

State Emergency Medical Services Board
June 12, 2012
Minutes

Board Members Present: Vic Broccolino, Vice-Chairman; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N.; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: Sherry Adams; Donald L. DeVries, Esq.; David Hexter, M.D.; Robert Maloney; Sally Showalter.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Ms. Abramson; Ms. Alban; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Aycock; Ms. Bailey; Mr. Balthis; Mr. Brown; Ms. Gainer; Ms. Gilliam; Ms. Goff; Ms. Mays; Ms. Myers; Mr. Slack.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center: Karen Doyle; Jaime Huggins.

Maryland State Firemen's Association: President Dave Lewis.

Maryland State Police Aviation Command: Major Mark Gibbons.

Mr. Broccolino called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

REPORT OF THE STATEWIDE EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Dr. Kalish reported that SEMSAC met in May and had approved two proposed regulations. The first proposal would incorporate by reference the EMS protocols into regulations; the second would change the provider nomenclature used throughout MIEMSS *COMAR Title 30* regulations to conform to changes in the names of the three levels of EMS providers that were made to the *Education Article 13-516* during the previous legislative session.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

eMEDS. Dr. Bass reported that eMEDS implementation is continuing throughout the state for both public safety and commercial services. He said that the roll-out is going very well.

Ambulance Safety Task Force. Dr. Bass said that the Ambulance Safety Task Force had reconvened in April. He said that the members discussed strategies for implementing the

Task Force recommendations that had been formulated in 2011. He said he anticipated that the Task Force would hold another summit later in the year.

EMRC – Eastern Shore. Dr. Bass reported that the EMRC on the Eastern Shore, located in Talbot County, is up and running as of April.

Stars of Life Awards. Dr. Bass said that the Stars of Life / Right Care When It Counts awards had been held in Annapolis on May 22nd as part of EMS Week celebrations.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Kalish, which was seconded by Ms. Van Hoy, the Board approved the minutes of the May 8, 2012 Board meeting and also approved a correction to the January 12, 2012 minutes to reflect that Dean Reece had been in attendance at that meeting.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ms. Gainer reported that the General Assembly convened in Special Session from Monday, May 14th to Wednesday, May 16th to address issues regarding the state's budget that remained unresolved from the regular Session that ended April 10th. She said that a Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA) bill was introduced and passed, but did not include any increase to the vehicle registration fee surcharge that funds the EMS Operations Fund. As a result, the EMS Operations Fund is projected to be insolvent in FY2014. She said that the General Assembly may reconvene later in the summer to consider issues related to gambling.

UPDATE OF ACTIVITIES – MSP AVIATION COMMAND

Major Gibbons reported that, to date, there have been 777 patient transports. Regarding the new helicopters, he said that modifications to the purchase contract with Augusta Westland would be presented to the Board of Public Works for their approval. The modifications are necessary to correct issues with the medical interior and the external searchlight. He said that the cost of the modifications is about \$75,000 per aircraft, less than 1% of the total contract cost of \$144 million.

Major Gibbons said that training of the pilots and maintenance technicians for the new aircraft were continuing. He said that all pilots will have completed their training by the end of 2012. He also reported the addition of six new flight paramedics.

Regarding pilot training, Major Gibbons said that the FAA had re-interpreted the training syllabus for the existing Type Rating training for licensing as it applies to single-pilot VFR operation of the new helicopters. He said that, in essence, the current training course being provided by the Augusta/Westland Training Academy/Rotorsim and FAA “check ride” provisions are all based on two-pilot operations. As a result, MSPAC pilots completing this training have a restriction on their licenses that prevents them from operating the new

helicopters in a single-pilot VFR environment. He said that Rotorsim is trying to address the issue by developing curriculum segments acceptable to the FAA.

Major Gibbons said that the Command had again instituted Dynamic Deployment for Cecil and Worcester counties. He also said that in Ocean City, the helicopter was moved to the Coast Guard station which provides an improved location for the helicopter.

Major Gibbons reported the loss of another helicopter engine. He said that there had been an un-commanded shutdown of a helicopter engine at a five-foot hover. He said that the pilot landed the helicopter and then shut it down. He noted that this event will necessitate an inspection of the other engine on that helicopter which had to carry the full load until shutdown. He said that the Command planned to rent an engine to replace the lost engine.

R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER REPORT

Ms. Doyle reported that both trauma volume and operating room cases continue to be increased over last year's figures. She reviewed the year-to-date patient volumes for neurotrauma and for the hyperbaric chamber dive hours. She highlighted the expanded efforts of the Center for Injury Prevention and Policy in the community.

Regarding the new facility, Ms. Doyle said that one unit had temporarily moved into the 3rd floor of the building because renovations needed to begin in other parts of the building.

