



Public Hearing on Estimated Fees

Elizabethtown Brethren in Christ Church
996 East High Street, Elizabethtown, PA

September 28, 2023, 7-9 pm

Public Hearing Agenda

1. Welcome and Roll Call
2. Solicitor Comments / Purpose of Hearing
3. Presentation
4. Public Comment Period

What is the Municipal Emergency Services Authority of Lancaster County?

- Municipal-led administrative services authority
- Created to fund, manage and provide EMS services to member municipalities
- The local solution to our local EMS crisis

Founding Municipalities

- Conoy Township
- East Donegal Township
- Elizabethtown Borough
- Elizabeth Township
- Marietta Borough
- Mount Joy Township
- West Donegal Township

What EMS Crisis?

- EMS agencies locally and across Pennsylvania are struggling to maintain services. Why?
 - Funding shortfalls
 - Soaring costs
 - Staffing challenges

Local Example: Northwest EMS

- Widely known for outstanding service; Named EMS Agency of the Year in 2020 by PA Emergency Health Services Council
- But... facing insolvency:
 - Insurance reimbursement doesn't cover full cost of 911 emergency service calls and readiness for service
 - Less than 50% of residents contribute as subscribers
 - Increasing costs (equipment, fuel, training, benefits)

Municipalities Needed a Bold Long-Term Solution

- Municipalities are required by state law to provide EMS and were at a crossroads with services at risk
- A committee formed to study the feasibility of solutions in 2021 and identified the authority model as best path forward
- Public meetings held over several months
- Municipalities incorporated MESA February 2023

MESA: A New Community Model for EMS Services

- Locally and publicly owned and managed
- Controlled by local municipalities, not by hospital systems
- Dedicated 911 emergency service with 24/7 readiness
- Equitable, sustainable funding
- Full benefits for one mandatory fee
- Accessible leadership and public meetings
- Community has a voice

Benefits for All Residents of Member Municipalities

- 24/7 readiness to answer the call
- No residual bills for 911 emergency services if insurance pays
- 50% off 911 emergency ambulance bill if you have no insurance or if entire payment goes toward your deductible

All benefits provided for a single annual fee.

Will I Have to Pay the Annual Fee If I Have Insurance?

- Yes; Insurance reimbursements only occur on a per call basis and cover roughly half of the total cost of service
- Insurance does not cover cost of readiness for service
- Mandatory annual fee will fund balance of operational expenses, ensuring readiness for service and fiscal stability

Will MESA Replace Northwest EMS?

- Yes, MESA will be the new entity providing EMS services to member municipalities
- Will consist of the same outstanding people and deliver the same outstanding service for which NWEMS is known

New entity, new name... same NWEMS people and services!

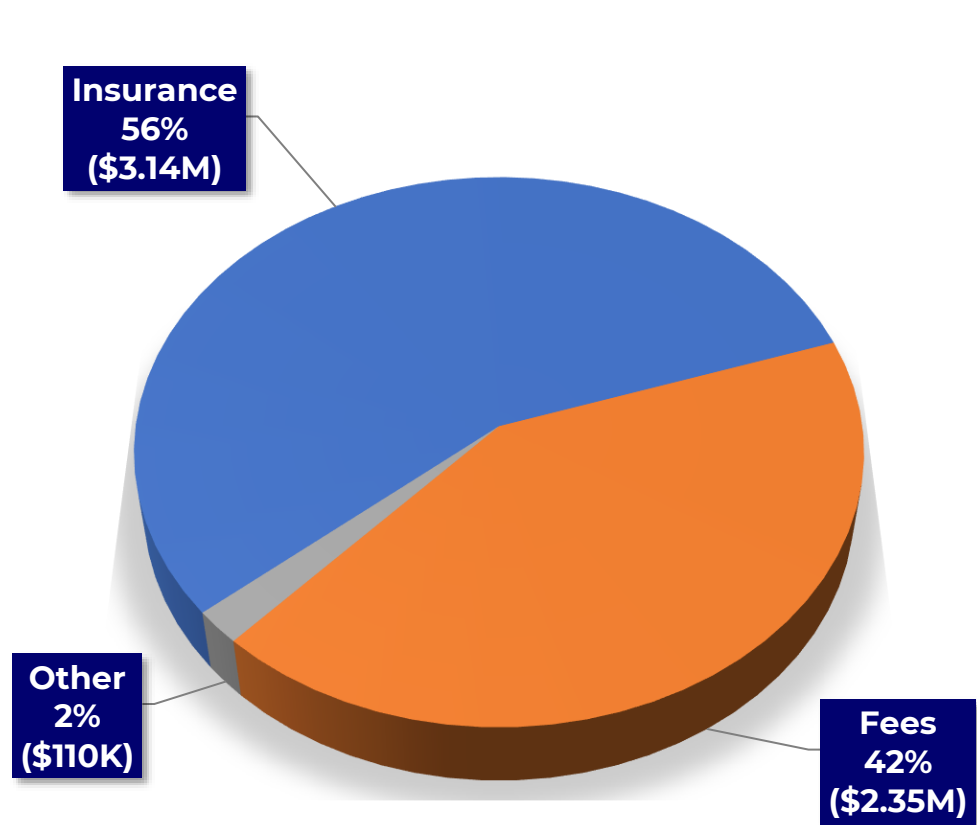
How will MESA work?

