

State Emergency Medical Services Board
March 8, 2011
Minutes

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

Board Members Absent: Sally Showalter.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Ms. Abramson; Ms. Alban; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Aycok; Ms. Bailey; Ms. Beachley; Mr. Brown; Jim Darchicourt; Pete Fiackos; Dr. Floccare; Ms. Gainer; Ms. Goff; Mr. Hawthorne; Mr. Hurlock; Ms Myers; Mr. New; Mr. Schaefer; Mr. Slack.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

MSP Aviation Command: Major Mark Gibbons.

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

R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center: Jaime Huggins; Jim Radcliffe.

Mr. DeVries called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Van Hoy, which was seconded by Dr. Hexter, the Board approved the minutes of the January 11, 2011, Joint EMS Board / SEMSAC meeting.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Van Hoy, which was seconded by Dr. Hexter, the Board approved the minutes of the February 23, 2011, telephone meeting of the EMS Board.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Fowler, which was seconded by Dr. Reece, the Board approved the minutes of the February 8, 2011, meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cardiac Interventional Centers. Dr. Bass said that MIEMSS had completed the designations determinations for all Cardiac Intervention Centers and that the designations would be announced on April 1st. He said that each Regional Council had created a forum for discussion and monitoring of the protocol implementation. He said that MIEMSS would be monitoring EMS-to-balloon times since rapid

treatment times after heart attack can improve mortality and morbidity. He thanked MIEMSS staff, and in particular, Ms. Lisa Myers, for diligent efforts to implement the Cardiac Interventional Center Designation Program.

eMEDS. Dr. Bass reported that the eMEDS pilot underway in three counties was going very well. He said that there had been one eMEDS outage that had been rectified. He said that MIEMSS had received a lot of positive feedback on the new system.

Stroke. Dr. Bass said that a draft of the Comprehensive Stroke Regulations had been distributed to the Board several months before. He said that the draft regulations created a new level of stroke center that would have the ability to provide tertiary-level care. He said that he hoped that the draft regulations would be ready for Board action in May.

Yellow Alert. Dr. Bass briefed the Board on recent experience with Yellow Alerts. He said that for many years, emergency department crowding resulting in Yellow Alerts had been a problem in Maryland and across the country. He said that emergency department crowding results when hospitals are unable to move patients requiring admission from the ED to inpatient beds. He said MIEMSS had worked with a number of agencies and entities to encourage best practices to free-up inpatient beds and reduce ED crowding. He said that hospitals have expedited discharge and other processes to deal with patient flow. Yellow Alerts had been steadily decreasing in Maryland since 2006, with 2010 as the lowest to date.

EMS Plan. Dr. Bass said that about five years had passed since the EMS Plan had been revised and that the Plan was due to be revised this year. He said staff would put together a straw man document to facilitate the planning process.

EMS Care Conference. Dr. Bass said that the EMS Care Conference would be held in Ocean City March 31 – April 3.

EMS Week. Dr. Bass said that EMS Week would be the week of May 17th. He said that nominations for the Stars of Life Awards were due April 8th.

STATEWIDE EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Dr. Kalish reported that SEMSAC met on March 3rd. He said that SEMAC approved changes to the bylaws of the Jurisdictional Advisory Committee and received an update about the needs of the entities supported by the EMS Operations Fund.

R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER

Mr. Radcliffe reported that admissions to the Shock Trauma Center were 435 ahead of budget and that the number of operating room cases was also ahead of last year's figure. He said that the bed occupancy was 84 and that there had been no capacity alerts or fly-bys during the month.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ms. Gainer reported that the budgets hearing for the EMS Operations Fund had been held the last week in February. She said that the hearings had gone well and that the entities funded by the EMS Operations Fund had taken the opportunity of the budget hearings to discuss their out-year needs, most of which had been included in the DLS analysis of the EMSOF solvency. She said that as part of the EMSOF budget analysis, DLS had recommended that language be included in the Joint Chairmen's Report for a study to evaluate the legality, feasibility, and ramifications of insurance provided billing for medevac services.

Dr. Alcorta reported that the "Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment" bill had passed the House and was likely to pass the Senate.

