



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES
Bureau for Public Health
Office of Emergency Medical Services

Bill J. Crouch
Cabinet Secretary

Rahul Gupta, MD, MPH, MBA, FACP
Commissioner
State Health Officer

Minutes
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL
December 12, 2017

Members Present

Brenden Brown
Edward Hicks
Dr. Lisa Hrutkay
Marsha Knight
Jim Kranz
Stephen McIntire
Glen Satterfield
Paul Seamann
Donna Steward
Trish Watson
David J. Weller
Nancy Catmill - via phone

Members Absent

Connie Hall
Jeff Kady
A. Gordon Merry

OEMS Staff

Dr. Michael Mills – via phone
Melissa Raynes
Danny Anderson
Tim Proddy
Terri O'Connor

Guests

Mike Conners
James Nance
Kris Barron
Jacob Carr
Ryan Barry
David Cutright
Steven McDonald
Elizabeth Hammons
Thomas Sirbaugh
Ed Bays
Mike Freeman
Matthew Largent
James Mason
Monica Mason
Ray Steward
Clinton Burley
Diana Mitchell
Kevin Duckwall
Chad Winebrenner

Guests

Gloria Burr
Matthew Crawford
Kurt Gainer
Dr. Rex Lasure
John Dearnell
James V. Hill
Thomas Robinson
Greg Burd
Tracey Corbin
Janie Ward
Edna Williamson
Dr. Jonathan Newman
R. Craig Horn
Rita White
Dr. Mike Peterson
Charles King Jr.
Patrick Cornell
Don Weigal

I. Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call

Chairman Jamie Weller called the quarterly meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC) to order on December 12, 2017 at 1:33 PM at the Medical Coordination Center in Flatwoods, WV. Chairman Weller welcomed members and guests. Roll call followed.

II. Approval of September 12, 2017 Minutes

Paul Seamann made motion to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2017 regular statutory meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Jim Kranz. Motion carried.

III. Chairman Report

Chairman Weller reported that the Subcommittee of the Volunteer Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services at the West Virginia Legislature will be holding a series of listening sessions. Members have been invited to hear concerns and potential solutions from citizens and volunteers in your area related to the challenges facing VFD and EMS. Chairman Weller stated that he will be participating in the December 13, 2017 session in addition to presenting the EMSAC status report January 2018.

IV. EMSAC Committee Reports

Special Interest – Brief overview of the 10/31/2017 minutes presented by Paul Seamann.

Community Paramedic

Continues to move forward. Reimbursement challenges remain as does liability and medical malpractice issues. Point of contact is James Mason.

buzz.mason@gmail.com

CCT Update

CCT Guidelines approved by MPCC (January 2017); CCT Medication & Procedural references to be added to Guidelines

MCCP/MCCN Recertification requirements have been revamped; MCCP/MCCN Reciprocity option has been defined; CCP Providers now have a “grace” period of one year to recertify; CCT course has been revamped to include more lecture and practical hours. Points of contact are Beth Hammons and Rich Meadows.

elizabeth.hammons@air-evac.com

richmeadows@kceaa.org

C2IFT pilot program began September 2017 with Princeton Rescue Squad and Webster Springs EMS. Point of contact is Rita White

ritawhite@kceaa.org

C3IFT – first meeting held September 26, 2017; second meeting November 11, 2017. Projects (Updated guidelines; Scope of Practice; Education) are nearing completion and will be submitted to WVOEMS, EMSAC and MPCC as appropriate. Point of contact is Tracey Corbin.

tcorbin@jancare.com

TECC – Tactical EMS

Program has been reset. Additional agencies (eight or nine) will be joining the six that have been established during the preliminary meeting. The next meeting will be held on January 19, 2018 at KCEAA. Please refer to the minutes for additional information.

Administration

West Virginia EMS Leadership Development Program – Chairman Weller

Pilot course report – Level I Supervisor

A pilot course for the Level I-Supervisor was run (train the trainer). There will be a second train the trainer session run the Tuesday and Wednesday of ESCAPE during February 2018

Level II Administrator Program-Direction – no report

Conflict of Interest Policy – Chairman Weller

The Regional Medical Command Conflict of Interest Policy was sent out to the council. Motion to accept this policy made by Stephen McIntire. Motion seconded by Donna Steward. Motion carried.

EMSC Letter of Support – Chairman Weller

Federal grant requirements have changed. Vicki Hildreth, Coordinator, EMS for Children asked for a letter of support from EMSAC regarding the Fiscal Year 2018 funding of the EMS for Children State Partnership Grant. Motion to provide a letter

of support made by Paul Seamann. Motion seconded by Steve McIntire. Motion carried.

