

**State Emergency Medical Services Board**  
**April 8, 2008**  
**Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Victor A. Broccolino, Vice-Chairman; David Fowler, M.D.; Chief Scott Graham; David Hexter, M.D.; Sally Showalter; Roger Simonds; Eugene L. Worthington; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N.

**Board Members Absent:** Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq., Chairman; E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.

**Others Present:**

**MIEMSS:** Dr. Bass; Ms. Alban; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Beachley; Mr. Brown; Mr. Davis; Mr. Dubansky; Ms. Fechter; Mr. Slack; Ms. Gainer; Ms. Gilliam; Mr. Handley; Mr. Hurlock; Mr. Marshall; Ms. Magee; Ms. Myers; Mr. Schaeffer; Mr. Seifarth; Mr. Young.

**OAG:** Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

**Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute:** Steve Edwards.

**Maryland State Firemen's Association:** Frank Underwood, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.

**Maryland State Police Aviation Command:** Captain Dan Cornwell; Mike Gartland, Senior MSP Pilot.

**R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center:** Robbie Hartsock; Jaime Huggins; Brenda Fosler Johnson; Jim Radcliff; John Spearman.

**Other Attendees:** Brandon Clark.

**INTRODUCTION**

SEMSAC Chairman Simonds called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

**Action: Moved (Chief Graham), seconded (Ms. Showalter), passed unanimously to approve as written the minutes of the February 12, 2008, meeting of the State EMS Board.**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Draft National EMS Education Standards. MIEMSS continues to monitor the status of the EMS education standards project and participated in the national stakeholder's

meeting held in February. The latest draft (version 3.0) is available for public comments; the next draft is scheduled to be published by August 2008. The final standards are targeted to be completed in January 2009, after which it will take approximately one to two years to develop the textbook materials based on these new standards.

EMS Week. EMS Week will take place May 18<sup>th</sup> through May 24<sup>th</sup>. The theme for the week is “EMS: Your Life is Our Mission.” MIEMSS continues planning for the annual Stars of Life program which recognizes Maryland’s outstanding responders, programs, and citizens and the Right Care When it Counts program for children which recognizes children who have made a difference in the care of others. The awards will be given during EMS Week.

Bystander Care. Eleven (11) new Bystander Care Program Instructors completed their training at the Miltenberger Conference in February. Newly revised instructional materials have been distributed to instructors. The next instructor’s class is scheduled for May 3. The *Roadway Incident Safety for First Responder* seminars were held in Regions III, IV, and V, with excellent attendance. Regions I and II are scheduled for their programs on May 10 and 17 respectively. These programs are funded by the Bystander Care Program grant from the Maryland Highway Safety Office.

CHATS. Dr. Bass reported that MIEMSS continues to work toward updating CHATS and FRED. He said that MIEMSS has purchased “HC Standard” to support both of these functions. He said that he anticipated that replacement of the current CHATS with the updated version would occur within several weeks.

Acute Cardiac Interventional Centers (STEMI). Dr. Bass reported that MIEMSS was continuing to develop draft regulations for the designation of STEMI centers. These hospitals will receive ambulance-transported patients with acute ST-elevation myocardial infarction who needed rapid primary percutaneous coronary intervention.

## **SEMSAC REPORT**

No report.

## **SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER REPORT**

Mr. Spearman distributed the written Shock Trauma Report to Board members. He noted that patient admissions for March were at the same level as March 2007. Bed occupancy for the month was higher (95.4) than the previous year, with OR cases slightly lower. He said that there had been one capacity alert during the month because beds were full. He also summarized STC’s educational programs for the third quarter FY

2008. He reminded the Board that the Shock Trauma Gala is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup> at the Baltimore Convention Center.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Ms. Gainer distributed a written Legislative Report on the 2008 Session of the General Assembly to the Board. She presented the report which summarized the Legislature's final actions on agency budgets, various issues and bills of interest. Among the bills that passed were the following: creation of an ATV Safety Task Force to develop a consensus approach for changes in Maryland ATV laws; repeal of the statutory \$100 cap for EMS transports under Medicaid; improvements to MIEMSS' Public Access AED Program; changes to immunity from liability for AED use; and expanded eligibility for reimbursement from the Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund, as well as establishment of a permanent equipment grant program for Level II and III trauma centers. Ms. Gainer thanked the Board, MIEMSS staff, the Maryland State Firemen's Association, the Shock Trauma Center and others for all their efforts and hard work during the legislative session.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Trauma Triage and Transport. Dr. Bass briefed the Board on national trends in trauma triage and recent updates to the Maryland Trauma Triage criteria that are reflected in Maryland's trauma decision algorithm. He said that Maryland closely tracks the national experience in terms of the approach to trauma triage and the use of trauma centers for patients with serious injuries or significant mechanisms of injury. He said that in 2007, Maryland's trauma triage protocol was revised to include criteria for the use of helicopters. He said the criteria indicated that, in general, the use of a helicopter transport does not result in quicker transport times if the receiving facility is within a 30-minute drive-time by ground ambulance. He said that MIEMSS has been working with the Jurisdictional Advisory Committee and EMS providers to improve the effective use of helicopters for scene transports. He said that MIEMSS was able to identify the 30-minute drive-time transport area for each trauma center. He said that MIEMSS had started working with jurisdictions to follow-up on scene patients within that 30-minute drive-time who had been transported by helicopter to determine the reason for the use of a helicopter, instead of an ambulance for transport. He noted that helicopter scene transports have declined by 10% since FY04 and the trend appears to be continuing. Dr. Bass said he would continue to provide periodic updates to the Board on this initiative.

