

**State Emergency Medical Services Board
December 14, 2010
Minutes**

Board Members Present: Donald L. DeVries, Esq., Chairman; David Fowler, M.D.; David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Robert Maloney; Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: Vic Broccolino; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Ms. Abramson; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Aycock; Mr. Balthis; Mr. Buckson; Mr. Darchicourt; Dr. Floccare; Mr. Fiackos; Ms. Gainer; Ms. Myers; Ms. Alban; Ms. Goff; Mr. Brown.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

MSP Aviation Command: Captain Mark Gibbons; Mike DeReggario; Major McAndrew.

Maryland State Firemen's Association: Doyle Cox, President; David Lewis, 1st Vice President; John Denver, 2nd Vice President.

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

SEIU: Andrew Tonelli.

Mr. DeVries called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Fowler, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the minutes of the November meeting.

Mr. DeVries presented Major McAndrew with a plaque and thanked him for his leadership of the Aviation Command. He said that Major McAndrew had been an outstanding commander and had successfully guided the Command through very difficult challenges over the past several years. Mr. DeVries thanked him for his service to the statewide EMS system.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Electronic Patient Care Reporting (eMEDS). Dr. Bass reported that MIEMSS had worked with the eMEDS vendor to finalize the dataset. He said that the eMEDS pilot would soon be underway.

Ms. Showalter entered the meeting.

STEMI. Dr. Bass reported that MIEMSS was in the process of conducting site visits to those hospitals that had applied for designation as a Cardiac Interventional Center. He said that the plans were being finalized in each of the EMS regions. He said that agreements with out-of-state centers would also soon be in place.

Telemedicine. Dr. Bass said that MIEMSS' efforts to designate stroke centers had resulted in a group of active clinicians meeting on a regular basis to discuss stroke-related issues. He said that one issue that had been identified was the challenge of securing on-call neurologists, but that the group had felt that the use of telemedicine might assist in that regard. He said that out of these initial discussions, a Maryland Telemedicine Task Force had been formally created by the Maryland Health Quality & Cost Council. He said that the Task Force, which is co-chaired by MIEMSS and the Maryland Health Care Commission, includes members from the Department of Health & Mental Hygiene, the Maryland Hospital Association, the American Heart and Stroke Association and others. He said that the Task Force had three advisory groups: a Clinical Advisory Group to identify clinical areas of need; a Technical Solutions and Standards Advisory Group; to define technical systems and identify statewide standards, and a Financial and Business Model Advisory Group to define reimbursement requirements and financial support for a telemedicine system. He said that Task Force would also work with the Maryland Rural Health Association and the Rural Maryland Council which were very interested in telemedicine solutions. He said that the Maryland Telemedicine Task Force plans to complete its deliberations and submit a report to the Maryland Health Quality & Cost Council at the end of the year.

Helicopter Basing Study. Dr. Bass reminded the Board that the 2009 Joint Chairmen's Report requested that MIEMSS, in consultation with the Department of State Police, submit formal recommendations to the budget committees regarding the number of bases and helicopters necessary to provide statewide emergency medical services coverage. He said that the report, "Helicopter Trooper Base Assessment Update," had been completed and was currently being reviewed by the Department of Budget & Management, after which it would be submitted to the Joint Chairmen.

Ambulance Safety Task Force. Dr. Bass reported that the MIEMSS Ambulance Safety Task Force was continuing its efforts to improve ambulance safety.

STATEWIDE EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Dr. Kalish said that SEMSAC did not meet in December; consequently, there was no report.

R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER

Ms. Doyle reported that both Shock Trauma admissions and OR cases are above the number budgeted. She said that the STC was on capacity alert for 1 ½ hours in December. She reported that the construction of the new trauma and critical care tower is on schedule.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ms. Gainer reported that the 2011 General Assembly would convene on January 12, 2011.

OLD BUSINESS

Perinatal Regulations – COMAR 30.08.01 through .15. Ms. Sette said that the Board had previously approved the regulations for promulgation as proposed regulations. She said that MIEMSS had received one comment on the proposed regulations which was submitted by Peninsula Regional Medical Center (PRMC) that raised concerns about the requirement for a Maternal Fetal Medicine specialist. Subsequently, the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review (AELR) had intervened to put a “hold” on the regulations. She said that MIEMSS and PRMC had held a conference call to discuss PRMC’s concerns and, subsequently, had entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate a pilot project to demonstrate / evaluate the effectiveness of telemedicine as a means for meeting the requirement for a MFM specialist. Ms. Sette said that the AELR had released the hold on the regulations, and asked the Board to approve the proposed regulations as final.

