

**Joint Meeting of the
State Emergency Medical Services Board and the
Statewide EMS Advisory Council
January 14, 2014
Minutes**

Board Members Present: Donald DeVries, Esq., Chair; Victor A. Broccolino (by phone), Vice-Chair; Sherry Adams; David Hexter, M.D.; Dean E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N.; Dany Westerland, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: Robert Maloney

SEMSAC Members Present: Roland Berg, Chair; Murray Kalish, MD; Jack Markey; Eric Smothers; Steve Edwards; Jeff Fillmore; Elliot Ganson; Kathleen Grote; Scott Haas; Frank Lioi; Michael DeRuggiero; Roger Simonds; Joan Fortney; Lisa Tenney (by phone) Linda Dousa; Wayne Dyott; Jim Scheulen; Tom Gianni; Wayne Tiemersma; Alan Faden; Melissa Meyers.

SEMSAC Members Absent: Karen Doyle; Jay Fowler; Nathaniel McQuay; Joe Brown; Marian Muth; Wade Gaasch; Allen Walker; Katherine Yamamoto; Will Bethea.

MIEMSS: Ms. Gainer; Ms. Alban; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Aycock; Mr. Balthis; Mr. Brown; Mr. Darchicourt; Ms. Abramson; Mr. Donohue; Ms. Robinson; Ms. Mays; Ms. Oliveira; Mr. Bratt; Ms. Goff; Ms. Gilliam; Ms. Myers.

OAG: Mr. Magee

MSP Aviation Command: Deputy Director Chris Lovejoy; Lt. Keith McMinn. Cpt. Pete Landon; Lt. W. Patrick King; Bill Bernard

Maryland State Firemen's Association: President Jackie Olson; 2nd Vice President Johnie Roth

R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center: Ms. Tara Carlson

Others Present: Chief Michael O'Connell; Bill Dousa; Mr. David Lewis; Girure Ashenafi, 1199 SEIU.

Mr. DeVries called the Joint Meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. He thanked the Board and SEMSAC members for their efforts during the past year and their spirit of cooperative excellence in making the EMS System successful.

Mr. DeVries welcomed Mr. Roland Berg, as the new SEMSAC Chair, to the EMS Board.

Mr. DeVries thanked Dr. Murray Kalish and presented him with a certificate of appreciation for his five years of service as the SEMSAC Chairperson.

Mr. DeVries said that the search is continuing for a new Executive Director for MIEMSS. In the interim, Ms. Gainer and Dr. Alcorta have been performing the duties of the Executive Director. Ms. Abramson said the process for re-advertising the position for Executive Director has resumed with online and print advertising being posted through March 2014. Mr. DeVries added that the search would not go on indefinitely and the two candidates interviewed are still in the running, but the search was broadened to assure the best candidate for the position. One of the major attributes a candidate must bring to the position is the ability to continue and foster the spirit of cooperative excellence that makes Maryland System work. Mr. Edwards thanked Mr. DeVries and the EMS Board for the inclusionary process used in interviewing candidates for the MIEMSS Executive Director MIEMSS.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS / LEGISLATIVE Update

eMEDS[®]: Ms. Gainer said that Prince George's County Fire Department is scheduled to go live on January 27, 2014. MIEMSS continues to work with Montgomery County to hopefully transition to eMEDS[®] in the near future.

Communications Upgrade: Ms. Gainer said that with the additional fee increase passed in the last legislature, the communications upgrade project is well-underway. It is hoped that construction needed for the renovation will begin in April 2014. Although challenging, operations will continue during construction. It is anticipated the project will continue through 2016, with the bulk of the work occurring in 2015.

Maryland Commission for Effective Community Inclusion of Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: Ms. Gainer said that MIEMSS holds a seat on the Maryland Commission and that Rae Oliveira is the commission member from MIEMSS. Ms. Oliveira added that MIEMSS is assessing training for first responders when encountering individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Commission will be holding public meetings (a flyer with dates was distributed) for input as to: what law enforcement personnel and other first responders in Maryland need to know when working with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities; what should Maryland provide regarding training for law enforcement personnel and other first responders; what kinds of community outreach activities should law enforcement personnel and other first responders conduct in order to raise awareness about effective first responder approaches for interacting with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Commission is not planning to move forward with any legislation this year.

