

**STATE OF MARYLAND**

**STATEWIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

February 7, 2008

**SEMSAC MEMBERS PRESENT:** Roger Simonds; Murray Kalish; Steven Edwards; David Balthis; James Scheulen; Carole Ann Mays; Kathleen Grote; John Spearman; Joe Brown; Roland Berg; Scott Haas; Kenneth May; Wendell Baxter; Major A.J. McAndrew; George Delaplaine; Jeffrey Fillmore; James Fowler; Allen Walker.

**SEMSAC MEMBERS ABSENT:** David Crane; Sharon Henry; Wade Gaasch; Denise Graham; Thomas Reilly; Zeina Kouri; Ronald Lipps; Thomas Scalea; Charles Wills; Kathryn Yamamoto.

**MIEMSS STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. Robert Bass; Joe Davis; Beth Magee; Phil Hurlock; Chris Handley; Rene Fechter; Richard Alcorta; Lisa Chervon; Jim Brown; Chris Hyzer; Lisa Myers; Pat Gainer; Robert Dubansky; William Seifarth; Chad Packard; Barry Conte.

**OAG:** E. Fremont Magee.

**SHOCK TRAUMA STAFF:** Brenda Fosler-Johnson; Jim Radcliffe; Robbi Hartsock.

**MSFA:** President Sterling; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Powell.

**Anne Arundel County Fire Department:** Chief Michael F.X. O'Connell.

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM

**Action: Moved (Mr. Scheulen), seconded (Mr. Hass), passed unanimously to support the minutes of the December 7, 2007 SEMSAC meeting.**

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

Pat Gainer provided a legislative update at the beginning of the Executive Director's Report. Ms. Gainer highlighted the following items for the 2008 Legislative Session-

- A Trauma Briefing was provided to the Senate Finance Committee with updates given by MIEMSS and the Maryland Health Care Commission on the EMSOF, Helicopter MOU, and Trauma Physician Fund.
- SB 28-ATV Safety Task Force. Recommendations from the ATV study completed by MIEMSS in 2007 were amended into the bill which would have otherwise only required the use of helmets for minors riding all terrain vehicles.
- SB 570 AED Bill. MIEMSS will not have a departmental AED bill but Senator Garagiola has sponsored an identical bill that has been assigned to Senate Finance Committee and has the majority of the committee as cosponsors. The bill would

modify the current AED law and would remove many obstacles to participation. MIEMSS will support the bill.

- Immunity Protections AED bill. There is also an AED bill that has been introduced that only addresses immunity protections. The bill is an improvement over the existing statute but differs slightly from sb 570.
- SB 330 AEDs at Community Pools. MIEMSS completed a cardiac arrest study that recommends AEDs be placed at high risk locations and in some instances intermediate risk locations. Pools were identified in the study as low risk locations. The report was sent to the House Health and Government Operations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee in December 2007. MIEMSS will remind the committee of the report and its recommendations.
- There is a bill to alter the membership of the EMS Board by adding a helicopter pilot from the MSP aviation division and an additional member of the public.
- Senator Pipkin has introduced a bill that would require the EMSOF to reimburse commercial air transports for their services.
- Dr. Alcorta gave an overview of HB 666-Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act. The Act is similar to the Pact that currently exists for healthcare providers practicing in other states with an out of state license and being granted immunity. The Act includes EMS providers.
- Steven Edwards reported that MFRI has a capital request submitted that would not impact EMSOF.
- Major McAndrews reported the Helicopter Replacement process is continuing and going well.

Dr. Bass continued with the Executive Director's Report-

- Stroke Centers-There are now 30 centers approved in Maryland.
- Dimensions Healthcare Summit on transporting patients from correctional facilities while in custody was held and will focus on improving training for Law Enforcement Officers but will not impact EMS.
- ED Diversions have increased as the flu season has become more active. The last couple of weeks have been very busy primarily in region III. DHMH has reported that flu activity is now at "widespread". Dr. Bass highlighted several yellow and red alert graphs. Chief Simonds requested that reroute hours also be captured and reported on in addition to yellow and red alerts. EMS return-to-service times appear to be improving which may be due to several jurisdictions now utilizing EMAIS. MIEMSS staff will prepare return to service and reroute graphs for SEMSAC to review at the next meeting.
- The upgrade of CHATS and FRED via HC Standard will be in place shortly.
- EMS Week is May 18-24, 2008.

### **SEMSAC Chairman's Report-Chief Roger Simonds**

Chief Simonds indicated that the SEMSAC officers and Committee Chairs met with Dr. Bass before the meeting to discuss several items. Some of the highlights included the development of future SEMSAC agendas, attendance requirements and current standing committees. Chief Simonds stated that he will be contacting members to serve on various committees in the future. He pointed out that the Educational agenda will be a priority and will need input and support from SEMSAC.

## **National Study Center-No Report**

### **BLS Committee-William Seifarth**

An upcoming photo shoot is being done highlighting lower extremity injuries. MIEMSS is collaborating with MFRI and the regions on the project with the goal being to create consistency in skills teaching.

### **ALS Committee-Scott Haas**

The Simulation Technology Committee is continuing to meet and is conducting a “needs analysis”. The committee is meeting again in early March. The timeframe for the Policy portion is mid-late spring. No time frame for funding has been established at this time.

### **Regional Affairs-Chief Michael FX O’Connell**

- The Highway Safety Grant Awards are pending.
- DHMH Bioterrorism grant application was returned for additional clarification but has been resubmitted and we are awaiting the MOU.
- Incident Scene Exercises are planned in each region.

### **Old Business**

William Seifarth gave an update on current provider stats.

### **New Business**

Helicopter Utilization Powerpoint Presentation-Dr. Richard Alcorta & Chris Handley

Proposed Amendment to Prohibited Conduct Act Regulation was presented for Information and Discussion by Fremont Magee.

William Seifarth gave a recap of the well-attended EMS Educational Summit held at Howard County on January 23, 2008. Mr. Seifarth reported that the final Educational Standards are due to NHTSA in September 2008.