

**State Emergency Medical Services Board
September 9, 2008
Minutes**

Board Members Present: Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq., Chairman; Victor A. Broccolino; Chief Scott Graham; David Hexter, M.D.; Sally Showalter; Roger Simonds; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Eugene L. Worthington.

Board Members Absent: David Fowler, M.D.; Dean E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Ms. Alban; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Bailey; Ms. Magee; Ms. Beachley; Mr. Brown; Mr. Davis; Mr. Dubansky; Dr. Floccare; Ms. Gainer; Mr. Hurlock; Ms. Myers; Mr. Seifarth;

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

Maryland Fire Rescue Institute: Becky Spicer (for Steve Edwards).

Maryland State Firemen's Association: Past President Paul Sterling.

Maryland State Police Aviation Command: Captain Dan Cornwell; Corie Cosgrove

R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center: Robbie Hartsock ; Brenda Fosler Johnson; Jaimee Higgins; John Spearman; Jim Radcliffe.

INTRODUCTION

Chairman DeVries called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m.

Action: Moved (Mr. Broccolino), seconded (Ms. Van Hoy), passed unanimously to approve as written the minutes of the July 8, 2008, meeting of the State EMS Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pyramid Conference. Dr. Bass said that the Pyramid conference had been well-attended. He congratulated conference organizers, presenters and participants on a successful meeting.

Legislative Committee Hearings. Dr. Bass said that he had briefed the Joint Committee on Health Care Delivery & Financing on September 4, 2008, regarding triage of patients to trauma centers; utilization of helicopters; and the memorandum of understanding with the commercial services. He summarized the highlights of the briefing for the Board. He

said that the Committee had indicated that it would be requesting further information and would forward that request to MIEMSS shortly.

Dr. Bass also said that the Legislative Audit Committee had scheduled a hearing on the results of an audit conducted on the MSP's Aviation Command. He said the hearing would be held at 1:00 p.m. today in the Joint Hearing Room in Annapolis.

REPORT OF THE STATEWIDE EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr. Simonds reported that SEMSAC had met on September 4, 2008. He said that Dr. Bass had briefed the council on the proposed STEMI system, and had received further revisions to the draft STEMI regulations, as well as a draft of the proposed reciprocity regulations. He said that the council had indicated its support of these initiatives.

REPORT OF THE R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER

Mr. Spearman provided the Shock Trauma Center Report to the Board. He said that admissions for August 2009 were ahead of the same period last year. He said that the number of beds occupied during the month were about the same as in August 2008. He reported that the number of operating room cases were slightly ahead of the same period last year. He said that there had been no capacity alerts during the month. Mr. Spearman said that STC personnel would be attending the meeting of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma and would be making several presentations. He also said that on September 24, the STC was providing a pre-hospital training session regarding Management of Severe Traumatic Brain Injury.”

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ms. Gainer said that MIEMSS would not be submitting any proposed legislation to the Governor's Office for consideration for the 2009 General Assembly.

OLD BUSINESS

Revised Draft Cardiac Designation Regulations. Dr. Bass said that MIEMSS was close to releasing a revision to the draft cardiac designation regulation. He said that the revised draft had been completed in an attempt to be responsive to the comments and suggestions that had been received.

NEW BUSINESS

CRT Program Update. Mr. Seifarth updated the Board on the CRT to CRT-99 Transition. He said that the CRT-99 Program was adopted in 2001 because it offered more trauma, medical, and cardiac content, and also because it included specialty populations, such as OB / GYN and pediatric patient populations. He said that existing CRTs were given seven (7) years to update to the new program and were able to update through normal continuing education. He reported that before the transition started, there were 710 CRTs and 2,091 paramedics, and, as of August 2008, there were a total of 834 CRTs and 2,453 paramedics licensed in Maryland.

Mr. Seifarth said that current plans are to keep the CRT-99 program in place and not adopt the new national AEMT level. He said that MIEMSS is working collaboratively with the Atlantic Council to develop licensing exams for CRT-99 providers that will be available once the National Registry stops testing at the EMTI-99 level.

Proposed EMS Provider Reciprocity Regulations. Mr. Seifarth and Ms. Sette explained the proposed changes were intended to facilitate EMS providers who want to practice in Maryland and who were certified in other states and also to make it easier for military personnel to obtain reciprocity. Dr. Bass explained that MIEMSS current regulations do not allow for true reciprocity because certain testing was required. He said that the proposed changes will remedy this aspect and asked that they be approved on an emergency basis to expedite integration of military personnel into the State EMS system. **Upon the motion of Ms. Van Hoy, which was seconded by Chief Graham, the Board approved as presented the proposed changes to the EMS Provider Reciprocity Regulations on an emergency basis.**

Mr. DeVries announced that the Board would be adjourning to Executive Session, but would subsequently reconvene in Open Session.

Dr. Bass updated the Board on the Maryland Ambulance Strike Team that had been sent to the Gulf area to provide emergency assistance associated with hurricanes in that area. He recognized the following for their assistance in that regard: Baltimore City, Charles County, Howard County, Harford County, LifeSTAR, and Barry Contee (MIEMSS).

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action: Moved (Mr. Broccolino), seconded (Ms. Showalter), passed unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session and then to reconvene in Open Session.

The purpose of the closed session was to carry out administrative functions under State Government Article §10-502(b), to maintain certain records and information in confidence as required by Health Occupations Article §14-506 (b) and COMAR 30.08.02.05(B)(9) under State Government Article §10-508 (13) and to discuss matters under executive privilege, including budgets for the entities supported by the EMS Operations Fund.

The closed session was attended by the following:

Board Members Present: Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq., Chairman; Victor A. Broccolino; Chief Scott Graham; David Hexter, M.D.; Sally Showalter; Roger Simonds; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Eugene L. Worthington.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass; Ms. Bailey, Mr. Dubansky; Ms. Gainer.

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

MFRI: Becky Spicer

MSP Aviation Command: Capt. Cornwell.

STC: John Spearman

Matters discussed during Executive Session were those covered by executive privilege and applicants for perinatal designation.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in open session at 11:54 a.m.

Perinatal Referral Center. Ms. Bailey presented the Peninsula Regional Hospital for provisional one-year designation as a Level IIIA Perinatal Center.

Action: Moved (Mr. Broccolino), seconded (Ms. Van Hoy), passed unanimously to approve the one-year provisional designation of Peninsula Regional Hospital as a Level IIIA Perinatal Center.

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