

**State Emergency Medical Services Board  
September 11, 2012  
Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Donald L. DeVries, Esq., Chairman; Vic Broccolino, Vice Chairman; David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D. (by phone); Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

**Board Members Absent:** Robert Maloney; Sherry Adams; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N.

**Others Present:**

**MIEMSS:** Dr. Bass; Ms. Abramson; Ms. Alban; Dr. Alcorta; Ms. Aycock; Mr. Balthis; Mr. Davis; Ms. Gilliam; Ms. Goff; Mr. Hurlock; Ms. Mays; Ms. Myers; Ms. Oliveira; Mr. Schaefer; Mr. Slack.

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

**MSP Aviation Command:** Deputy Director Chris Lovejoy.

Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute: Steve Edwards.

**Maryland State Firemen's Association:** President John Denver; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President David Keller.

**R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center:** Ms. Karen Doyle; Ms. Huggins.

Howard County EMS: Kevin Seaman, M.D.

Mr. DeVries called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Mr. DeVries asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of 9/11/2001.

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Showalter, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the minutes of the August 14, 2012, Board meeting.**

**STATEWIDE EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL**

A written copy of the approved minutes from the SEMSAC May 3, 2012, meeting was given to the EMS Board members.

Dr. Kalish stated that the draft AED Regulations were approved at the September 6, 2012, SEMSAC meeting with one change. The change made was to .01(3)C which now states: “Place all AEDs in locations which are visible and readily accessible to any person willing to operate the AED in the event of a cardiac arrest.”

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

EMS Plan. Dr. Bass said the MIEMSS staff continues work on updating the State EMS Plan.

Ambulance Safety Task Force. Dr. Bass reported that the Ambulance Safety Task Force Subcommittee continues its work to identify best practices and trends from jurisdictions throughout the State. The full taskforce should meet again in late fall.

Dr. Bass congratulated Gene Worthington on receiving the E. Wade Thomas Memorial Member of the Year Award at the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen’s Association Meeting in West Virginia.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Dr. Bass reported that due to the projected insolvency of the EMS Operations Fund in FY2014, MIEMSS has submitted a proposal for departmental legislation that would increase the vehicle registration fee surcharge by \$3.50. If the proposal is approved, the bill could be considered by the Legislature during its 2013 Session. Dr. Bass noted, however, that departmental legislation is one of several alternatives that could be used to address the MEMSOF insolvency.

## **R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER**

Ms. Doyle submitted a written report to the EMS Board. She said that patient volumes continue to be high. She reported that work on the new building is proceeding well.

Ms. Doyle also presented a video on distracted driving that had been made in collaboration effort with state and jurisdictional partners. She said that the four-minute video will be distributed to 400 driver’s education training programs across the State.

## **MSP AVIATION COMMAND UPDATE**

Mr. Lovejoy reported that the pre-acceptance inspections have been completed two of the new helicopters #1 and #2. He said that delivery is expected by the end of the year pending FAA certification of customer requested modifications to the search light and medical interior.

Mr. Lovejoy said that the FAA has reinterpreted the training curriculum provided by the contractor administering the MSPAC transition pilot training. The FAA has stated that the

coursework is insufficient for single pilot VFR type authorization. MSPAC, MDOT and AAC are working closely with the vendor and the FAA to resolve the current rating restriction.

Eighteen (18) Troopers with EMS training have been identified within the department to be assigned to the Aviation Command. These Troopers will begin transition into the Command as second providers when the current academy class graduates in February. The MSPAC intends to eventually place a second provider aboard all aircraft accordance with CAMTS Standards.

Trooper 5 (Cumberland) has begun utilizing dynamic deployment during peak times or during special events to address increased demands from Garrett County.

In October 2012 members of the MSPAC and Maryland Task Force 2 will travel to California for aerial rescue training with Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD). LAFD operates 3 AW-139 aircraft and has extensive experience with hoist rescues.

During the first six months of 2012, aircraft were dispatched and launched on 104 missions in accordance with early activation guidelines established last year. These 104 missions resulted in 99 patient transports.

Due to vacancies and ongoing training requirements, the MSPAC has temporarily reduced the hours of operation for Trooper 2. MSPAC is working to ensure that peak hours are staffed and is working closely with U.S. Park Police to ensure 24/7 coverage.

Mr. Lovejoy said that MSP continues to have challenges with employee recruitment and retention of civilian pilots, maintenance technicians and Trooper/Flight Paramedics due to salaries well below industry standards.

## **MSFA UPDATE**

President John Denver introduced the new MSFA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; David Keller.

President Denver said that the MSFA's three year plan was approved at the August Executive Committee meeting in Elkton. Recruitment and retention, working with state and jurisdictional partners, and the MEMSOF Coalition were included.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

SEMSAC By-Laws. Dr. Kalish presented the updated SEMSAC By-Laws to the EMS Board.