- Board of representatives from each founding municipality
- As a public government entity, board meetings are advertised and open to the public
- Instead of generating revenue through voluntary municipal contributions and subscriptions (as NWEMS does today), MESA will charge a mandatory annual fee to property owners
- Insurance reimbursement remains part of revenue model

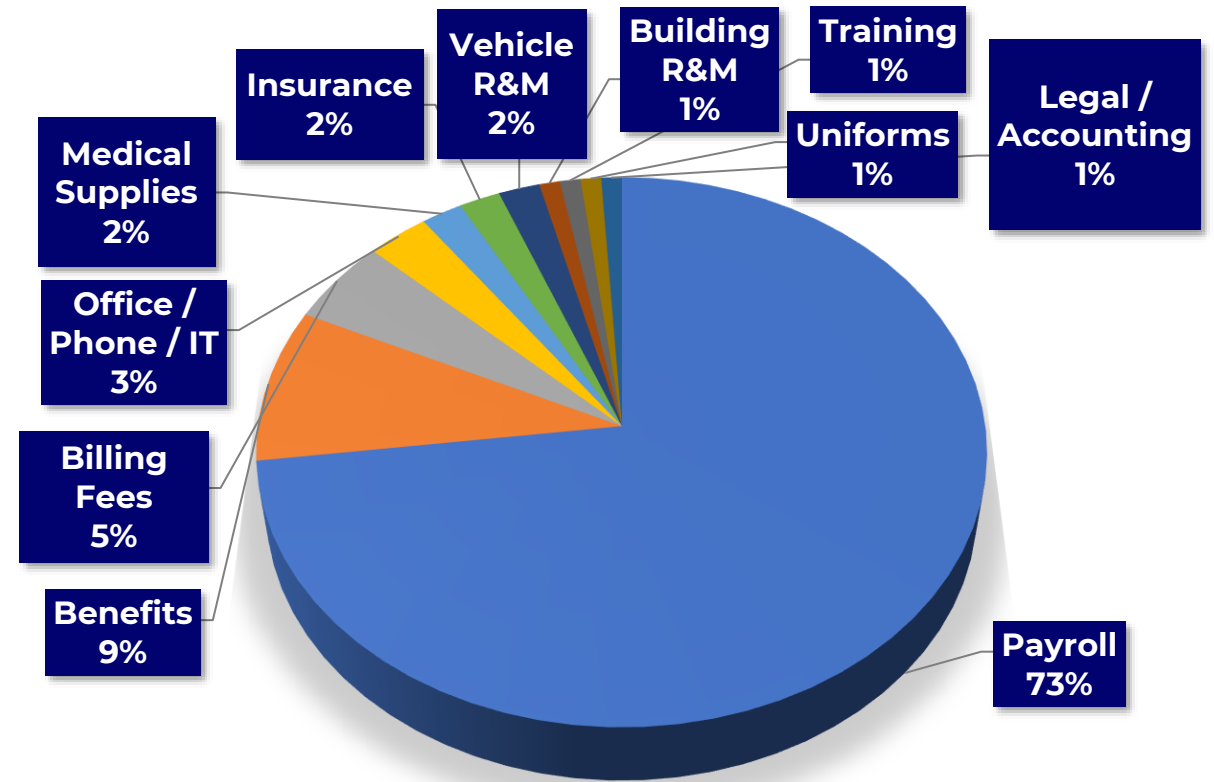
2024 Estimated Budget: \$5.6 million

- MESA Board established in consultation with a local CPA firm
- Based on NWEMS historical data and future projections
- Revenue includes projected insurance reimbursements and annual fees from property owners, businesses, organizations and institutions in member municipalities

2024 Revenue Sources



2024 Projected Expenses



Step 1


Established occupancy classifications



Occupancy Classifications				
Residential Occupancies				
Standard Dwelling Units (Single, Duplex, Towns, Apts)				
Assisted Living Residents				
Commercial/Business				
Number of FTE Employees				
Institutional/Educational				
Acute Care Nursing Beds				
Resident Student				
Public Assembly				
Event Venue Occupancy				
Special Municipal & Other				
Miles of Road (auto accidents)				

Step 2


Analyzed 2022 NWEMS call volume to calculate % of calls by occupancy class



Occupancy Classifications	% of Calls			
Residential Occupancies				
Standard Dwelling Units (Single, Duplex, Towns, Apts)	74.42%			
Assisted Living Residents	6.03%			
Commercial/Business				
Number of FTE Employees	8.84%			
Institutional/Educational				
Acute Care Nursing Beds	4.31%			
Resident Student	1.11%			
Public Assembly				
Event Venue Occupancy	0.41%			
Special Municipal & Other				
Miles of Road (auto accidents)	4.89%			