Cardiac Interventional Centers (CICs): The site visits for re-designation of the twenty-three CICs in Maryland have begun and will continue throughout the year.

The 2014 Legislative Session convened on January 8, 2014. MIEMSS will have one department bill, The Maryland Intrastate Hospital Compact, which will provides the framework for hospitals to share personnel and resources statewide during a "significant event," i.e., a disaster or other type of event that strains available hospital resources. It is a voluntary program and will afford hospitals some liability protection.

Budget Hearings: The MEMSOF hearings are as follows: House Appropriations Committee on January 31, 2014 at 1 pm; the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee on February 4, 2014 at 1 pm. The MSP Budget hearings are Tuesday and Wednesday, February 6 & 7, 2014, and MIEMSS Budget hearings are February 26 & 28, 2014.

Conferences: Winterfest – January 23-26, 2014. EMS Today – February 5-8, 2014. Additional information can be found on the MIEMSS web site.

MARYLAND FIRE & RESCUE INSTITUTE

Mr. Edwards thanked the EMS Board and SEMSAC for their cooperation and working relationship with MFRI and for a very successful year.

Mr. Edwards provided an annual update with 2013 statistics on the number of programs conducted, the number of students trained, total student hours by program, and number of students enrolled by discipline, as well as enrollment history and EMT and EMR completion and pass/fail rates. It was noted that the new EMT first time pass rate is 85% which is higher than the old EMT-B. Mr. Edwards also discussed the increasing use of Distance Learning.

Mr. Berg asked Mr. Edwards if Incident Command Simulation Centers would be added to the Regional MFRI offices. Mr. Edwards said it could be discussed in the future.

EMS Plan Update

Ms. Gainer gave a power point presentation that provided an overview of the drafting and public comment process of the EMS plan. MIEMSS has solicited input from the EMS community and the general public through a series of public meetings that were held in each of the five MIEMSS Regions; as well as one meeting at MIEMSS. Ms. Gainer reviewed the major elements of the draft plan and summarized the comments received. She said that the next step is to seek approval of the eight Broad Goals from SEMSAC and the EMS Board in February while MIEMSS continues to refine and/or revise the action steps.

MSP AVIATION COMMAND

Major Lioi extended his sincere gratitude and appreciation to the EMS Board and SEMSAC for their continued support of the MSPAC during this last challenging but successful year and gave the follow MSPAC year-end update.

AW139 Transition Plan: Trooper 4 (Salisbury Section) is now operational 24/7. This makes 3 Sections (Troopers 3, 6 and 4) which have transitioned and are operational 24/7. On January 27th, Trooper 7 will begin the AW139 transition. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held on February 5, 2014 at Trooper 4 in Salisbury.

Second in Command (SICs): The MSPAC has received 115 applications for the ten SIC positions. Those applications have been graded and have resulted in 62 Best Qualified

Applicants; 17 Better Qualified Applicants; and 1 Qualified Applicant. The MSPAC will begin interviewing these 80 applicants starting this week and continuing through mid-February.

Flight Training Device (FTD): The Cost Benefit Analysis of the Flight Training Device was submitted by MDOT to the Joint Chairs of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and House Appropriations Committee of the Maryland Legislature. If approved, the FTD will afford pilots the opportunity to utilize the FTD for at least 75% of required flight training. Final approval is expected in the 1st quarter of 2014. It is estimated that the FTD will be operational for the MSPAC in approximately 18 months from final approval.

Major Lioi provided the following MSP year-end Statistics for 2013:

- Total Missions – 6580
- Scene MedEvacs - 2920
- Patients Transported - 2139
- SAR missions – 443

Major Lioi announced that Director Chris Lovejoy will be leaving MSPAC effective February 5, 2014. Mr. DeVries wished Director Lovejoy well in his new endeavors and thanked him for his contributions to MSPAC. Mr. DeVries added that there have been many difficult challenges, including operating with a dual fleet, during this transition and commended Major Lioi and his staff for their diligence during the transition. Mr. Broccolino echoed Mr. DeVries' comments regarding MSPAC's transition efforts.

