

**Emergency Medical Services Board
July 14, 2009
Minutes**

Board Members Present: Victor A. Broccolino, Vice-Chairman; Chief Scott Graham; David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Eugene L. Worthington;; Dean E. Albert Reece, M.D., PhD.; Sally Showalter.

Board Members Absent: Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq.; David Fowler, M.D.

Others Present

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Ms. Alban; Ms. Beachley; Mr. Brown; Mr. Dubansky; Ms. Fechter; Dr. Floccare; Ms. Gainer; Ms. Magee; Ms. Myers; Mr. Schaefer; Mr. Seifarth; Mr. Tosti.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

Maryland State Police Aviation Command: Major McAndrew; Mike Gartland.

R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center: Brenda Fosler Johnson; Jaime Huggins.

MSFA: Mr. Cox.

University of Maryland Medical Center: Jeff Rivest, President & CEO; John Spearman.

INTRODUCTION

Vice-Chairman Broccolino called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. and reminded Board members to declare any conflicts of interest.

Action: Moved (Dr. Reece), seconded (Ms. Van Hoy), passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board’s open session on June 9, 2009, meeting with the correction that “midazolam,” “diazepam,” and “lorazepam” should not be capitalized.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

STEMI. Dr. Bass reported that MIEMSS continues its efforts to develop a revised draft of the STEMI regulations. He said that a revised draft of the regulations would be available for the next Board meeting.

AED Task Force. Dr. Bass reported that the AED Task Force met July 13th. The Task Force discussed current state and national legislative AED initiatives and whether potential changes to Maryland's AED statutes should be considered.

Budget Planning. Dr. Bass said that on July 10th, MIEMSS had recently held a day-long meeting of MIEMSS leadership and directors regarding agency priorities and budget planning.

Staff Changes. Dr. Bass reported that David Balthis, who is retiring as a Battalion Chief from Howard County, will be joining MIEMSS as the Chief of Information Technology and Communications. He said that Mr. Balthis will be responsible for SYSCOM / EMRC, Communications, IT and Data.

REPORT OF THE STATEWIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Dr. Kalish reported that SEMSAC did not meeting in July.

REPORT OF THE R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER

Ms. Fosler reported that Shock Trauma Center admissions for the just-ending fiscal year were 121 behind the last year and 70 behind budget. She said that bed occupancy increased in June and that the number of operating room cases was 67 fewer than last year. She said that there had been two capacity alerts in June. She also summarized Shock Trauma's educational efforts during the past twelve months, which included ALS Skills Labs and Observation Programs for EMS providers.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Broccolino introduced Mr. Jeff Rivest, President & CEO of the University of Maryland Medical Center.

Mr. Rivest summarized UMMC Phase IV expansion project; he said a Certificate of Need application will be submitted on or about August 1, 2009. Mr. Rivest said that the Medical Center is reaching a critical situation regarding critical care bed capacity and that the expansion project will assist in meeting this and other critical needs. He said that the project was part of a comprehensive strategy plan that examined how best to meet patient and physician needs. He said that based on likely population growth and an aging population in central Maryland, the UMMC volume was projected to significantly increase through FY16.

Mr. Rivest said that the planned expansion will reconfigure the emergency department to improve capacity and flow and seven (7) new operating rooms would be added, as well as

48 new ICU / IMU beds. He said that the expansion plan envisioned establishing a National Trauma and Emergency Medicine Center. He summarized the sources of funding for the proposed plan as well as the layout of the various floors of the proposed new building. He indicated that the project has been designed with energy efficiency and environmental concerns in mind. He said that he hoped that the project would be completed in time to be opened in 2013.

Mr. Broccolino asked whether the \$150 million projected budget was all-inclusive. Mr. Rivest indicated that it was all-inclusive. Dr. Kalish asked whether any EMSOF monies would be used for the project. Mr. Rivest responded that EMSOF monies would not be sought for this project.

