

EMS Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes (Final 12-14-10)
November 18, 2010
Department of Natural Resources
Springfield, Illinois

Call to order, Mike Hansen 11:10am

Roll Call & Approval of Minutes

Present: Kevin Bernard, Don Davids, Melissa Dunning, Randy Faxon, Ralph Graul, Michael Hansen, Stephen Holtsford, David Loria, Connie Mattera, Mary Ann Miller, Annie Moy, Brad Robinson, Kathleen Schmidt, Douglas Sears, Herbert Sutherland, Jack Whitney, Thomas Willis, Bill Wood

Absent: Glenn Aldinger to Mike Hansen, Richard Fantus, Marc Levison, George Madland, Terry Pool, Thomas Stecher

Call for the approval of the minutes from the August meeting. Motion made by Dr. Whitney second by Bill Wood, all in favor – Yes. Minutes stand as approved.

Division of EMS Report, Jack Fleeharty

Acknowledged reappointments and new member(s).

State EMS protocols approved by the EMS council; The council would like to see BLS protocols recommended as the minimum criteria for systems to adopt and modify as needed. EMSC protocols are not mandated. Mike will address to the Protocol Committee Meeting how to proceed.

Pre-hospital Data Program:

- Web-based run report software was made available to EMS providers in Regions 1 and 5 in September, as part of a pilot program. Many providers have installed and evaluated the application. Several in providers in Region 5 were given the green light to begin sending live data. We expect to open the web-based program up to all providers statewide by the end of the year.
- Sample data was sent to NEMSIS for evaluation and only minor issues were found and resolved. We expect to begin submitting real-world data to NEMSIS by the end of the year.
- The EMS Data Committee met in September and had a useful exchange of information. The committee plans to continue meeting on a regular basis.

Emergency Medical Services for Children:

Federal EMSC Performance Measures

- The Federal EMSC program has defined several performance measures that are aimed to improve each state's pediatric EMS and hospital preparedness. Last month we sent out an online survey to a random selection of EMS agencies and hospitals in Illinois to assess the following areas: pediatric online/offline medical direction, pediatric equipment/supplies on ambulances, hospital inter-facility transfer agreements and transfer guidelines. The survey will help the Federal EMSC program assess our state progress in achieving each of these measures. The November 5th deadline for survey completion has been extended. If you have received correspondence or been contacted regarding this survey, please take a few minutes to complete the survey.

Pediatric Facility Recognition

- Pediatric hospital site surveys are currently being conducted in Region 7 and will continue through early December.
- Pediatric renewal applications were mailed out to Region 2 hospitals last month and an educational session was held for these hospitals to review the facility recognition renewal process. Their renewal applications are due on Friday, February 4th and site surveys will then take place in the spring/early summer 2011.
- Region 8 hospitals will also undergo pediatric recognition renewal in 2011 and will be contacted with further timeline information.

Pediatric Education

- EMSC is sponsoring a School Nurse Emergency Care (SNEC) course in January and February 2011 at Harper College in Palatine. This course is team taught by school nurses, emergency department nurses and EMS personnel, and provides school nurses with pediatric emergency and disaster preparedness education and resources.
- Planning for 2011 Summer School Nurse Courses is underway.

Disaster Preparedness

- Updates are being made to the EMSC booklet titled "*Instructional Guidelines for Use of SNS Ventilators in the Pediatric Patient*". Pediatric specific information on the newest SNS ventilator (LTV 1200) is being added to this booklet, and the final version should be available before the end of the year.
- EMSC is developing a set of guidelines and instructional materials to assist hospitals with Pediatric Mock Codes and Pediatric Rapid Response Team development to support their pediatric preparedness activities.

Data

- EMSC worked with IDOT's Crash data and developed 11 fact sheets that contain statistics and other information related to traffic safety and motor vehicle incidents in Illinois. These fact sheets are available on the Illinois EMSC website.

