

SEMSAC
September 3, 2009

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: M. Kalish; C. Mays; R. Berg; R. Simonds; S. Haas; J. Spearman; M. Meyers; A.J. McAndrew; B. Spicer for S. Edwards; W. Gaasch; K. Yamamoto; J.Scheulen; J. Brown; K. Grote; G. Delaplaine; A. Faden.

Members Absent: K. May; D. Graham; R. Lipps; S. Henry; W. Baxter; D. Crane; A. Walker; J. Fowler; J. Fillmore

MIEMSS Staff: R. Bass; L. Myers; P. Hurlock; R. Alcorta; J. Brown; S. Alban; W. Seifarth; R. Dubansky; Contee; R. Meighen; J. Davis.

OAG: E. Fremont Magee

Shock Trauma: R. Hartsock; J. Huggins; B. Johnson

Regional Affairs: M. O'Connell

MSFA: D. Cox; R. Powell; D. Lewis

MSP Aviation: C. Cosgrove

The meeting was convened at 1:10 p.m.

The June SEMSAC meeting minutes were approved.

MIEMSS Director's Report-Dr. Bass

- Dr. Bass introduced Dr. Alan Faden, the new Director of the National Study Center.
- David Balthis is the new Chief Information Technology and Communications Officer for MIEMSS and is no longer able to represent the EMS Number Systems Board on SEMSAC.
- Recognition was given to Nando Tosti who has worked in the MIEMSS Educational Support Department for thirty years and is retiring.
- Work with the Department of Information Technology on "EMAIS® Next Generation" has continued.
- A Task Force to address the The American College of Surgeons' updated Criteria for Trauma Center Designation has been convened to update Maryland's Trauma Center Regulations to be consistent with ACS Guidelines and is working on a straw man document with recommendations, recognizing Maryland has a unique trauma system.

- Global Emergency Resources' HC Standard is working with MIEMSS to complete the final product that will integrate FRED and CHATS. The finished product is being proposed for H1N1 tracking and monitoring.

SEMSAC Chairman's Report-Dr. Murray Kalish

- Several members are due for reappointment and will be receiving letters in the upcoming weeks
- The EMS Board discussed and approved the MSP proceeding with planning for the potential relocation from Centreville to Easton unless significant concerns are raised.
- The EMS Board heard a presentation on a proposed expansion project for R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma.

National Study Center Report-Dr. Alan Faden

- The new director gave a brief report on recent funding awards to the National Study Center.

Committee Reports

BLS Committee-William Seifarth

- The EMT refresher training course is nearly complete.
- The law enforcement officer (LEO) course has been very well received and is reported to better meet the training needs of LEOs than first responder training.

ALS Committee-Scott Haas

- The ALS Committee did not meet.

EMD Committee Report-William Seifarth

- The EMD Committee draft Bylaws were presented and approved.

Regional Affairs-Michael O'Connell

- The Regional Affairs Committee did not meet.

SEMSAC By-Laws Committee-Melissa Meyers

- The By-laws were last amended in 2003
- The By-Laws Committee met today before SEMSAC and will have a draft for review at the next SEMSAC meeting.

Old Business

EMS Provider Status Report-William Seifarth

- Mr. Seifarth provided an update on the number of providers certified by MIEMSS Office of Licensure & Certification as of September 3, 2009. The number of EMTs is the highest it has ever been. The number of first responders has declined because of the new LEO course.

EMS Education Standards & Accreditation-William Seifarth

- The national accreditation body for paramedics has agreed to no longer require training academies to be sponsored by an academic institution. Fire academy programs will be able to apply for accreditation with this modification.
- The new education standards will replace the national standard curricula used for years and will be ready for implementation in the United States by 2011 or 2012.
- An Education Committee has been convened to work on the process for Maryland. The Committee will focus on protocols, changes related to existing regulations and/or statute and non-operational issues. Lt. Grote and Chief Haas will jointly chair this committee.

MSP Aviation-Major AJ McAndrew

- Several public meetings have been held to discuss the Medevac move from Centreville to Easton. Overall the meetings went well. Recommendations to move forward with the relocation to the Easton Airport hangar have been given to Colonel Sheridan.
- The RFP for the new helicopters were due August 26, 2009. Major McAndrew cannot comment on the RFPs or any of what has recently been in the media about the helicopter purchases.
- MSP Aviation applied to the FAA for Part 135. The process of becoming Part 135 compliant will take at least one year.
- Safety equipment and training recommendations are in progress.
- The flight simulator purchase is proceeding with the necessary state procurement process.

STEMI Update-Dr. Robert Bass

- MIEMSS has continued to work with the Maryland Health Care Commission and other stakeholders on the development of Maryland STEMI System. A third set of STEMI center designation regulations is in the drafting process and will be shared for informal comment when complete.

New Business

Action Item-Infection Control Regulations-Sarah Sette

- A first draft of the infection control regulations was presented to SEMSAC in October 2008. The regulations include a standardized reporting format which has been piloted successfully in several jurisdictions.
- The Infection Control Regulations were approved by unanimous decision.

H1N1 Update –Dr. Robert Bass

- Statewide planning continues. There is not a lot of new information at this time.
- Since the new school year is now in session, an increase of influenza like illnesses is expected to occur soon.
- The H1N1 vaccine is expected to be available in mid October.
- The target population for the H1N1 vaccine includes individuals under 24 years of age; individuals around infants under 6 months old; those with pre-existing medical conditions; and health care providers.
- Everyone is encouraged to get a seasonal flu shot now.
- All state agencies must have a continuity of operations plan (COOP) in place.
- A hospital H1N1 meeting is be held in September.
- Protocols for dispatch and transport are being reviewed in the event EMS resources become limited. The protocol committee is still working on BLS protocols.

Election of SEMSAC Vice Chairperson

The floor was opened for nominations by Dr. Kalish. Captain Roland Berg was nominated by Mr. Delaplaine, seconded by Lt. Grote and approved by unanimous decision.

Action: Moved to adjourn to closed session to carry out administrative functions and to maintain certain records and information in confidence under State Government Article § 10-508(a) (13).

SEMSAC Members Present at the closed session: M. Kalish; C. Mays; R. Berg; R. Simonds; S. Haas; J. Spearman; M. Meyers; A.J. McAndrew; B. Spicer for S. Edwards; W. Gaasch; K. Yamamoto; J.Scheulen; K. Grote; G. Delaplaine; A. Faden.

Others Present: Dr. Bass; Fremont Magee; Robert Dubansky; Lisa Myers; Dr. Alcorta; Jim Brown; Brenda Johnson

The administrative functions and confidential matters were budget considerations. There being no further business before SEMSAC, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation without returning to open session.