

**Emergency Medical Services Board  
March 10, 2009  
Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq., Chairman; Victor A. Broccolino; David Fowler, M.D.; Chief Scott Graham; David Hexter, M.D.; Sally Showalter; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Eugene L. Worthington; Dean E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.

**Others Present**

**MIEMSS:** Dr. Bass; Ms. Beachley; Mr. Brown; Mr. Dubansky; Dr. Floccare; Mr. Hurlock; Ms. Magee; Ms. Myers; Mr. Schaefer; Mr. Seifarth; Mr. Slack; Mr. New; Mr. Marshall; Ms. Fechter; Ms. Nainan; Ms. Alban; Mr. Thompson; Mr. Francischelli.

**OAG:** Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

**Maryland State Police Aviation Command:** Major McAndrew; Mike Gartland.

**R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center:** Jim Radcliffe; John Spearman.

**MSFA:** Mr. Underwood; Mr. Powell; Mr. Cox.

**Montgomery County Fire and Rescue:** Mike Glazier

**Washington Post:** Jenna Johnson

**INTRODUCTION**

Chairman DeVries called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Mr. DeVries thanked the MSFA for sponsoring the EMS rally of March 4, 2009 in Annapolis.

**Minutes: Action: Moved (Mr. Broccolino), seconded (Dr. Fowler), passed unanimously to approve as written the minutes of the Board's December 9, 2008 open meeting and the minutes of the February 10, 2009 Board open and closed meeting.**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT/LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Dr. Bass reported that the legislative session had been very busy. Helicopter replacement issues were taking a great deal of time. ATV bills were being heard. Ms. Gainer will provide a full update at the next meeting.

Dr. Bass provided an overview of the recommendations arising from the special EMS committee named by the Speaker of the House. The report was to be released later this

morning. The committee supports the reduction of bases to seven and the number of helicopters to ten. Since the procurement is flexible, the group suggested that data be reviewed over the next two years to see whether 6 bases might be acceptable. The committee recommended proceeding with the helicopter RFP, suggesting that three helicopters be bought each year to shorten the replacement time and thus help attain a fleet with the same technology. With regard to the governance of EMS, the committee will suggest that the Board's vacancy be filled and that expired terms be updated. The committee will also support Part 135 certification and CAAMTS accreditation for the program, while noting that the EMSOF may be strained to support those actions. The committee expressed opposition to privatization of Medevac services in Maryland and noted the effectiveness and cost efficiency of the multi-mission profile.

Dr. Bass reported that several key bills of interest were being heard on March 11. SB 649, introduced by Senator Pipkin, would provide payment from the EMSOF to private helicopter carriers for emergency transports. SB 650, introduced by Senators Pipkin and Astle, would provide for the development of an RFP process to solicit bids for the provision of Medevac services in Maryland; law enforcement, search and rescue and homeland security missions would be flown by a fleet of 4 helicopters operated by the Maryland State Police. SB 764 would establish a state Department of Emergency Medical Services, combining several EMS agencies including MIEMSS, MFRI and MEMA and Shock Trauma into one cabinet-level department; it also proposes the abolition of the EMS Board. Two hours have allocated for the hearings and testimony will be limited to 3 minutes per person. Mr. DeVries invited all Board members to attend.

### **REPORT OF THE STATEWIDE EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL**

There was no report as SEMSAC did not meet.

### **REPORT OF THE R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER**

Mr. Spearman distributed the Shock Trauma Report. He noted that numbers for February were significantly down in admissions, beds and OR cases from last year and budget. They are carefully monitoring March's numbers which also appear to be trailing last year's and the budgeted amounts. He noted that Shock Trauma will be presenting at the March GEMS conference, providing historical trauma cases, airway courses and tours. They will use their quarterly educational course to update the community on legislative issues. The program will be broadcast to eight sites.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Report on the Expert Panel on Helicopter Utilization- Dr. Bass provided an overview of the report that had been distributed to the Board. It is essentially the same as the draft report provided in December. It notes that Maryland has a good system and that trauma

outcomes exceed the national norms. The panel recommended that the MSP seek Part 135 certification and CAAMTS accreditation and suggested that the future focus be on patient care over response time. The central communications system was supported and the protocol changes implemented in October were deemed to be reasonable. While endorsing 7 bases as recommended by the SMART group, the panel suggested that data be collected and monitored so that informed decisions can be made regarding helicopter use and the number of bases needed.

Ms. Van Hoy said that it is good to see an outside group validate the direction that Maryland EMS is taking. Dr. Bass stated that he would bring back a report on the data being collected relative to the helicopter use and patient outcomes at the next meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Proposed revisions to AED regulations- Ms. Sette reported that no comments were received on the published regulations that had been approved by the Board.

**Action: Moved (Chief Graham), seconded (Ms. Van Hoy) and approved unanimously for the final approval of the regulations.**

### **ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Action: Moved (Chief Graham), seconded (Ms. Showalter), and passed unanimously to proceed to closed session.** There would be no need to return to open session following.

The purpose of the closed session was to carry out administrative functions under State Government Article §10-502(b), consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on pending disciplinary actions under State Government Article §10-508(7), to consult with staff and counsel on pending litigation under State Government Article §10-508(8), 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.

The closed session was attended by:

**Board Members Present:** Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq., Chairman; Victor A. Broccolino; David Fowler, M.D.; David Hexter, M.D.; Sally Showalter; Murray Kalish, M.D.; Mary Alice Van Hoy, R.N.; Chief Eugene L. Worthington; Chief Scott Graham; Dean E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.

**MIEMSS:** Mr. Dubansky, Dr. Alcorta, and Mr. Schaefer

**OAG:** Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette.

Disciplinary cases, budgetary matters, and other matters concerning legislation proposed by other entities relating to the administration of emergency medical services were discussed.