Dr. Hexter asked about the plans for expansion into other geographic areas in the state. Mr. Rivest said that they were looking for right partnerships so as to minimize capital investments, but maximize relationships. He said that there were no current plans to make significant capital investments in outlying areas, unless those are funded from those hospitals' balance sheets.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed Helicopter Base Move from Centreville to Easton. Dr. Bass said that as requested by the Board, community meetings had been held in Chestertown and Easton to solicit public input on the potential move of the Trooper 6 base from Centreville to the Easton Airport.

Major McAndrew said that at the Chestertown meeting, some concern was expressed about a small geographic space that would be outside of the 25-minute response time for Trooper 1 and Trooper 6. He said that the MSP had been tracking the number of calls that had occurred in this space and had found only seven (7) calls over a period of several months; he indicated, however, that there had been concerns that the monitoring did not include the summer months which might be busier. He said that while a few attendees to the meeting expressed opposition to the potential move, by end of hearing, most of those in attendance were convinced that there was a valid case to be made regarding the improved safety available at the Easton Airport. Major McAndrew said that in just the last few days, he had received a request from the Kent County Council for a briefing on the proposed move. He said that he would brief the Council as soon as it could be scheduled.

Major McAndrew said that those who attended the meeting in Easton were very supportive of the proposed move. He said that one person in attendance raised concerns

about the potential for increased noise from the helicopters. He also indicated that at the Easton meeting, he had raised the issue that the hanger at Easton would require some modifications to be able to accommodate MSP crew. He said that one area of remaining concern is the potential impact on Trooper 1 with the continued closure of Trooper 8, particularly for areas north of Centreville where T1 would become the closer unit, but might be unavailable if it was responding to calls in the Trooper 8 area, particularly in the summer when higher call volumes are typical.

Regarding the hangar modifications, Major McAndrew indicated that the addition of two bunk rooms would make the hangar more accommodating for MSP crews who may stay for several days straight. He also said that currently, there is no fire escape. Major McAndrew said that the facility at Centreville was owned by QA County and it would likely be used for county purposes if the MSP vacated.

Chief Graham made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Showalter, to continue to proceed with planning for the potential move unless significant concerns are raised. The Board passed the motion.

Action: Moved (Ms. Van Hoy), seconded (Dr. Hexter), and passed unanimously to adjourn to Closed Session and thereafter return to Open Session.

The purpose of the closed session was to carry out administrative functions under State Government Article §10-502(b), to obtain legal advice from counsel under State Government Article § 10-508 (a) (7) and to discuss certain site reviews and maintain certain records and information in confidence as required by Health Occupations Article §14-506 (b) under State Government Article § 10-508(a) (13).

The closed session was attended by:

Board Members Present: Victor A. Broccolino, Vice-Chairman; Chief Scott Graham; David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Eugene L. Worthington;; Dean E. Albert Reece, M.D., PhD.; Sally Showalter.

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass, Ms. Bailey, Ms. Beachley, Ms. Gainer, Mr. Dubansky, Mr. Schaefer.

OAG: Mr. Magee, Ms. Sette.

The results of site reviews for hospital designation were discussed.

Provider disciplinary and final disciplinary actions were discussed with counsel.

The Board returned to open session at 11:22 a.m.

Perinatal Referral Center Designation. Ms. Bailey said that Peninsula Regional Medical Center and Prince George's Hospital Center had been provisionally designated as Perinatal Referral Centers. She said that Peninsula Regional Medical Center now meets the standards for full designation and that Prince George's Hospital Center meets the standards for re-designation. **Upon the motion of Chief Graham, which was seconded by Dr. Hexter, the Board approved the designation of Peninsula Regional Medical Center as Level 3A Perinatal Referral Center and the re-designation of Prince George's Hospital Center as Level 3B Perinatal Referral Center.**

Stroke. Ms. Beachley asked the Board to approve provisional primary stroke center designation of Union Hospital Cecil and Northwest Hospital NW. **Upon the motion of Ms. Van Hoy, which was seconded by Mr. Worthington, the Board approved provisional Primary Stroke Center designation as requested, with the provision that both hospitals complete and submit quarterly reports during the provisional designation period.**

There being no further business, the Board adjourned upon the motion of Dr. Reece as seconded by Ms. Van Hoy.