Trauma Program Updates:

Work continues on replatforming the Trauma Registry program. Adelisa Orantia and Shane Clontz conducted training of the trauma registry for new users on November 5, 2010. Next training is December 7, 2010 at DNR.

Testing Program Updates:

- GLSuites software was upgraded last fall and IDPH spent considerable time get working out some other issues. The upgrades have improved our ability to accept and process much larger testing loads with far fewer errors.
- Darlene Thorpe and Jack met with Continental Testing Services at LaGrange to discuss our current processes and testing procedures. We believe we can simplify some of the processes, reduce paper work and frustration for the EMS Coordinators and lead instructors while still meeting our requirements. We will propose changes to these processes at some point in the future and meet with all of the System Coordinators to share information and ideas before the changes are implemented.

EMS System Coordinator Training:

We need formal training of our GLSuites licensing software for all new EMS System Coordinators. We will be working on a training program to bring new coordinators to Springfield and brief them on licensing policies, use of the EMS licensing system and testing policies.

Ambulance Licensing Program:

Mike Epping has been attending the Emerging Issues Subcommittee meetings as the EMS liaison. EMS staff was provided with the new NFPA ambulance build standards and will be reviewing those internally, as well as with the Emerging Issues Subcommittee. We are gearing our GLSuites licensing software to be able to license the Stretcher Vans. These Rules are drafted and after review at the Governor's Office they will go to the EMS Advisory Council.

Specialty Emergency Medical Service Vehicles (Helicopters, Boats, Etc.):

We will continue to work with the Illinois Air Critical Care Transport Association and the Illinois Department of Aeronautics toward the continued improvement of the Helicopter Emergency Medical Services program. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has a major project underway that also addresses Air Medical Transportation safety issues. IDPH would like to upgrade its rules and regulations to reflect some of the recommendations that will be forthcoming. State Representative Don Moffitt has offered his help in this area.

Regional Issues:

Stroke

- We plan to review the final draft of the Stroke rules on December 1st and hopefully send them to the State Stroke Advisory Subcommittee for review. We still have a couple of positions that need applications submitted for the State Stroke Advisory Committee. The membership list for the Subcommittee has been forwarded to the Director's office for approval.

- Region 11 has submitted a Stroke Transport protocol to the State for approval. They have completed their educational components with their associate hospitals and we should be able to approve that protocol shortly.

STEMI

- We have worked many months with Region 8 on their STEMI protocol. The MOU and the Protocol are pretty much completed. They are still detailing their Data Sharing Agreements and we hope this protocol can be implemented in the very near future.

Trauma

- Three hospitals in St Louis have completed their application requirements for Adult and Pediatric Trauma Center Designation. We will be preparing initial visits with those hospitals. We also have hospitals in Evansville, Indiana we are working with on Trauma Applications. We will be completing another 12 re-designation visits for trauma hospitals starting in February 2011 which will run through April.

Legislative Draft Rules:

Draft rules are at the Governor's office for the following areas: Military Education Bill; Stretcher Van licensure; Reinstatement of Licenses (Representative Figenholtz's bill); Reserve Ambulances Licensure Fees.

Draft rules with our legal staff for review are: EMSC for Children updated rules; and Participation of Veterans Facilities to participate in EMS Systems.

Rules still being formatted, written or reviewed within our agency include: Updates to the Trauma Nurse Core Curriculum (will need help from Mary Beth Voights); formatting of the Critical Care Transport program rules; and Head, Spinal Cord and Violent Injury Grant Fund rules.

Strategic Planning:

EMS Division will be assigning specific areas of the plan to our staff and will be working with our external partners as we move forward towards attaining our short term goals.

Education:

IDPH would like to work with the State Education committee on the development of some timelines for the implementation of the New Educations Standards. We are receiving inquiries about when programs can start using the new standards. We will also need the Test Writing Committee to plan some meetings so we can work on test questions to address the changes in the curricula from the DOT curricula to the New Education Standards. We will be in the position to extend the 2013 deadline to transition the EMT-Intermediates. We were advised at the NASEMSO conference that the National Registry will recognize the EMT-Intermediates beyond 2018.