Freestanding Emergency Medical Facilities. Ms. Sette reported that the proposed changes to COMAR 30.08.15 regarding Freestanding Emergency Medical Facilities had been published in the *Maryland Register* on February 8, 2008, and that no comments had been received.

**Action: Moved (Dr. Hexter), seconded (Ms. Showalter), passed unanimously to approve the proposed changes to COMAR 30.08.15 as final regulations.**

Documents Incorporated by Reference. Mr. Magee reported that the proposed changes to COMAR 30.01.02 to incorporate by reference the current Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers and Maryland Trauma Registry Data Dictionary had been published in the *Maryland Register* on February 1, 2008, and that no comments had been received.

**Action: Moved (Dr. Hexter), seconded (Mr. Broccolino), passed unanimously to approve the proposed changes to COMAR 30.01.02 as final regulations.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Distributive Learning. Mr. Edwards reported that the Legislature had approved \$650,000 in the FY2009 Capital Budget for the design, renovation and construction of improvements to its North East Regional Training Center located at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds. He then discussed MFRI's efforts to establish a distributive learning course for the EMT Refresher. He said that MFRI was working to respond to requests from both the volunteer and career communities to move educational programs into the distance learning arena. In response, MFRI has arranged for an on-line 12-hour portion (of 24 hours total) of the EMT Refresher Course. He said that he anticipated significant interest in the online refresher course since about 6,000 EMTs each year require refresher training. He said that, as planned, approximately 1,000 EMTs would participate in the online course during a six-month period from July – December, and that this initial course would be evaluated to determine how well the online approach worked. He noted that the online training had been custom-designed for Maryland.

## **ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Action: Moved (Mr. Broccolino), seconded (Ms. Van Hoy), passed unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session and then to reconvene in Open Session.**

The purpose of the closed session was to carry out administrative functions under State Government Article §10-502(b), to hear exceptions filed in a disciplinary matter, consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on pending disciplinary actions under State Government Article §10-508(7), to consult with staff and counsel on pending litigation under State Government Article §10-508(8), to maintain certain records and information in confidence as required by Health Occupations Article §14-506 (b) and COMAR 30.08.02.05(B)(9) under State Government Article §10-508 (13) and to discuss matters under executive privilege.

The closed session was attended by the following:

Board Members Present: Victor A. Broccolino, Vice-Chairman; David Fowler, M.D.; Chief Scott Graham; David Hexter, M.D.; Sally Showalter; Roger Simonds; Eugene L. Worthington; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N.

Others present: Dr. Alcorta, Ms. Beachley; Mr. Dubansky; Ms. Gainer, Ms. Sette, Mr. Magee; Mr. Schaefer; and Mr. Brandon Clark.

Disciplinary cases, matters covered by executive privilege, and confidential medical reviews of applicants for primary stroke center designation were discussed, as were applicants for approval as EMS educational programs.

### **RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

Educational Programs. Mr. Seifarth presented the CCBC – Essex Program and the UMBC Program each for five-year approval as an ALS Educational Program and the Prince George’s Fire Department for provisional one-year approval as an ALS Educational program.

**Action: Moved (Mr. Broccolino), seconded (Ms. Van Hoy), passed unanimously to approve the CCBC – Essex Program and the UMBC Program each for five-year approval as an ALS Educational Program and the Prince George’s Fire Department for provisional one-year approval as an ALS Educational program.**

Primary Stroke Center Approval. Mr. Young presented the Howard County General Hospital for five-year approval as a Primary Stroke Center.

**Action: Moved (Ms. Van Hoy), seconded (Dr. Fowler), passed to approve the five-year designation of the Howard County General Hospital as a Primary Stroke Center. Mr. Broccolino abstained.**

Mr. Young presented the Calvert Memorial Hospital for five-year approval as a Primary Stroke Center.

**Action: Moved (Dr. Hexter), seconded (Mr. Broccolino), passed to approve the five-year designation of the Calvert Memorial Hospital as a Primary Stroke Center. Ms. Showalter abstained.**

Mr. Young presented the Civista Hospital for provisional one-year approval as a Primary Stroke Center.

**Action: Moved (Dr. Hexter), seconded (Ms. Van Hoy), passed to approve the provisional one-year designation of the Civista Hospital as a Primary Stroke Center.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

**Action: Moved (Mr. Broccolino), seconded (Dr. Fowler), passed unanimously to adjourn.**