Ms. Doyle noted the recent passing of Liz Scanlon, RN, who was the first Director of Nursing at the Shock Trauma Center. She said that Ms. Scanlon had been instrumental in the establishment and early successes of the Shock Trauma Center.

UPDATE OF ACTIVITIES – MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

President Lewis said that this meeting would mark his last meeting as President of the MSFA and thanked the EMS Board for their support during his term. He also thanked all the EMS partners for their support and hard work. Mr. Broccolino thanked President Lewis for all of his efforts on behalf of the statewide EMS System.

NEW BUSINESS

Emergency Protocol Changes. Dr. Alcorta reported that the certain medical shortages are affecting EMS operations throughout the State. He said that obtaining two medications – Morphine and Midazolam – was particularly problematic. He said that because of the importance of successfully managing pain in out-of-hospital medicine, the Protocol Review Committee had determined that Fentanyl was an appropriate alternative to Morphine. He also said that because of the need to manage active seizures field, Diazepam (valium) was an appropriate alternative for Midazolam. He asked the Board for emergency approval of both

of these medication substitutions. The Board discussed various safety concerns associated with the proposed substitute medications.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dean Reece, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the substitution of Diazepam for Midazolam and Fentanyl for Morphine, with the operational caveat that expresses the safety concerns of the Board specific to use of Fentanyl in the field.

Mr. Broccolino also asked that Dr. Alcorta report back to the Board on the implementation of the medication substitutes.

STEMI Plan Modifications for Talbot County. Dr. Alcorta reported that MIEMSS had been working with Talbot County regarding the best strategy for getting scene-identified cardiac patients to treatment at a Cardiac Interventional Center (CIC). He said that Talbot County had devised a plan for treatment of these patients that permitted a 45 minute additional drive time to a CIC. He asked the Board to approve the plan.

Upon the motion of Dr. Kalish, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the revision of the Talbot County EMS Plan of Care for STEMI Patients.

SYSCOM Commercial Helicopter Dispatch Policy. Dr. Floccare presented the SYSCOM Commercial Helicopter Dispatch Policy which clarifies the terminology used to refer to Category A and B patients. He explained that the terminology in the Maryland Medical Protocols has been modified to reflect national changes in trauma protocols and that this policy reflected that change. He said the policy also clarifies that if MSP is unable to respond because of weather at one helicopter base and the weather at another location is such that a different public safety or commercial helicopter is able to respond, SYSCOM will advise the other helicopter that the back-up request is due to weather conditions.

Upon the motion of Ms. Van Hoy, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the SYSCOM Commercial Helicopter Dispatch Policy.

MOLST (Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment). Ms. Sette presented the revised MOLST form for approval. She explained the changes and said that the original form had been revised based on input that had been received since the passage of the law. She said that the Board of Physicians had approved the revised form. She noted that all prior versions of the form continue to be recognized by EMS providers, as does the Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) form.

Upon the motion of Dr. Kalish, which was seconded by Ms. Van Hoy, the Board approved the revisions to the MOLST Form.

Anthony Gerace Bequest to MIEMSS. Dr. Bass advised the Board that Mr. Anthony Gerace had bequeathed \$1.6 million in his will to MIEMSS. He explained that Mr. Gerace had been a friend of R Adams Cowley and that the will was drawn up before MIEMSS became a state agency that was independent of the Shock Trauma Center. Dr. Bass said that Dr. Scalea from the Shock Trauma Center had approached him and asked that one-half of the bequest be used to endow a named chair in honor of R Adams Cowley. Since MIEMSS and Shock Trauma were together when the bequeath was originally made, Dr. Bass recommended and asked the Board to approve transfer of one-half of the bequest to the Shock Trauma Center for the purpose of establishing the endowed chair.

Upon the motion of Dean Reece, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the transfer.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

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

The Board adjourned to Closed Session by acclamation at 10:23 a.m.

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: Vic Broccolino, Vice Chairman; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N.; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: Sherry Adams; Donald L. DeVries, Esq.; David Hexter, M.D.; Robert Maloney; Sally Showalter.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Aycock; Ms. Bailey; Ms. Gainer; Mr. Schaefer.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

The Board approved the closed session minutes from the May 8 2012, meeting.

The Board was provided information regarding a designated perinatal referral center.

At 10:55 a.m., Dr. Kalish left the meeting and continued to participate by phone.

The Board considered provider disciplinary cases.

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 11:09 a.m.

Board Members Present: Vic Broccolino, Vice Chairman; Murray Kalish, M.D. (by phone); Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N.; Dany Westerland, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: Sherry Adams; Donald L. DeVries, Esq.; David Hexter, M.D.; Robert Maloney; Sally Showalter.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Gainer; Mr. Schaefer.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Van Hoy, which was seconded by Dean Reece, the Board adjourned.