MSFA President Doyle Cox reported that the Maryland State Firemen's Association also continued to be very busy with the budget and bill hearings in Annapolis.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. DeVries said that the Board members had previously received information regarding the out-year needs of each of the entities supported by the EMS Operations Fund. He said that the document detailing these needs was before the Board today. He said that the looming insolvency of the EMS Operations Fund after FY13 was of significant concern and that as solutions to address that problem were being discussed, it was important to include consideration of the out-year needs of the EMSOF-supported entities.

Mr. DeVries said that the out-year needs of the MSP included travel expenses related to transition training, FAA Part 135 compliance, a second EMS provider, CAMTS accreditation and additional support staff. He said that the costs associated with these items were \$1.6 million in FY12, \$3.4 million in FY13, \$2.4 million in FY14, \$3.8 million in FY15, \$4.3 million in FY16 and \$4.5 million in FY17. **ACTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Broccolino, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the increase to the MSP to meet the needs associated with Part 135 compliance and CAMTS accreditation.**

Mr. DeVries said that the MFRI was estimating a need of \$415,920 in its appropriation to meet increased training needs, as well as a one-time increase of \$107,400 for high temperature tiles. **ACTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Worthington, which was seconded by Dr. Hexter, the Board approved the increase to MFRI to meet the increased training needs and to purchase the tiles.**

Mr. DeVries said that the Amoss Fund had not had an increase in more than 10 years, and local jurisdictions rely on this funding to purchase needed equipment

for fire and EMS companies. He said that the Maryland State Firemen's Association had requested a \$5 million increase in the Amoss Fund, to be phased in between FY2013 and FY 2015. **ACTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Broccolino, which was seconded by Ms. Van Hoy, the Board approved the increase to the Amoss Fund.**

Mr. DeVries said that MIEMSS faced significant communications challenges in the near future that would require equipment updates and replacement. He said that these needs were estimated to total about \$10 million (\$4 million in FY13; \$2 million in FY14; \$2 million in FY15 and \$1.8 million in FY 16). **ACTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Broccolino, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the increase to MIEMSS to meet the communications needs.**

Mr. DeVries said that the Shock Trauma Center had indicated a need of an additional \$100,000 per year, beginning in FY13 for its Training and Simulation Center. **ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Fowler, which was seconded by Ms. Van Hoy, the Board approved the STC request.**

Mr. Worthington said that the financial projections should continue out to 2018 to aid in long-term planning.

NEW BUSINESS

Jurisdictional Advisory Committee Bylaws. Dr. Alcorta presented the revised bylaws of the Jurisdictional Advisory Committee to the Board for approval. **ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Kalish, which was seconded by Ms. Van Hoy, the Board approved the revisions to the bylaws.**

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 Dr. Reece, which was seconded by Dr. Kalish, 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.; David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Robert Maloney;

Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: Sally Showalter.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Dr. Alcorta; Mr. Fiackos; Ms. Gainer; Ms. Myers.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

The Board approved the closed session minutes from the February 8, 2011 meeting.

The Board was provided information on site surveys and designation determinations for Cardiac Interventional Centers.

The Board was provided information regarding site surveys of EMS Educational Programs.

The Board considered nominations to SEMSAC

The Board considered provider disciplinary cases.

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 11:22 a. m.

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

Board Members Absent: David Fowler, M.D.; Sally Showalter.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Dr. Alcorta; Mr. Fiackos; Ms. Gainer; Mr. Hawthorne; Ms. Myers.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Westerband, which was seconded by Dr. Hexter, the Board voted to approve Lifestar Ambulance Inc., (Salisbury) for a five-year approval for EMS Refresher Program.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Westerband, which was seconded by Ms. Van Hoy, the Board voted to approve Prince George's Community College ALS Education Program for remainder of a five-year period.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Kalish which was seconded by Ms. Van Hoy, and with Mr. Broccolino abstaining as to Johns Hopkins Bayview and the Johns Hopkins Hospital, the Board voted to approve the following hospitals as Cardiac Interventional Centers for a three-year period:

**Holy Cross Hospital
Johns Hopkins Bayview
Sinai Hospital of Baltimore
Union Memorial Hospital
Washington Adventist Hospital
The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Meritus Medical Center
Prince George's Medical Center
Franklin Square Hospital Center**

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