

**State Emergency Medical Services Board
November 9, 2010
Minutes**

Board Members Present: Donald L. DeVries, Esq., Chairman; Vic Broccolino; David Fowler, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Robert Maloney; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: David Hexter, M.D. Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Ms. Abramson; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Aycock; Ms. Bailey; Mr. Balthis; Mr. Brown; Ms. Beachley; Mr. Darchicourt; Mr. Donohue; Mr. Fiakos; Dr. Floccare; Ms. Gainer; Ms. Gilliam; Ms. Goff; Mr. Hurlock; Ms. Myers; Ms. Seifarth; Mr. Schaefer.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

MSP Aviation Command: Captain Mark Gibbons; Toby Bernard; Bill Bernard; Mike DeReggario; Don Lewis; 1st Lt. Walter Kerr; Sgt. Pat King.

Maryland State Firemen's Association: President Doyle Cox; First Vice President David Lewis; Second Vice President John Denver.

R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center: Karen Doyle; Brenda Fosler Johnson; Jim Radcliffe.

Family Health Administration, Department of Health & Mental Hygiene: Russ Moy, M.D.

Maryland Perinatal Advisory Committee: Robert Atlas, M.D.

MDOT Helicopter Procurement: Jim Haley; Rodger Dewey.

Integrity Consulting: John Molnar; Michael Fried; David Mayo.

SEIU: Andrew Tonelli.

Mr. DeVries called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Fowler, which was seconded by Ms. Van Hoy, the Board approved the minutes of the September 14, 2010, meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Electronic Patient Care Reporting ("eMEDS"). Dr. Bass said that staff was continuing work to implement the new electronic patient care reporting system, "eMEDS," He said that a pilot test of the new system would begin shortly, with full implementation planned for early 2011.

Cardiac Interventional Centers. Dr. Bass reported that MIEMSS was in the process of conducting site visits for hospitals seeking designation at Cardiac Interventional Centers. He said that regional planning efforts regarding transport of STEMI centers were continuing and going well. He said that MIEMSS was working on the development of a memorandum of understanding for out-of-state centers.

CRT-199. Dr. Bass reminded the Board that the new national EMS standards did not include continuation of the I-99 provider level. As a result, the National Registry had indicated that it would stop testing that level of provider in 2013. Dr. Bass said that many states, including Maryland, had expressed concerns to the National Registry about the loss of the testing mechanism for this level of provider. He said that, as a result of those concerns, the National Registry had decided to allow states to use the national test until at least 2020 so that state testing of these providers could continue. Dr. Bass said that this was a very positive development, which would allow the states to continue to test this level of provider for licensing purposes, although providers would not be able to be nationally registered.

MSP Helicopters. Dr. Bass reported that the Board of Public Works had approved a contract for the purchase of six (6) AW 139 helicopters, with an option to buy six (6) more. He said that MSP Aviation was anticipating delivery of the first six helicopters at 18, 21, and 24 months after contract signing. He said that this effort to replace the existing fleet had started nearly 15 years ago and had required the hard work of many individuals and entities. He thanked Jim Haley, Helicopter Procurement Officer, for his efforts during the procurement process.

Mr. DeVries noted that the price to be paid for the initial six helicopters was about \$11.7 million per helicopter, which was a very good price, especially compared with the State of New Jersey which had paid an additional \$1.6 million per helicopter for the same model. He recalled that the first meeting of the EMS Board Helicopter Replacement Committee had been held in 1995. He congratulated all who had worked on the replacement project over the years and thanked the Governor and the members of the General Assembly for their efforts.

STATEWIDE EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Dr. Kalish reported that SEMSAC had met in November and had approved changes to the Maryland Medical Protocols and to the SEMSAC Bylaws. He said that these items were on the Board's agenda for today's meeting. He also reported that the election of SEMSAC officers had been completed and that he had been re-elected SEMSAC Chairman and Roland Berg had been re-elected SEMSAC Vice-Chairman.