R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER

Ms. Carlson submitted a written report for the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center and presented statistics from the past year at the STC. Ms. Carlson said that there was a reduction in admission in calendar year 2013 by 537 patients. Scene MedEvacs were down by 232 patients, with inter-facility transfers up by 125 patients. A total of 8,043 patients were seen in 2013. Ms. Carlson added that 713 patients have been seen in the Critical Care Resuscitation Unit, for the time-sensitive critically ill, since it was opened on July 16, 2014.

Ms. Carlson summarized the injury prevention, EMS educational initiatives and hospital drills that the STC had completed during the year.

Ms. Carlson said the date for the upcoming RACSTC Gala is April 26, 2014.

NATIONAL STUDY CENTER FOR TRAUMA AND EMS

Dr. Faden reminded the group that about five years ago the National Study Center was integrated into a larger organization called the Shock Trauma Anesthesiology Research organized research center (STAR-ORC). The mission of STAR-ORC is to facilitate translational research in areas related to trauma, tissue injury, critical care and anesthesiology. Extramural funding has increased from 4.2 million to 13.2 million dollars per year, much of which is NIH research. Significant new funding has been received from the Air Force through

the intramural Air Force research program. Over the last few years, there has been a renewed focus of pre-clinical evaluation and treatment research. Publications have increase from 54 in 212 to 99 in 2013.

Dr. Faden summarized some of the research activities of the center's faculty which include working with the Schools of Nursing and Dentistry on pain research and the Program on Aging Trauma and Emergency Care (PATEC).

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION (MSFA)

Mr. DeVries thanked the MSFA Leadership and the Volunteers for their efforts in ensuring cooperative excellence in Maryland EMS.

Ms. Olson expressed thanks to the EMS Board and SEMSAC on behalf of the statewide volunteer companies for the coordinated EMS system of care in Maryland. Ms. Olson summarized some of the activities MSFA leadership is working on, including the MSFA Safety and EMS Committees focus on the prevention of EMS "Close Calls".

Ms. Olson said that the Trustees benefits, for widows and widowers, is below the poverty level and that the MSFA Leadership is actively seeking an increase through the state legislature.

Ms. Olson invited everyone to the MSFA Legislative Reception in Annapolis.

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Kalish mentioned the Treasury announcement that regarding the treatment of Firefighters and Emergency Responders under the Affordable Care Act which "will not require volunteer hours of bona fide volunteer firefighters and volunteer emergency medical personnel at governmental or tax-exempt organizations to be counted when determining full-time employees (or full-time equivalents)."

Mr. Tom Gianni, Chief of Highway Safety Office, thanked the EMS Board for supporting the "Near Zero Deaths" Resolution and disseminated a flyer on the Strategic Highway Safety Summit scheduled for April 24-26, 2014.

Mr. John Denver said he joined the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) in May 2013; a new position representing Fire/EMS and Emergency Management within the Homeland Security Fusion Center to enhance situational awareness.

Mr. DeVries said that it was Dr. Bass' leadership that has gotten Maryland's EMS System to where it is today and although we will miss him greatly, he has put into place the system which ensures a strong continuance of system operations.

Upon the motion of Ms. Van Hoy, which was seconded by Ms. Showalter, the Board adjourned to Closed 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 DeVries, Esq., Chair; Vice-Chair; Sherry Adams; David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Dean E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N.; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: Robert Maloney; Victor A. Broccolino

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Ms. Gainer; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Abramson; Ms. Goff

OAG: Mr. Magee

The Board discussed preliminary budget matters, personnel matters, and requirements for pediatric emergency facilities.

Return to open session of the EMS Board.

Board Members Present: Donald DeVries, Esq., Chair; Vice-Chair; Sherry Adams; David Hexter, M.D.; Dean E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N.; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

Board Members Absent: Robert Maloney; Victor A. Broccolino

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Pat Gainer; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Abramson; Ms. Goff

OAG: Mr. Magee

ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Adams, which was seconded by Ms. Vanhoy, pursuant to Maryland Code Education Article §13-506(a), the Board appointed Richard Alcorta, M.D., and Patricia S. Gainer, JD, MPA, acting Co-Executive Directors of the

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems until such time as a new Executive Director commences employment with the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems.