

SEMSAC Meeting Minutes  
June 2, 2011

**Members Present:** M. Kalish, Chairperson; R. Berg, Vice-Chairperson; S. Edwards; M. DeRuggiero; R. Simonds; L. Dousa; M. Gibbons; W. Bethea; S. Haas; C. Mays; A. Walker; W. Gaasch; K. Doyle; D. Crane; J. Fillmore; K. Grote; K. Yamamoto; P. Dischinger for Dr. Alan Faden; G. Delaplaine by phone; K. May by phone.

**Members Absent:** J. Fowler; E. Mowbray; J. Markey; J. Scheulen; J. Brown; M. Meyers; R. Lipps; M. Muth.

**MIEMSS:** R. Bass; L. Myers; A. Aycock; C. Hyzer; P. Hurlock; T. Buckson; S. Alban; J. Brown; B. Slack; C. Wright-Johnson.

**OAG:** F. Magee; S. Sette.

**STC:** R. Hartsock

**MSFA:** D. Lewis; J. Denver

**Other:** W. Tome; B. VanHoy

Dr. Kalish opened the meeting at 13:05 with welcome and introductions. The April 7, 2011 meeting minutes were approved.

**Executive Director's Report-Dr. Robert Bass**

- A Heat Emergency Plan prepared by DHMH was recently forwarded to the jurisdictions in response to the recent heat wave. DHMH is closely monitoring.
- The EMS Stars of Life Awards ceremony had good media coverage and was well attended.
- The eMEDS pilot is complete. Implementation is set to begin throughout the state over the next several months. A National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) module has also been added into the eMEDS application.
- The 2011 Protocol Update rollout took place in January 2011. In order to address MSFA concerns that providers not wait until the last minute, MIEMSS sent notices requesting early completion by June 1, 2011. The deadline for the 2011 protocol update completion is July 1, 2011. To date 80% of the EMS providers have completed the update. A list of those that have not completed the 2011 update will be sent to the jurisdictions.
- The Ambulance Safety Task Force met today. A draft report with recommendations will be presented at the MSFA convention in June. It will also be presented to SEMSAC and the EMS Board. The report recommendations include continuing efforts to trend.
- The State Interoperability Executive Committee met June 1, 2011. Progress is being made connecting jurisdictions statewide. A new 700 MHZ system is planned to be implemented statewide and will be interoperable with 800 MHZ systems. A test rollout area will include

primarily transit police before statewide implementation. Additional towers, antennas and the sharing of resources between state and local governments will be necessary. While the new system will improve statewide interoperability, key challenges include governance and funding.

- The draft Comprehensive Stroke Center Regulations were approved by the EMS Board to be published for public comment in the July 15, 2011 edition of *The Maryland Register*.
- Mary Beachley, Chief of Health Facilities and Special Programs is retiring from MIEMSS after 25 years of service at the end of June. A farewell luncheon is being planned for Mary and interested SEMSAC members are welcome to attend.

### **SEMSAC Chairman's Report-Dr. Murray Kalish**

The following action items from the April and May 2011 EMS Board meetings were presented by Dr. Kalish:

#### **April 2011 EMS Board Action Items**

1. The Board approved the modification to the Ventilator Protocol.
2. The Board voted to approve Memoranda of Understanding between MIEMSS and each of the following out-of-state Cardiac Interventional Centers:
  - Bayhealth – Kent General Hospital – Dover, DE
  - Christiana Hospital – Newark, DE
  - Washington Hospital Center – Washington, DC
3. The Board voted to approve the designation of the Germantown Emergency Center as a Freestanding Emergency Medical Facility.
4. The Board voted to approve the designation of the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital as an Eye Trauma Center.
5. The Board voted to approve Queen Anne's County Department of Emergency Services as an EMS Refresher Education Program for a five-year period; and University of Maryland Express Care to offer Specialty Care Transport Refresher Courses to run concurrent with their existing program approval (until March 9, 2015).

#### **May 10, 2011 EMS Board Action Items**

1. The Board voted to publish for comment in the July 15, Maryland Register the following proposed new regulations and amendments to the Title 30 regulations:
  - A new chapter 17 in COMAR 30.08 creating a designation for comprehensive stroke centers;

