November	90	70	59	11	0	15	5	51	17	15	83	3	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	7
December	102	85	75	10	0	5	12	47	24	23	94	2	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	8
Totals:	1128	815	656	159	2	239	72	596	274	178	1048	26	26	6	2	7	9	2	2	80

2020	Total Runs	Transports	ALS	BLS	Intercepts	Refusals	Other	Deerfield	Sunderland	Whately	Primary	Conway	Greenfield	Turners	Bernardston	Amherst	Hatfield	Leyden	Shelburne	Shelburne Falls	Charlemont	Heath	Williamsburg	Leverett	Mutual Aid
January	79	57	49	8	5	15	2	28	21	19	68	3	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	11
February	101	66	54	12	4	27	4	56	24	13	93	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
March	82	56	40	16	0	22	4	50	15	12	77	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
April	65	36	32	4	0	20	9	36	18	10	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
May	70	51	41	10	1	16	2	34	22	8	64	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	6
June	86	55	39	16	0	26	5	43	32	9	84	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
July	77	55	43	12	1	19	2	38	15	19	72	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
August	101	70	55	15	0	25	6	51	19	27	97	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
September	83	53	42	11	2	22	6	29	25	24	78	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
October	91	60	48	12	0	21	10	37	27	25	89	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
November	78	55	43	12	0	19	4	42	15	15	72	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	6
December	86	62	51	11	0	17	7	51	15	16	82	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Totals:	999	676	537	139	13	249	61	495	248	197	940	22	12	6	0	6	1	3	3	3	1				59
2019	Total Runs	Transports	ALS	BLS	Intercepts	Refusals	Other	Deerfield	Sunderland	Whately	Primary	Conway	Greenfield	Turners	Other	Mutual Aid									
January	86	63	46	17	1	17	5	40	24	15	79	2	2	0	3	7									
February	90	59	38	21	1	24	6	52	21	11	84	2	3	0	1	6									
March	76	49	42	7	1	22	4	39	21	13	73	2	1	0	0	3									
April	83	62	47	15	2	14	5	38	19	21	78	3	1	0	1	5									
May	98	69	44	25	0	23	6	57	23	16	96	0	0	0	2	2									
June	83	57	40	17	1	16	9	33	21	21	75	2	0	3	3	8									
July	81	52	40	12	0	23	6	47	18	14	79	1	0	0	1	2									
August	86	64	53	11	1	15	6	49	15	21	85	0	0	0	2	2									
September	89	59	54	5	3	21	6	48	19	15	82	4	0	1	2	7									
October	95	71	55	16	3	18	3	46	21	24	91	0	1	1	2	4									
November	89	62	57	5	1	22	4	51	14	15	80	3	2	0	4	9									
December	81	50	41	9	0	27	4	38	22	16	76	2	1	1	1	5									
Totals:	1037	717	557	160	14	242	64	538	238	202	978	21	11	6	22	60									
2018	Total Runs	Transports	ALS	BLS	Intercepts	Refusals	Other	Deerfield	Sunderland	Whately	Primary	Conway	Greenfield	Turners	Amherst	Hatfield	Other	Mutual Aid							
January	113	85	56	29	3	19	6	70	25	10	105	3	3	0	0	1	0	7							
February	95	74	53	21	2	15	4	49	22	11	82	3	5	1	2	2	0	13							
March	88	60	43	17	3	18	7	51	16	11	78	5	3	0	0	0	2	10							
April	73	47	33	14	1	18	7	50	9	8	67	2	3	0	0	0	1	6							
May	103	60	48	12	6	34	3	54	22	9	85	0	14	2	0	0	2	18							
June	104	62	43	19	6	28	8	41	20	30	91	1	4	5	0	0	3	13							
July	103	72	49	23	2	23	6	45	22	15	82	5	6	2	0	3	5	21							
August	111	65	50	15	11	23	12	51	24	18	93	2	9	5	0	0	2	18							
September	89	61	49	12	5	17	6	44	13	15	72	5	5	2	0	0	5	17							
October	98	59	49	10	5	23	11	53	14	18	85	1	5	4	0	0	3	13							
November	103	60	41	19	5	28	10	46	21	19	86	2	8	1	1	1	4	17							
December	114	69	51	18	10	26	9	66	18	10	94	3	11	0	0	1	5	20							
Totals:	1194	774	565	209	59	272	89	620	226	174	1020	32	76	22	3	8	32	173							