Addressing the EMT-Intermediate transition, Jack met with a concerned group of providers from Region 6 and the St Mary's System. Gregg Scott with McClean County has volunteered to assist our agency with an impact study. Jack is sure there are many services in Region 5 we will need to

meet with, as well as the Illinois Ambulance Association. We still need to revise our continuing education guidelines document. Jack thought that the State Education Committee was going to assist EMS with that as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – EMS

Legislative & Planning – Mike Hansen

No meeting last quarter; plan to meet 1st quarter 2011.

EMS Rules & Regulations – Mike Hansen

No recent meeting.

State EMS Protocols – Annie Moy

No meeting.

EMS Data – Mike Hansen

17 members attended at 9/20 meeting. Jack and Dan Lee are working on data collection and other issues.

The EMS Data Committee would like to be involved in decision making processes when changing the data element set to look at the impact regarding software vendors. Dan will continue to work with EMS Data Systems and 3rd party vendors towards the collection of the new NEMSIS pre-hospital data elements.

Contact Dan Lee for bubble sheet troubleshooting and problem with scanners' ability to read. E-mail to EMS Data Solutions and copy Dan when having issues regarding these matters.

EMS Education – Connie Mattera, RN

The National Association of EMS Educators symposium was in Illinois in September; next year's will be in Reno, Nevada.

Educator Classes set for 2011: Bloomington, March 18-20 at the college; Carbondale, July 29-31; and Elmhurst, September 30-October 2 (locations to be confirmed).

Tentatively planned: May 2011 for Lead Instructor classes, NAEMSE workshop and Level 2 classes.

Connie Mattera addressed concerns about CPR questions needing to be pulled out of the EMT-B exams. Testing will cover the new National EMS Education Standard Curricula by 2013.

Transition plan was completed and sent out via e-mail October 2010.

ALS teaching organizations are completing their self-studies in preparation for accreditation surveys.

Next Committee meeting in January 2011.

EMS Recruitment and Retention

No Report

Tactical EMS - Patti Lindemann

No Report

Emerging Issues - Mary Ann Miller

Last meetings were 9/27 and 10/25. Next meeting is 12/13 at Superior Ambulance in Elmhurst.

Stretcher Van Rules are at Governor's Office; the Council will receive them once they're returned.

HB 1665 (Care for Students with Diabetes Act) is now Law. INA to draft spring legislation to make more comprehensive health care plan for all school age children.

Region 8 STEMI issues and Stroke Rules and Regulations are being monitored.

EMT Database Sharing - George Madland wants a State database open to everyone regarding licensure of all EMTs to share suspension, corrective action and other work situations amongst the regions and systems. The 66,000 records in database are protected and every EMS System/Coordinator has special access. Jack recommended each system consider adopting a policy that medics must report past and present suspension or corrective actions as part of their system participation agreement.

EMT-I and Rural issues, Greg Scott is the Chair.

An agenda topic under discussion addresses issues regarding resource hospitals charging fees for participation to ambulance providers. The committee will host ongoing discussions about if those fees are sanctioned by law.

Strategic Plan review is ongoing.

NEW BUSINESS – EMS

Invite NEDARC to Illinois to evaluate current EMS data collection. Will be referred to the EMS Data Committee.

Rule Amendments

Felony Convictions

An additional meeting is needed to discuss pending Administrative Rules before the March 2011 meeting already scheduled. Work with Tammy and look at teleconference possibility.

Initiative from EMS Advisory Council – HB 5183: Starting 1/1/2011 must report new felony convictions. The new license application will have to report any prior felony convictions. No automatic revocation process is implied; any person denied under the new law will be offered a full administrative hearing process.

Open discussion ensued about persons with felony convictions who apply to EMS educational programs. Through those discussions, it was discovered that students have been applying for waivers through the IDPH hospital section to complete clinicals in licensed hospitals. A motion was made to approve the proposed Felony Conviction language. Motion to support made by Bill Wood, 2nd by Ralph Gaul, all YES, by Council and passed.

EMS Representative on Stroke Sub-Committee Vote

Kevin Barnard was nominated to sit on the State Stroke Sub-committee.

Motion on floor, Dr. Whitney 1st, Dr. Holtsford 2nd, none opposed.

Strategic Plan

Invite NEDARC to Illinois to look at the plan to evaluate strengths, weaknesses and give us a roadmap to better compliance. No charge to Illinois.

The EMS Data Committee recommends to the EMS Advisory Council that we request a site visit for the Spring 2011. Questions were raised about plans to have the NEDARC site visit before all the vendors have achieved successful submission of data. Dan Lee is working with all vendors to become NEMSIS compliant by the 1st of the year (2011).

Need approval from the Board subject to conference with Dan Lee.

Motion by Connie to meet for analysis; 2nd by Randy Faxon.

All those in favor – Yes, no opposition, no neutral

HB 6065

No action.

HATZALAH

Currently there are students at EMT-B level at Malcolm X College. Looking for BLS Non-Transport capability through Illinois Masonic. St. Francis System was contacted and had a lot of questions about processes but they had no answers for the system, 1st Responders and EMTs for non-transport. They were invited to their meeting.

Removing “Certified Paramedic” from Illinois Vehicle Code for DUI Blood Draws

IL Fire Chiefs are looking for legislative issues for next year:

Greg says that the language said certified; difference between certified vs. licensed.

Mike noted that the language was changed to Licensed.

Motion to remove by Bill Wood, 2nd by Kevin Bernard.

Dedicated Funding Source for EMS

Some nursing associations think they're paying for EMS and we need to do some damage control in the nursing community. It was recommended that we provide more information as to what the license fee is for.

The appropriation from the Fire Marshall's fund is being reduced and we predict we will come up short \$200,000-\$300,000 and will be dependent upon GRF funding. Consideration of alternative cost cutting measures such as moving away from mailing licenses, different ways to approach the licensing process should be considered.

Mary Ann Miller recommended that IDPH put out a press release to explain the upcoming fees.

Jack advised that the cost for the CTS contract is \$438,000 year and that includes Dr. Rogers' cost, 3 licensure staff and the database upkeep.

Bill Woods proposed a new tire tax \$2, \$1 oil change and non-transport inspection fee \$5.

Mike Hansen stated that systems in Chicago are looking to charge providers up to \$10,000 to be in their system.

Jack Fleeharty said that this is not a new concept; these practices have been done in the past and are done by other systems.

Mike Hansen will get with Bill to discuss further.

Mike was looking for consensus from the Board.

EMS License Plate

Have 303 people signed up; need 1,500 to get this plate in process. The plate is associated with a scholarship. May not be able to post on IDPH website; may send it to systems and they can post it. The Facebook page had enough people interested but not when they had to pay a non-refundable fee to a special fund in advance for the plate; those individuals have been contacted again.

We have one year from the time it's passed to get the needed number of people to process the plate.

Trauma Report

When we agreed to separate, we thought EMS Advisory would get a trauma report? Dr. Fantas was not in attendance today. Mike will request to have a written or verbal Trauma report.

Future Meeting Dates

March 10

June 2

September 15

November 15

Emergent Stroke, Peggy Jones

Peggy Jones with ICAHN provided the following report. Finishing 1st year of Grant - 21 hospitals are participating to become emergent stroke ready; ESRH certified

Webinar on 12/6/10 (Free, but must register): CMEs for stroke team, pharmacists and physicians

Motion to adjourn by Mary Ann Miller, 2nd by Ralph Gaul.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.