

SEMSAC Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2012

Members Present: M. Kalish (Chairman); S. Edwards; M. Gibbons; E. Ganson; J. Brown; K. Yamamoto; M. Meyers; R. Simonds; K. Grote; W. Bethea; L. Dousa; J. Markey; E. Carlson; A. Faden; A. Walker; L. Tenney; J. Fillmore; K. Doyle; J. Fowler; J. Scheulen; K. May (phone); R. Berg (phone).

Members Absent: S. Haas; M. DeRuggiero; M. Muth; E. Smothers; J. Fortney; W. Gaasch.

Others Present:

MIEMSS: R. Bass; L. Myers; C. Hyzer; J. Donohue; J. Davis; D. Floccare; P. Hurlock; R. Oliveira; A. Warmack; P. Gainer; J. New; B. Slack; R. Alcorta; J. Darchicourt; C. Mays; L. Hawthorne.

OAG: F. Magee; S. Sette.

MSFA: D. Lewis; J. Denver.

MSFA EMS Committee: W. Dousa.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 13:01 pm.

The minutes of the January 17, 2012 joint meeting of SEMSAC and the EMS Board and the minutes of the February 2, 2012 SEMSAC meeting were approved.

Executive Director's Report-Dr. Robert Bass

- The EMS Star of Life Awards Ceremony will be held during EMS week on May 22, 2012 at 10 am in the Miller Senate Building. EMS providers and civilians nominated in several categories will be recognized with awards for their efforts in promoting EMS in Maryland and for initiating outstanding emergency actions to selected cases.
- MIEMSS will be working over the summer to develop a straw man of the existing EMS Plan for review by SEMSAC in the Fall.
- MIEMSS continues to monitor the new EMT curriculum implementation in response to concerns that have been expressed over the increase in hours and content.
- Dr. Alcorta reported there is a national medication shortage crisis for several meds that is affecting Maryland. He attended a briefing on the situation that included testimony both from DHHS and FDA. Options are being considered for how to obtain medications in short supply.
 - Substitution of Fentanyl for Morphine when not available is being presented to the Protocol Review Committee for consideration.
 - Availability of benzodiazepines is in flux. Alternative medications are also in short supply. Valium is being reintroduced in the EMS protocols for treatment of seizures.

- Causes for the shortage are reported to be multi-factorial and include monetary, quality production at a single manufacturer and bottlenecks in supply and packaging. Many are anesthetic medications and hospitals and operating rooms are also in short supply.
- The FDA does not support extension of package expiration dates although “some jurisdictions” in other states are doing so unilaterally without FDA approval.
- Some medications are being bought up by a “single source” and then sold at inflated prices. Medications are also being sold by countries that are not approved for sale in the U.S.

SEMSAC Chairman’s Report-Dr. Murray Kalish

The following items were approved by the EMS Board at the April 10, 2012 EMS Board meeting:

- Amendment of the Title 30 regulations regarding EMS provider name changes.
- Incorporation by Reference of the 2012 EMS Protocols in Title 30.01.02.01.

National Study Center Report-Dr. Alan Faden

- NSC has received funding from a large NIH grant for spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury research.
- An Air Force grant has been awarded to NSC to conduct research on pre-hospital vital signs as biomarkers for traumatic brain injury.
- Two CDC grants have been awarded to study anticoagulants in older patients with traumatic brain injury and to evaluate court ordered mediated intervention for DWI cases.
- NSC met with MIEMSS to consider how to incorporate auto crash info into the eMEDS record.

Legislative Report-Pat Gainer

- A written report was distributed that outlined a summary of the 2012 and included bill status for several bills of interest.
- A special session has been scheduled of the week of May 13, 2012 to address the Bill Reconciliation Financing Act (BRFA) that did not pass during the 90 day session. The BRFA was one of the revenue generating bills that included, among other things, an increase in the vehicle registration fee surcharge by \$2, as well as a statement of legislative intent regarding the replacement/upgrade of the MIEMSS communications system. Additionally, the Conference Committee report for the Operating Budget which passed included language indicating the intent of the legislature that the Amoss Fund receive an additional \$2 million in FY 13 via budget amendment; however the increase is contingent on the increase in the vehicle registration fee surcharge by \$2.

Committee Reports

BLS-Rae Oliveira

- The committee is reviewing the new national standards to finalize the refresher program.
- All course participants have passed the written exam for the new EMS curriculum being conducted under the MFRI pilot so far. The results of the other pilots are not yet known.
- The next BLS committee meeting is May 18, 2012.

ALS-Rae Oliveira

- The next ALS meeting is May 16, 2012.

EMD-Les Hawthorne

- There have been no problems reported with certification cards.
- Training using the LMS has gone well.
- MOLST training has gone well.
- The need for standardized EMD training has been identified by the committee.
- Those using HC Standard have given positive feedback.
- The next EMD meeting is August 21, 2012.

Regional Affairs-No Report

Update of Activities

MSFA-Dave Lewis

- MSFA had a good legislative session. Particularly noteworthy was the passage of the residential sprinkler bill.
- Mr. Lewis reported his term as MSFA President ends in June and thanked SEMSAC for all their cooperation and support during the last year. The new MSFA President will take office at the MSFA convention in Ocean City, June 16-22, 2012.

Old Business

eMEDS-Joe Davis reported on the progress of statewide eMEDS implementation. Almost all jurisdictions are committed to implementing eMEDS. Several commercial services and Ocean City are also committed. EMS should still leave a paper record until 100% of jurisdictions have fully implemented eMEDS. The Documentation Steering Committee will be meeting June 27, 2012 regarding the transmission of the EMS record to the patient chart. Vendors are being considered for charting software that can automatically integrate the eMEDS record into the chart. Statistics on the number of users, bridge and web-based records submitted to date were also presented.

New Business

MSP Aviation Command (MSPAC) Operational Update-Major Gibbons provided an update which highlighted the status of the arrival of the new aircraft, maintenance performance, dynamic deployment, and a recent engine fire.

MSPAC is developing a safety video to be used for online education.

The trauma center helipads have all been inspected and are in good condition.

Sarah Sette presented proposed revisions to COMAR Title 30 to reflect changes in the names of three levels of EMS providers which were approved.

Monty Magee presented the proposed amendment to documents to be incorporated by reference in COMAR Title 30 effective July 2012 which was approved.

Dr. Bass introduced two new MIEMSS staff: Aleithea Warmack and Carole Mays.

The meeting adjourned at 13:44 p.m.