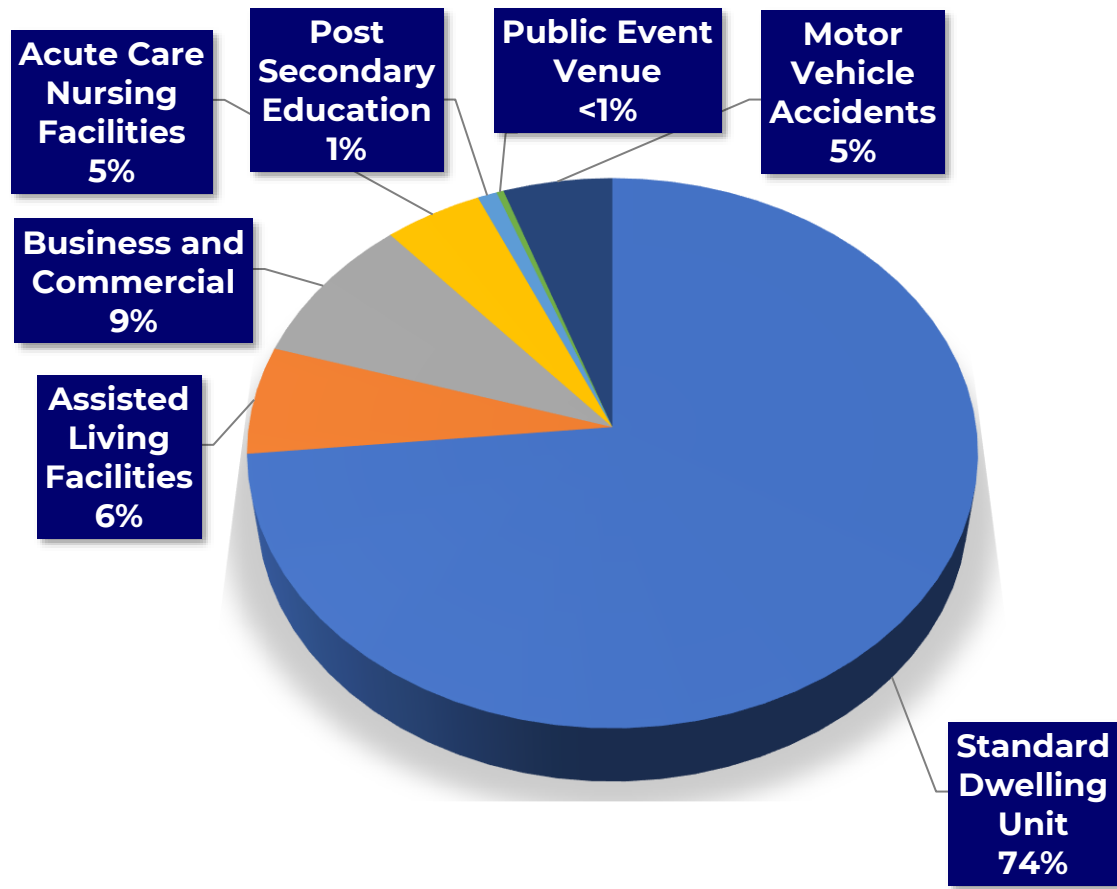
Step 3

Calculated fee revenue needed by class

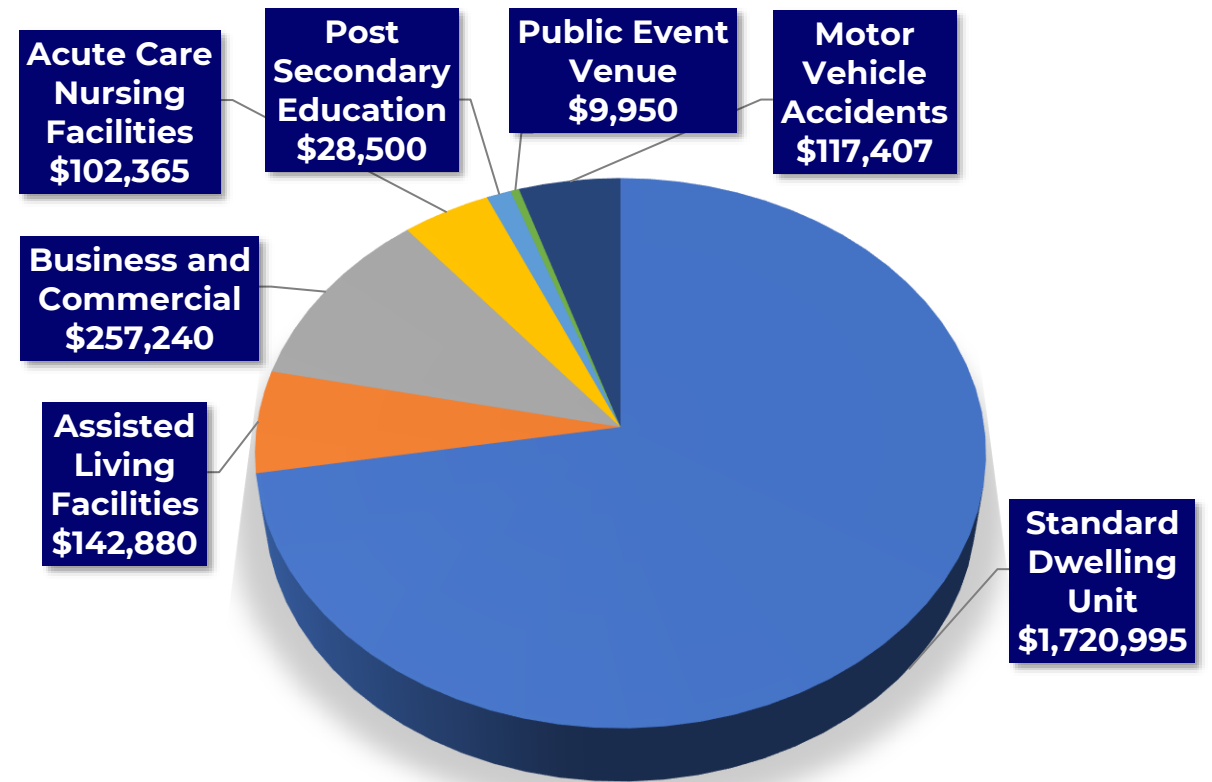


Occupancy Classifications	% of Calls	Total Fee Per Classification		
Residential Occupancies				
Standard Dwelling Units (Single, Duplex, Towns, Apts)	74.42%	\$1,720,995.00		
Assisted Living Residents	6.03%	\$142,880.00		
Commercial/Business				
Number of FTE Employees	8.84%	\$257,240.00		
Institutional/Educational				
Acute Care Nursing Beds	4.31%	\$102,365.00		
Resident Student	1.11%	\$28,500.00		
Public Assembly				
Event Venue Occupancy	0.41%	\$9,950.00		
Special Municipal & Other				
Miles of Road (auto accidents)	4.89%	\$117,450.00		

Call Volume by Classification




Total Fees by Classification




Step 4

Used local parcel, tax and municipal data to calculate # of billing units



Occupancy Classifications	% of Calls	Total Fee Per Classification	Billing Units	
Residential Occupancies				
Standard Dwelling Units (Single, Duplex, Towns, Apts)	74.42%	\$1,720,995.00	20,247	
Assisted Living Residents	6.03%	\$142,880.00	304	
Commercial/Business				
