



## *State EMS Advisory Council (SEMSAC)*

November 6, 2014

### **Meeting Minutes**

State of Maryland

**Maryland  
Institute for  
Emergency Medical  
Services Systems**

653 West Pratt Street  
Baltimore, Maryland  
21201-1536

*Martin O'Malley*  
Governor

*Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq.*  
Chairman  
Emergency Medical  
Services Board

*Kevin Seaman, MD, FACEP*  
Executive Director

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**SEMSAC Members Present:** Roland Berg, Chair; Jim Scheulen, Vice Chair; Wayne Dyott; Eric Smothers; Jeffrey Fillmore, MD; Scott Haas; Michael DeRuggiero; Alan Faden, MD; Roger Simonds; Tim Chizmar, MD.; Murray Kalish; MD; Lisa Tenney; Jennifer Anders, MD; Michael DeRuggiero; Nathaniel McQuay, MD; Will Bethea; Joe Brown; Wade Gaasch, MD; Tom Gianni; Linda Dousa; Kathleen Grote; Jay Fowler; Wayne Tiemersma; Joe Brown.

**Members Absent:** Karen Doyle; Melissa Meyers; Steve Edwards; Jack Markey; Elliott Ganson; Frank Lioi; Marian Muth.

**Others Present:** Lt. Kerr, MSP; Chief O'Connell, AACO FRS; Ms. Clapp, STC; Mr. Roth, MSFA; Mr. Dousa.

**MIEMSS:** Richard Alcorta, MD; Pat Gainer; Carole Mays; Barbara Goff; Jeannie Abramson; Anna Aycock; Rae Oliveira; Dave Balthis; Jim Brown; Lisa Myers; Bill Adams; Sherry Alban; Mike Deckard; Allen Walker, MD; Jim Brown; Fremont Magee; Lisa Chervon; Mike Reynolds.

Mr. Berg called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

**Action: A motion was made by Mr. Haas, seconded by Dr. Kalish and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2014, meeting of SEMSAC.**

Mr. Berg said the Council will be going into closed session today to review and approve Closed Session minutes from September 4, 2014 and October 2, 2014.

**MIEMSS Report:** Ms. Gainer

Ms. Gainer said the distributed meeting documents included the written monthly MIEMSS report. Moving forward, a copy the MIEMSS report will be distributed at SEMSAC and EMS Board meetings. Ms. Gainer highlighted the following items from the report:

Dr. Kevin Seaman will assume the Executive Director position at MIEMSS on December 1, 2014.

Ms. Gainer encouraged everyone to get a flu shot as flu season is upon us.

Ms. Gainer said that MIEMSS staff continues to work on the Jurisdictional EMSOP re-verification process for compliance with COMAR standards. Applications for re-verification as an EMSOP are due to Dr. Alcorta by November 15, 2014.

Ms. Gainer said the MIEMSS staff is in the midst of the transition for EMR and EMT to National Registry Testing. Ms. Oliveira added that most of the training agencies have signed on to the Registry.

MIEMSS staff continues with site visits for the re-verification of Cardiac Interventional Centers (CICs). All centers will be re-verified by the end of 2014.

All Perinatal re-verification site visits have been completed. MIEMSS is working on revising the Perinatal COMAR Regulations to align with the revised Perinatal Standards adopted by the Perinatal Clinical Advisory Committee and approved by the Perinatal Advisory Committee. MIEMSS has developed the Maryland Perinatal Programs database which contains data about the care and outcomes of both maternal and high-risk newborn infants in the state that have received care at a designated Level III Perinatal Center. Ms. Aycock added that the goal is to have all the perinatal center data entered by the end of November 2014 with the database being operational in January 2015.

MIEMSS hosted a Base Station Coordinators meeting in October 2014 which was well attended.

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) has released their “Orange Book” that contains the ACS revised trauma center standards. MIEMSS is in the process of reviewing the ACS standards and will convene a workgroup comprised of representatives from Maryland’s Trauma Centers to determine whether COMAR trauma regulations should be revised sometime after the first of the year.

Ms. Gainer said that Governor-Elect Hogan will be sworn in on January 21, 2014. The Maryland General Assembly will convene the week prior to the inauguration. The Governor’s budget will be presented to the Legislature no later than January 28, 2014. Ms. Gainer will be attending a meeting with Agency heads to discuss the transition to the new Administration. It is unclear what the impact on the FY16 budgets will be under the new administration. The current budget requests become part of the new Administration’s budget, and DBM will notify MIEMSS of any change requested by the new Administration. DBM has notified agencies that there will be a 300 million dollar shortfall in the current fiscal year’s budget and is asking agencies to limit discretionary spending.

Ms. Gainer added that with the recent election there will be significant changes in the legislature. Delegates Norm Conway, John Bohanan, David Rudolph, Mike Weir, John Donoghue, Kevin Kelly, and Senator Roy Dyson lost their bids for re-election, while Delegate Mary Delaney James failed in her bid for a Senate seat. As a result, there will likely be major changes in the House Appropriations Committee and the House EMS Workgroup which was formed after the crash of Trooper 2. Due to the retirements and the recent election results, the original 14-member House EMS Workgroup will have only 4 returning members: Marvin Holmes (Vice Chair), Talmadge Branch, Dan Morhaim and Kathy Szeliga. MIEMSS will be meeting with EMSOF partners in December to discuss initiatives the upcoming Legislative Session and efforts to reconstitute the House EMS Workgroup.

SYSKOM/EMRC Renovation Update. Mr. Balthis said that Phase #1 of the renovations, moving operations to the temporary location and the rehabilitation of the old facility, has been completed and Phase #2, the installation by Motorola, has begun. The Motorola phase of the project should be completed by May 2015. Once Motorola completes the installation, the operators will move into the newly redesigned and configured operations center. The temporary operations center will be maintained for 30 days for risk mitigation. Ms. Alban added that once Motorola has completed Phase #2, Phase #3 will commence which will include the demolition of the temporary center, installing the kitchen,

bathroom and office space which should take approximately 3 months. Pictures of the Operations Center before and during the work in progress were displayed.

Ebola Update. Dr. Alcorta said so far, over 20,000 persons in three Western African countries (Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone) have been infected with Ebola, which has a 50% mortality rate. There are vaccines being developed, and while there is some evidence that antivirals help, there is no true cure. Persons traveling from the three named countries to the United States are being screened at one of five airports. MIEMSS is working closely with DHMH monitoring all “Persons Under Investigation” (PUI) for Ebola for changes in their health status. Dr. Alcorta reviewed the processes for the identification and transport of a PUI, including patient monitoring, donning and doffing of PPE and the transport of PUIs by waived commercial ambulance services. Dr. Alcorta added it takes approximately 6 to 8 hours Ebola test results to be available from the testing lab.

Dr. Alcorta said working with 911 Centers, meeting with the Numbers Board and conducting weekly Infectious Diseases conference calls, MIEMSS has activated the Emergency Infectious Disease Screening (EIDS) tool. The EIDS will assist dispatchers in identifying potentially infected persons. MIEMSS is conducting a survey to ascertain jurisdictional and commercial services PPE caches. A link to the MIEMSS Infectious Disease web page has been added to eMEDS. The Infectious Disease web page includes minutes from the weekly infectious disease conference calls and all other pertinent documents. The infectious disease web page also contains links to the latest CDC PPE standards and guidance for identifying patients.

## **SEMSAC REPORT**

Chairman Berg said the EMS Board met on October 9, 2014. The Board approved the re-designation of Howard Community College (ALS Education Program with CAAHEP approval), Harford Community College (ALS Education Program with CoAEMSP/CAAHEP LOR), and Peninsula Regional Medical Center (EMS Refresher Program at the ALS level) as EMS Educational Programs for five years.

The Board also approved 5 year re-designations for Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Sinai Hospital of Baltimore and Western Maryland Regional Medical Center as Cardiac Interventional Centers.

## **NATIONAL STUDY CENTER REPORT (NSC)**

Dr. Faden reported the University-wide pain research center, a partnership involving the Schools of Nursing, Dentistry and Medicine, has recruited a nationally recognized expert in the field of placebo research last week from NIH.

The Program on Aging Trauma and Emergency Care (PATEC) is dedicated to reviewing the effects, presentations and treatments of trauma and emergency care in the elderly and has recently recruited a nationally recognized gerontologist to head the program. Partners include Epidemiology in Public Health and Emergency Medicine. Emergency Medicine has provided 6 Fellows to be part of the program.

Dr. Faden added that grant applications have been submitted to assist funding a recent bi-campus program involving Shock Trauma and the University of Maryland called the “Sports Medicine Health and Human Performance Center.” The Center’s objective will be to develop a major research and treatment concussion program at the College Park Campus. The University also intends to establish a sports related orthopedic evaluation, care and research program on the College Park Campus.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**SEMSAC Assessment Workgroup:** Jim Scheulen, SEMSAC Vice Chair / Chair of the Assessment Workgroup.

Mr. Scheulen said the first meeting of the workgroup was held via conference call on October 21, 2014. The attendees discussed the duties of SEMSAC past and future and centered on SEMSACs future interaction with the EMS Plan. Next steps will be to discuss with the EMS Board the expectations regarding SEMSAC responsibilities after the new MIEMSS Executive Director, Dr. Kevin Seaman, starts in December 2014.

**EMD Committee:** Written Report

**Regional Affairs:** Chief O’Connell

Chief O’Connell said that the Regional Affairs Committee met this morning with participation by all jurisdictions and successfully prioritized and allocated the 50/50 grants reaffirming upgrading monitored defibrillators and AED that meet the protocol requirements. It is anticipated the HPP grant awards will be announced between December 14, 2014 and January 15, 2014.

Chief O’Connell reported that DHMH released FY15 HPP grant monies for the purchase of additional PPE; unfortunately, the turnaround time was approximately 5 days which was not long enough to acquire approvals for purchase.

Mr. Berg added that jurisdictions are crafting Ebola plans and it was suggested at the Regional Affairs meeting that a repository for Jurisdictional Ebola plans be kept on the MIEMSS website.

**Minimum Equipment Subcommittee:** Mr. Simonds

Mr. Simonds said the first committee meeting was held on October 14, 2014, at MIEMSS and was well attended. It was noted at the meeting that Minimal Equipment Standards is a component of the EMS Plan. Committee members were tasked with reviewing the VAIP with their jurisdictional EMS Officials to determine specific reasons for not participating in the program. The next meeting is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup> at MIEMSS.

## **MARYLAND STATE FIREMAN’S ASSOCIATION**

Mr. Roth, MSFA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, said he agreed with Ms. Gainer’s statement regarding working together to educate the new legislators and their staffs on fire and EMS issues.

Mr. Roth applauded the EMS Board regarding the hiring of Dr. Seaman as the new MIEMSS Executive Director and said that he and the MSFA look forward to working with him. Mr. Roth thanked Dr. Alcorta and Ms. Gainer on their outstanding work as Acting Co-Executive Directors over the last year.

Mr. Roth wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ms. Dousa said the next MSFA Executive Committee meeting will be in Pocomoke City on December 6 and 7, 2014.

## **MARYLAND STATE POLICE AVIATION COMMAND**

Lt. Kerr reported for Major Lioi that MSPAC has completed transitional training at 6 of 7 Sections. The Baltimore Section, Trooper 1, began transition training on October 27, 2014. Members at the Trooper 1 Section are in the process of finishing the ground school portion of transition training and sortie-based training will follow in the coming weeks. MSPAC anticipates being fully transitioned the end of 2014. Twelve new pilots are also in the training process.