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Reece, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved the SEMSAC By-Laws.**

Cardiac Arrest Steering Committee presentation. Dr. Kevin Seaman gave a power point presentation on the Maryland Cardiac Arrest Steering Committee that has been newly formed. Dr. Seaman will serve as chairman of the Committee. He discussed the need for the Committee, goals, membership, and topics that the Committee will consider. His presentation highlighted the disparity among communities in survival from cardiac arrest and how those outcomes could be improved. He said that the first meeting of the Committee will be held in October.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

AED Regulations. Ms. Sette presented the proposed AED Regulation amendments with the above stated requested change from the SEMSAC for publication by the Board.

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Ms. Showalter, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board approved publication of the proposed AED Regulation amendments for public comment.**

COMAR 30.01.02 Incorporation by Reference. Mr. Magee stated that the proposed amendment to incorporate by reference the 2012 protocol changes into the Title 30 regulations had been published in the Maryland Register on July 13, 2012, with no comments.

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Westerband, which was seconded by Dean Reece, the Board approved the published changes to COMAR 30.01.02.**

eMEDS Update. Joe Davis gave an update on statewide implementation and said that non-licensed volunteers (drivers, etc.) need to be credentialed in eMEDS. There are currently 26,000 credentialed users of eMEDS with 14,000 users that have logged-in to date. The latest release from ImageTrend is Field Bridge Xpress which includes multi-platform support for mobile devices. Pricing and functionality are being assessed.

Communications Update. Mr. Balthis reported that MIEMSS has been working on becoming narrowband compliant for the last 5 years, in accordance with FAA requirements that all narrowband operations be completed by January 1, 2013. He said that Region IV was completed in two phases in May and June 2012 respectively. MIEMSS began narrowband operation in western Maryland's EMRC the first week of September 2012. Region V will convert to narrowband operation on October 12, 2012, with Region III's operation to be completed on November 14, 2012. Mr. Balthis also said that although the Radio Grant is closed, there are some certified pre-owned radios from PG County available.

Mr. Balthis reported that Phase I of the 700 MHz implementation is moving forward and testing will begin in late September or early October 2012; areas to be covered include I-95 in Harford County, Harry Nice Bridge, ICC, parts of Baltimore's Inner Harbor and St Mary's County. This will be operational by January 1, 2013, due to the narrowband requirements affecting MTA,

DNR and others. Phase II, Region IV, is under way. A waiver was received from the FCC in August to use 700 MHz frequencies for air-to-ground helicopter communications.

Mr. Balthis said that a PORFP was released on September 4, 2012, for contracting with a consultant to initiate the first phase of the upgrade to the MIEMSS Communications Center.

Mr. Balthis introduced Mr. Chris Bechtel as the newest member of the MIEMSS IT staff.

Dr. Bass noted the many complex projects underway in IT and Communications. Dr. Bass thanked all MIEMSS staff, including Dave Balthis, Rich Berg, and Joe Davis for their excellent work.

Mr. DeVries announced that the Board would be retiring to Executive Session, after which it would reconvene in Open 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), 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).

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Broccolino, which was seconded by Dr. Westerband, the Board adjourned to Executive Session.**

The closed session was attended by:

**Board Members Present:** Donald L. DeVries, Esq., Chairman; Vic Broccolino; David Hexter, M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D. (by phone); Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D. (by phone); Sally Showalter; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

**Board Members Absent:** Robert Maloney; Sherry Adams; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N.

**Others Present:**

**MIEMSS:** Dr. Bass; Ms. Abramson; Ms. Goff; Ms. Aycock

**MFRI:** Steve Edwards

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

**MSP Aviation Command:** Mr. Lovejoy

The Board approved the closed session minutes from the August 14, 2012, meeting.

The Board approved the proposed budgets for the entities supported by the MEMSOF.

The Board discussed an EMS educational program.

The Board was provided information regarding the designation of base stations.

The Board was provided information regarding a designated perinatal referral center.

**The Board reconvened into Open Session.**

**Board Members Present:** Donald L. DeVries, Esq., Chairman; Vic Broccolino; M.D.; Murray Kalish, M.D. (by phone); Dean Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D.; Sally Showalter; Dany Westerband, M.D.; Gene Worthington.

**Board Members Absent:** Robert Maloney; Sherry Adams; Mary Alice Vanhoy, R.N. ;David Hexter,

**Others Present:**

**MIEMSS:** Dr. Bass; Ms. Abramson; Ms. Goff

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

**ACTION:** Upon the motion of Mr. Broccolino, which was seconded by Dean Reece, the Board approved Base Station designations as follows:

**Five-year designation:**

**Atlantic General Hospital  
Baltimore Washington Medical Center  
MedStar Franklin Square Hospital  
Garrett County Hospital  
Johns Hopkins Bayview Center  
Mercy Medical Center  
St. Joseph Medical Center**

**Two-year designation:**

**Maryland General Hospital**

**One-year designation:**

**Carroll Hospital Center**

**Harford Memorial Hospital  
Upper Chesapeake Medical Center**

There being no further business, the Board adjourned by acclamation at 11:10am.