R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER

Ms. Doyle reported that year-to-date patient admissions were slightly ahead of the same period last year and that beds occupied by month were also higher. She said that OR cases in relation to admissions continued to increase. She reported that no instances of capacity alert had occurred during October. She summarized the STC educational activities for the first quarter.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ms. Gainer reported that the General Assembly would convene in January and would include a number of new delegates and senators. She said that MIEMSS anticipated having one departmental bill before the legislature and other important issues, such as the solvency of the EMS Operations Fund, could be considered during the session.

OLD BUSINESS

Perinatal Standards: Ms Sette reminded the Board that the proposed changes to the Perinatal regulations had been previously approved by the Board and published as proposed regulations in the *Maryland Register*. She said that proposed regulations updated the perinatal designation requirements for designation to reflect the most current standards developed by the Maryland Perinatal Advisory Committee. She said that during the comment period, MIEMSS had received a comment letter from PRMC. She said that recently, the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review (AELR) had put a "hold" on the regulations which has the effect of precluding Board action on final approval of the regulations until the December meeting.

Ms. Sette explained that PRMC's concern was the requirement for a perinatologist on staff and available within 30 minutes. She said that MIEMSS had been working with PRMC for some time to try to develop an approach to resolve the issue.

Ms. Bailey introduced Dr. Atlas, Chairman of the Perinatal Advisory Committee, and Dr. Moy, Family Health Administration, Department of Health & Mental Hygiene. Dr. Atlas said that the Committee developed and periodically revised the Perinatal Standards. He said that the various standards apply to all levels of perinatal centers. He said that when the standards were most recently revised in 2008, the Committee concluded that, for patient safety of the mother, it was important to have a perinatologist on staff and available within 30 minutes.

Dr. Moy said that the standards had been in place since 1995 and that the most recent updates represented the 4th revision of the standards in 15 years. He said that the standards started as voluntary, but that they had been subsequently adopted by

the Maryland Health Care Commission for Certificates of Need for NICUs, and that MIEMSS has adopted them for designation of perinatal centers. He said that the standards were based on national guidelines which called for a perinatologist to be continuously available for consultation; he said that the Committee clarified this in the standards to mean a perinatologist on staff in active practice and, if needed, in house within 30 minutes. Dr. Atlas said that all other Level 3 centers in the state have met this requirement.

The Board discussed the potential impact should PRMC be unable to meet the standards. Ms. Van Hoy said that since PRMC's next designation would not occur until 2013, there should be sufficient time to meet the standards.

SEMSAC Bylaws – Proposed Revisions. Dr. Bass said that proposed changes to the SEMSAC Bylaws had been distributed. He said that the changes added a pilot and a member-at-large to the SEMSAC member and updated the official names of several organizations that are represented on SEMSAC.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Van Hoy, which was seconded by Dr. Fowler, the Board approved the proposed revisions to the SEMSAC Bylaws.

Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers. Dr. Alcorta said that the 2011 Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers had been previously distributed to the Board.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Broccolino, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the proposed changes to the Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers.

Mr. DeVries announced that the Board would be retiring to Executive Session, after which it would reconvene in Open Session.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Van Hoy, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board adjourned to Executive 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: Donald L. DeVries, Esq., Chairman; Vic Broccolino; David Fowler, M.D.; Robert Maloney; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Ms. Abramson; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Aycock; Dr. Floccare; Ms. Gainer; Ms Goff; Mr. Schaefer; Mr. Fiackos.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

MSP Aviation Command: Captain Mark Gibbons; Toby Bernard; Bill Bernard; Mike DeReggario; Don Lewis; 1st Lt. Walter Kerr; Sgt. Pat King.

MDOT Helicopter Procurement: Jim Haley; Rodger Dewey

Integrity Consulting: John Molnar; Michael Fried; David Mayo.

The Board considered a contract with the State Law Enforcement Labor Alliance.

The Board received an update on the helicopter procurement process.

The Board was briefed on the helicopter basing study.

The Board approved the nomination of an individual to the Provide Review Panel.

The Board considered provider disciplinary cases.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 12:26 p.m.

Board Members Present: Donald L. DeVries, Esq., Chairman; Vic Broccolino; David Fowler, M.D.; Robert Maloney; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Van Hoy, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board voted to approve Union Hospital in Cecil County as a Primary Stroke Center for the remainder of a four-year period.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned by acclamation.