MSPAC and DGS are working together to sell the legacy Dauphin fleet. It is anticipated the helicopters would be listed on the "GOV Deals" website around mid-December. The aircraft will be posted for bid for 60 days and will be available for inspection by prospective bidders soon thereafter.

Trooper 5's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony took place at the Cumberland Section on October 15, 2014, to commemorate that Section's transition to the new AW-139 helicopters. He thanked all our partners who joined in this celebration.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

2015 Protocol Updates. Dr. Alcorta highlighted some of the Protocol Update changes, such as the twelve lead EKG documentation (last name, first initial age and gender is required on all hand-offs), the addition of inter-nasal midazolam; the addition of magnesium sulphate for seizures especially in pregnant patients who does not respond to midazolam; the minor modification of the chronic ventilation protocol; the specialty care transport protocol modification; antibiotics, started by a hospital, can be monitored by an ALS provider; the reduction in the use of backboards; removal of lactated ringers (iced) in favor of external ice packs; the Pilot Protocol for surgical airway under extraordinary care; Optional Supplemental Epinephrine protocol; and the Active Assailant protocol. Dr. Alcorta is accepting applications for the optional supplemental epinephrine protocol.

**ACTION: A motion was made by Mr. Tiermersma, seconded by Dr. Filmore, and unanimously passed to recommend that the EMS Board approve the 2015 Protocol changes.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Anders said concerns were raised during the November 5, 2014, PMAC meeting regarding patient care reporting to hospital emergency departments by EMS. Dr. Alcorta said that COMAR requires that an EMS provider leave a short form or submit an electronic patient care report at the time of patient hand-off. This requirement is also referenced in protocol. Chief Simonds suggested that if a provider does not leave a short form or the electronic patient care report at the time of care, the provider should be charged with a protocol violation. Mr. Berg added that hospital personnel need to pull the electronic care report from the hospital dashboard if it is left at time of care. Dr. Anders added that hospital staff does not have individual passwords for retrieving reports from the dashboard. Dr. Chizmar said that until EMS electronic patient care reports can interface with the electronic hospital reports, it will not be possible to get real time usage without leaving a paper report. A discussion on the issues surrounding and possible solutions to the patient care reporting issue followed.

Dr. Anders agreed to Chair a subcommittee of SEMSAC to investigate a possible solution to patient care reporting by EMS.

Election of Officers. The current officers Mr. Berg (Chair) and Mr. Scheulen (Vice Chair) were both nominated to serve in the current positions for a second term. There were no other nominees.

**By acclamation Mr. Berg was elected SEMSAC Chair and Mr. Scheulen SEMSAC Vice Chair.**

**A motion was made by Roger Simons and seconded by Dr. Faden to move to closed session.**

SEMSAC will adjourn to closed session under State Government Article §10-503(a)(1)(i) and 508(a)(13) to carry out an administrative function, and to comply with a specific constitutionally imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

**The closed session was attended by:**

**SEMSAC Members Present:** Roland Berg, Chair; Jim Scheulen, Vice Chair; Wayne Dyott; Eric Smothers; Jeffrey Fillmore, MD; Scott Haas; Michael DeRuggiero; Alan Faden, MD; Roger Simonds; Tim Chizmar, MD.; Murray Kalish; MD; Lisa Tenney; Jennifer Anders, MD; Michael DeRuggiero; Nathaniel McQuay, MD; Will Bethea; Joe Brown; Wade Gaasch, MD; Tom Gianni; Linda Dousa; Kathleen Grote; Jay Fowler; Wayne Tiemersma; Joe Brown.

**Members Absent:** Karen Doyle; Melissa Meyers; Steve Edwards; Jack Markey; Elliott Ganson; Frank Lioi; Marian Muth.

**MIEMSS:** Richard Alcorta, MD; Pat Gainer; Barbara Goff; Fremont Magee.

SEMSAC approved the minutes of the September 9, 2014, and the October 2, 2104, closed SEMSAC meetings.

SEMSAC adjourned by acclamation after the closed session.