Dr. Bass said that the Perinatal Advisory Committee had produced updated guidelines in 2008 that MIEMSS had translated into designation regulations. He said a significant change in the updated guidelines was the requirement for a Level IIIA to have a perinatologist in-house within 30 minutes. He said that PRMC is located in a medically underserved area and two counties with high infant mortality rates are within their catchment area. He said that MIEMSS is trying to help PRMC raise the level of maternal care available, while preserving the existing care for neonates. He said that a telemedicine project with PRMC had the potential for addressing this need. He said that the results from the project would be completed and presented to the Perinatal Advisory Committee prior to their next revision of the standards in 2013.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Showalter, which was seconded by Dr. Hexter, the Board approved the proposed perinatal regulations as final regulations.

Licensing & Certification Regulations – COMAR 30.02.02 through .06 and .09.

Ms. Sette said that MIEMSS had drafted revisions to the Licensing and Certification regulations. She said that the draft revisions included the addition of adaptive testing for providers, changes to reciprocity requirements, and a fee increase of \$10, which is the

first increase since 1999. She asked the Board to approve the draft for promulgation as proposed regulations.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Fowler, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the draft regulations for promulgation as proposed regulations.

Infection Control Regulations – COMAR 30.03.02 and 30.03.09.

Ms. Sette said that the proposed regulations required an infection control program in each EMS operational program. She said that the proposed regulations had been published and that no comments had been received. She asked the Board to approve the proposed regulations as final regulations.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Fowler, which was seconded by Ms. Showalter, the Board approved the proposed regulations as final regulations.

NEW BUSINESS

Comprehensive Stroke Center Regulations. Ms. Aycock presented to the Board a draft of the Comprehensive Stroke Center regulations. She said that the draft had been developed with input from the stroke community, including physicians and hospitals. She said the draft had been posted to the MIEMSS website and a link to the draft had been included in the Maryland Hospital Association newsletter. She said that positive comments had been received by three hospitals.

Dr. Bass said that MIEMSS had started the process of developing Maryland's stroke system about six years ago and that initial efforts focused on designation of primary stroke centers. He said the draft of the Comprehensive Stroke Center regulations would put in place a higher level of stroke center hospital. He said that these regulations were being distributed to the Board for their information and any comments or suggestions.

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

Dean Reese entered the meeting.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Westerband, which was seconded by Dr. Hexter, 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), 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 the following:

Board Members Present: Donald L. DeVries, Esq., Chairman; David Fowler, M.D.; David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Robert Maloney; Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: Vic Broccolino; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.

Others Present:

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

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

MSP Aviation Command: Captain Mark Gibbons; Mike DeReggario.

The Board approved the closed session minutes from the November meeting.

The Board was provided information regarding designation of freestanding emergency facility.

The Board was provided information regarding EMS training programs.

The Board considered costs associated with FAA Part 135 certification.

The Board considered provider disciplinary cases.

The Board considered candidates for appointment to the Statewide Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.

The Board considered provider disciplinary matters.

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 11:30 a.m.

Board Members Present: Donald L. DeVries, Esq., Chairman; David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Robert Maloney; Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: Vic Broccolino; Dr. Fowler; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Dr. Westerband.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Ms. Abramson; Ms. Aycock; Mr. Fiackos; Dr. Floccare; Ms. Gainer; Ms. Myers.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

Maryland State Firemen's Association: Doyle Cox, President; David Lewis, 1st Vice President; John Denver, 2nd Vice President.

SEIU: Andrew Tonelli.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Showalter, which was seconded by Mr. Maloney, the Board voted to approve the MIEMSS designation of Queen Anne's County Emergency Center as a freestanding emergency center.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Hexter, which was seconded by Dean Reece, the Board voted to approve the Secret Service Training Academy BLS Education Program for five years.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Maloney, which was seconded by Ms. Showalter, the Board voted to approve Hatzalah of Baltimore EMS Refresher Program for five years.

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