- A proposed amendment to COMAR 30.01.02.01 to incorporate by reference the latest medical protocols and adult and pediatric data dictionaries and to correct the contact telephone number;
  - A proposed amendment to COMAR 30.08.02.03 to allow applications for trauma and specialty centers to be filed in electronic format;
  - A proposed amendment to COMAR 30.08.02.04 to recognize a waiver of certificate of need in the requirements for designated trauma and specialty centers;
  - A proposed amendment to COMAR 30.08.02.07 to provide a variable period for provisional designation of a trauma or specialty center;
  - Proposed amendments to COMAR 30.08.02.10 procedures for on-site review for reverification of trauma and specialty centers to allow MIEMSS in appropriate cases to accept verification from nationally recognized organizations, such as the American Burn Association, to conduct an on-site review with a reduced team, or to forgo an on-site review if MIEMSS determines there is enough data on hand that a site review is not necessary;
  - Proposed amendments to COMAR 30.04.02.12 ALS, 30.04.03.17 BLS, and 30.04.04.50 EMD, to provide a variable period for provisional designation of Educational Programs.
2. The Board voted to approve a 5 year designation as a Primary Stroke Center to Washington Adventist Hospital.
  3. The Board voted to approve ProCare Ambulance Company as an EMS Refresher Education Program for a five-year period.

#### **National Study Center Director's Report-Pat Dischinger for Dr. Alan Faden**

- STAR has been awarded a \$ 2.6 million grant from the Air Force to look at the impact of air evacuation, using hyperbaric conditions, on the outcome after experimental brain injury as well as the use of novel protective strategies.
- A new staff member has been hired that will serve as the MIEMSS-NSC research fellow, with the responsibility of assisting with EMS data analysis. Luis Pinet-Peralta has just received a PhD in Health Policy Research and will be starting at the NSC in August. He will be teaching Health Policy in the Epidemiology Department this summer. Mr. Pinet-Peralta is also a paramedic.

## **Committee Reports**

### **ALS-Terrell Buckson**

- Melanie Miller has been chosen to serve as the new chairperson of the ALS committee. Nominations for a co-chairperson are being accepted until June 10, 2011. ALS meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is July 20, 2011.

### **BLS-No Report**

### **EMD-No Report**

### **Regional Affairs-No Report**

## **Old Business**

### **EMS Provider Status Update-Terrell Buckson**

The total number of EMT-B, CRT-99, and EMT-P, including current, extended, jeopardy, military and inactive as of June 2, 2011 is 21,700 compared to 20,836 in FY 2010. The total number of EMDs is slightly higher while the total number of First Responders is slightly lower for the same time period.

### **Medevac Utilization Update-Dr. Bass**

Dr. Bass presented statics regarding utilization of helicopters via power point presentation. Dr. Bass noted the initial decrease in MedEvac transports after the change in protocols in 2008. The trend is now increasing slightly.

Dr. Bass stated there are several other trends to watch; under triage in categories C&D, percentage of C&Ds, percentage of helicopter cancellations, ED transfers to Trauma Centers, and scene transfers to Trauma Centers.

Dr. Bass stated that the majority of ED transfers to Trauma Centers in Region III came from the Baltimore City metro area.

Dr. Bass indicated there is no significant increase in Commercial Service helicopter transports for trauma.

### **MSP Aviation Command Update-Major Gibbons**

Major Gibbons gave an overview and distributed a presentation on Year to Date Performance, Planning for the peak season for helicopter dispatch (Aircraft Deployment and System Status Management), Part 135 Update, and new Aircraft progress.

Major Gibbons stated that during the peak season, helicopters will be deployed (during peak days and times) to statistically heavy dispatch areas in Worcester County for quicker response times. Plans are also underway to implement a "dynamic deployment program" in Cecil County. Major Gibbons also noted the

time savings regarding maintenance by having maintenance teams going to the helicopter instead of the helicopter going to Martins.

The General Assembly has authorized purchase of eleven aircraft with anticipated delivery of the first two aircraft in May of 2012. Field provider training is targeted to begin prior to delivery.

### **New Business**

#### **Medical Orders Life Sustaining Treatment (MOLST)-Sarah Sette**

Sarah Sette gave an overview of the new MOLST form to be implemented in October 2011. The new form was the result of legislation that passed during the 2010 session of the Maryland General Assembly and will replace the current EMS DNR form and the Life Sustaining Options form by consolidating them into one new form. The State End of Life Council worked to simplify the existing process and focus on patient's wishes is emphasized in the new form. The form can be signed by either a physician or nurse practitioner and must be completed by inpatient facilities. Information will be made available on the MIEMSS webpage and the DHMH Office of Health Care Quality webpage.

#### **EMS DNR Protocol Change-Sarah Sette**

SEMSAC voted to approve adding "MOLST" to the 2011 EMS DNR protocol.

#### **EMS Protocol Change-Cardiac Interventional Centers-Sarah Sette**

SEMSAC voted to approve adding the list of designated Cardiac Interventional Centers to the 2011 EMS Protocols.

#### **AED Regulation Change-Sarah Sette**

SEMSAC voted to approve removing the protocol from the public access defibrillation regulations to be compliant with the new 2010 ECC Guidelines. The regulations now simply direct individuals to follow the instruction they received during CPR/AED training.

**Next Meeting: September 1, 2011.**

**The meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.**