Provider Recognition Awards – Marsha knight

EMS week for 2018 is May 15 – 21, 2018. A draft packet similar to what was done last year was distributed to the council. It lists the recognition categories and criteria for consideration by the WVOEMS along with the nomination form. This form will be voted on during the March 13, 2018 EMSAC meeting.

Proposed EMS Rule changes – Melissa Raynes

Proposed rule changes were discussed several months ago – i.e. Vehicle markings in accordance with the recommendations of our safety committee using the CASS guidelines. Section 3 related to county commissions having delegated authority to provide EMS services to their communities was removed because DHHR simply does not have the authority to delegate to a county commission what they are responsible for. That is covered in code in another area. We did have some proposed fee changes in which we have been working on with the legislative committee and our partners on adjusting those fees. We took out the background check fee and made it separate because that is truly what has been causing a deficit to our budget. The initial certification fee will go from \$50.00 to \$75.00 and the recertification fee from \$25.00 to \$37.50. That is a 50% increase even though the certification period goes from two to four years. The emergency medical dispatcher fee was removed and the late fee remains at \$25.00.

The legislative rule making committee met within the last few weeks and passed the EMS proposed rule during the full regular session in January.

Equipment List – Chairman Weller

The Ground Ambulance Equipment List was changed to include Ketamine and TXA. A third change to include Mechanical CPR devices will also apply. Motion to accept all changes and submit to OEMS for consideration made by Edward Hicks. Motion seconded by Marsha Knight. Motion carried.

National Registry – See Special Presentation

Safety – Chairman Weller

Vicki Hildreth was not present to speak about the ARC4 Restraints. No other reports at this time.

Policy/Procedure & Protocol

Review of policies approved by MPCC and current status – Chairman Weller

There is a multitude of Protocols that have been approved by the MPCC after having gone through the 30-Day Comment period. These protocols will roll out on January 1, 2018. EMSAC is working on the education process for these protocols. Volunteers are encouraged as this is a time sensitive matter.

Proposed Communication Protocol – Chairman Weller

At the request of MPCC a committee was formed to develop a new communication protocol. MPCC requested that the existing protocol be reviewed and the excessive verbiage be removed. The first page is a flow chart with the actual policy following. It is noted that this was discussed during committee with the focus being on Item A. Council suggested clarifying the sentence to read as follows:

“EMS personnel shall notify Medical Command on all inter-facility transports being received by an emergency department not less than fifteen (15) minutes prior to arrival at the receiving facility.”

Motion made by Glen Satterfield to accept suggested change, submit to OEMS for a 30-Day comment period followed by MPCC consideration. Motion seconded by Paul Seamann. Motion carried.

Training

No report at this time.

V. Special Reports

OEMS – Melissa Raynes

Melissa Raynes stated that since the last EMSAC meeting, OEMS experienced vacancies in certification and licensure. Missy Runyon transferred to another state agency, Pamela Hitt retired and Karen Aldridge also transferred to another state agency. The two certification vacancies were filled on December 11, 2017 by John Smith and Rebecca Smith.

OEMS continues to have an average of 20 investigations per month. There are 6,677 EMS personnel currently certified in the state with approximately 3,900 of them active on runs at any given time. Year to date OEMS has made 215,500 runs averaging around 40,000 per month. OEMS has 198 licensed agencies and 1,192 permitted vehicles.

OEMS Naloxone administrations for 2017 are at 5,618 compared to 2016 in which we were at 5,896. We are starting to these figures level off and even decrease a little bit.

OEMS continues to have falls as the number one cause of injury with trauma running close behind that. The top 25 drugs and procedures continue to be consistent with the chronic conditions in West Virginian i.e. diabetes, heart disease and related conditions.

OEMS is working with UNC-PIC on several research projects in which I anticipate a release of information in 2018 relating to these projects.

The neonatal abstinence syndrome work group developed a training session that was rolled out for the first time to the official agency representatives on November 15, 2017. OEMS received positive input and feedback, therefore, those additions are being added to the program which will be rolled out regionally in 2018.

Mrs. Raynes stated that she was notified today regarding calls coming from a 558-number requesting money for WVOEMS. Please be advised this is a scam. Do not send money. This will be posted to the OEMS website and the proper authorities notified.

Mrs. Raynes reports that the EMSC Grant application is currently underway. OEMS has asked Vicki Hildreth about funding for the DT4EMS annual training. It is noted that we can accommodate that training in the EMSC grant for 3 of the 4 years of that grant. The training will be provided 2018, 2019 and 2020 at the Medical Coordination Center in Sutton, WV. at no cost to EMS providers.

Medical Director – Dr. Michael Mills

No report at this time.

Medical Command

No report at this time.