Number of FTE Employees	8.84%	\$257,240.00	25,724	
Institutional/Educational				
Acute Care Nursing Beds	4.31%	\$102,365.00	347	
Resident Student	1.11%	\$28,500.00	1,900	
Public Assembly				
Event Venue Occupancy	0.41%	\$9,950.00	1,990	
Special Municipal & Other				
Miles of Road (auto accidents)	4.89%	\$117,450.00	405	

Step 5**Calculated annual fee per unit by dividing total fee per class by # of units**

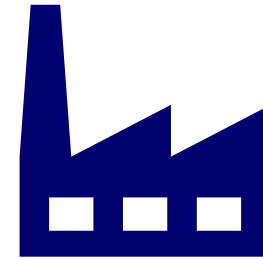
Occupancy Classifications	% of Calls	Total Fee Per Classification	Billing Units	Annual Fee Per Unit
Residential Occupancies				
Standard Dwelling Units (Single, Duplex, Towns, Apts)	74.42%	\$1,720,995.00	20,247	\$85.00
Assisted Living Residents	6.03%	\$142,880.00	304	\$470.00
Commercial/Business				
Number of FTE Employees	8.84%	\$257,240.00	25,724	\$10.00
Institutional/Educational				
Acute Care Nursing Beds	4.31%	\$102,365.00	347	\$295.00
Resident Student	1.11%	\$28,500.00	1,900	\$15.00
Public Assembly				
Event Venue Occupancy	0.41%	\$9,950.00	1,990	\$5.00
Special Municipal & Other				
Miles of Road (auto accidents)	4.89%	\$117,450.00	405	\$290.00



Residential

Per standard
dwelling unit

\$85 annual fee
(about \$7 / month)



Business

With 8 FTEs
(full-time equivalent)

\$10 x 8 =
\$80 annual fee

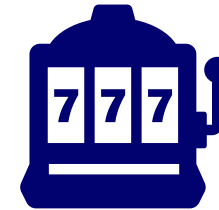
Monthly Cost for Standard Dwelling Equivalent to:



Less than
2 Gallons
of Regular



Starbucks
Pumpkin
Spice Latte



2-3
Lottery
Tickets

Fee is Authorized under Municipality Authorities Act

- The municipalities that incorporated MESA elected to fulfill their obligation to ensure the provision of EMS services by way of the Authority
- MESA was formed under Pennsylvania Municipality Authorities Act (Act 53 Pa.C.S. § 5601 - § 5623) and approved by the Commonwealth on February 7, 2023

What's Next?

- NWEMS continues to provide EMS services in Northwest Lancaster County until MESA begins operating
- MESA plans to begin operating in early 2024

Public Comment Period on Fees

- State your full name
- State your street address and municipality of residence
- Adhere to 3-minutes as a courtesy to others who wish to comment



Municipal Emergency Services
Authority of Lancaster County



mesalancasterpa.gov