Air Medical
No report at this time

VI. Old Business
Nothing to report

VII. New Business

Chairman Weller reported the cost to fund the EMSAC website is \$175.00 per year and is due for renewal. Chairman Weller funded this website for the first year and has requested funding if council feels that the website is a beneficial tool. General discussion regarding funding options and usefulness followed. Jim Kranz volunteered to fund the website for the second year.

Time permitting, Chairman Weller requested that the minutes of the current meeting be posted as a draft as soon as possible after the meeting so that the council members have time to review them before the next meeting takes place. Chairman Weller also requested that the committee chairpersons have their presentation topics available before the actual meeting so a packet can be prepared ahead of time.

Chairman Weller reported that there has been some concern regarding how recertification works. For example – EMS provider certification expires March 31, 2018; EMS provider recertified in December 2017 – Card indicates recertification in December 2017. Education hours taken between December 2017 and March 2018 will count towards the next recertification. It appears that there has been confusion regarding the counting of these education hours. Motion to clarify this with the OEMS made by Marsha Knight. Motion seconded by Edward Hicks. Motion carried.

Medicaid Reimbursement (NARCAN administered W/O patient transport) – Melissa Raynes

Mrs. Raynes reported that OEMS has been working with the Bureau of Medical Services (BMS) related to naloxone reimbursement for non-transport runs. BMS did a training session in conjunction with the annual official representative meeting on November 15, 2017. There will be a naloxone reimbursement of \$43.94 which includes two doses, two atomizers and an administration fee. There is also an educational component for 15 minutes at \$14.35 reimbursement. The education piece is either getting the overdose patient connected to the hot line for treatment for intervention or providing them with educational materials about treatment or intervention. Each of the behavioral health facilities in your local community are supposed to be getting you those educational materials. Please make sure you have this information available when Medicaid starts the naloxone reimbursement.

Mrs. Raynes stated that this is the first such program in the United States and BMS has been working on this for the past two years. The billing code for the education is H0025. It is a bundle code for the \$43.94 and that is code 30999.

National Registry Presentation Update – Chairman Weller

Prior to the EMSAC meeting, Donnie Woodyard, Jr., MA, NRP addressed the committee and council members to discuss the full adoption of the National Registry of EMTs certification as a basis for state EMS certification. This presentation included framework addressing various concerns and a process outlining how West Virginia can transition to the use of the NREMT.

Chairman Weller also stated that the new recertification procedures have been developed and are ready for implementation. They will follow NCCP standards for National Registry. National Registry has offered to grandfather all WV EMS providers into the system without retesting and regardless of whether or not you have ever obtained a National Registry

Certification. This would allow WV to adopt the Mark King initiative; follow National Registry as the sole source for certification/recertification and eliminate the State tract while following the standards that OEMS is already planning to implement January 1, 2018 with the State tract included. If EMSAC and MPCC decide to adopt the Mark King initiative and eliminate the State tract, the implementation date will be pushed to April 1, 2018. General discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of adopting National Registry.

It is noted by Chairman Weller that if adopted this will be a process to make it work. There are websites to be built and reconfigured, testing sites to be developed, credentialing agreements etc. There is a commitment from National Registry to work with OEMS to accomplish this in a timely fashion. Chairman Weller also stated if this plan is adopted, he recommends that OEMS continue to use the certification/recertification rules that are in place now instead of changing them on January 1, 2018 and changing them again six months later. In depth discussion continued regarding the education component, certification fees, testing centers, paramedic levels and legacy providers followed.

Motion made by Steve McIntire to move forward with the National Registry route. Motion seconded by Brenden Brown. Motion carried.

Motion to withhold the new recertification procedures until we can implement National Registry made by Dr. Hrutkay. Motion seconded by Marsha Knight. Motion carried.

Other Concerns

Chairman Weller reported on two specific concerns that were brought to his attention. The first concern is that of the Emergency Medical Vehicle Operator (EMVO) certification. There are those that feel the EMVO should be a onetime certification and not require renewal every four years. It is noted that EMVO is legislated and would require legislative change to do this. The EMVO certification is also a FEMA recommendation that was adopted in 2011 and implemented in 2013. This would be a significant legislative rule change to undertake.

The second concern is that OEMS should have a category of first responders below the level of EMR. This proposed category would have CEUs between 16 – 24 hours that allows them to work and do more as fire fighters responding to the needs of the citizens. It is noted that this has been discussed on previous occasions and would require developing a program on our own.

Motion made by Steve McIntire to take no action at this time. Motion seconded by Dr. Hrutkay. Motion carried.

VIII. Good of the Order

Edward Hicks distributed updated West Virginia Public Service Training brochures to council members and guests.

The next meeting will be March 13, 2018.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 2:45 PM made by Steve McIntire. Motion seconded by Edward Hicks. Motion carried.