



## **State EMS Advisory Council (SEMSAC)**

September 4, 2014

### **Meeting Minutes**

State of Maryland

**Maryland  
Institute for  
Emergency Medical  
Services Systems**

653 West Pratt Street  
Baltimore, Maryland  
21201-1536

*Martin O'Malley*  
Governor

*Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq.*  
Chairman  
Emergency Medical  
Services Board

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**SEMSAC Members Present:** Roland Berg, Chair; Wayne Dyott; Eric Smothers; Steve Edwards; Jeffrey Fillmore, MD; Scott Haas; Frank Lioi; Linda Dousa; Michael DeRuggiero; Alan Faden, MD; Roger Simonds; Karen Doyle; Melissa Meyers; Tim Chizmar, MD.; Murray Kalish; MD Lisa Tenney; Marian Muth; Lisa Tenney; Jennifer Anders, MD; Michael DeRuggiero.

**Members Absent:** Jim Scheulen; Nathaniel McQuay, MD; Will Bethea; Joe Brown; Joan Fortney; Wayne Tiemersma; Wade Gaasch, MD; Jack Markey; Elliott Ganson; Tom Gianni; Kathleen Grote; Jay Fowler; Joe Brown.

**Others Present:** Bill Dousa; Sgt. Pat King; David Keller.

**MIEMSS:** Pat Gainer, JD; Richard Alcorta, MD; Carole Mays; Barbara Goff; Anna Aycock; Rae Oliveira; John Donohue; Randy Linthicum; Dave Balthis; Jim Brown; Cyndy Wright Johnson; Lisa Myers; Bill Adams; Sherry Alban; Mike Deckard; Andrew Pisano.

Mr. Berg opened the meeting at 1:07 pm.

**Action: A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2014, meeting of SEMSAC.**

**MIEMSS Report:** Dr. Alcorta

Dr. Alcorta said that he and Pat Gainer continue to work collaboratively as Co-Acting Executive Directors. The EMS Board will be discussing the Executive Director Position at next week's meeting.

Dr. Alcorta introduced MIEMSS' new Ombudsman Mr. Mike Deckard. Dr. Alcorta said that Mike has been involved in EMS for 22 years working for Cecil County EMS and as a volunteer provider in Cecil and Harford Counties. Mr. Deckard thanked Dr. Alcorta and said he was looking forward to working with MIEMSS staff and the varying groups and entities involved in the EMS System.

**Ebola.** Dr. Alcorta said there have been no cases of Ebola in Maryland but multiple screenings have been performed. Ebola is typically spread to humans through direct contact with bodily fluids from a person infected with the disease. First responders should use standard universal precautions, including contact and droplet precautions, while treating and transporting patients with suspicious symptoms. Dr. Alcorta said that it is important to get the Influenza Vaccine as this will be one of the screening criteria.

Emergency Medical Services Operational Programs (EMSOPs). Dr. Alcorta said that MIEMSS staff is initiating the EMSOP re- verification process that needs to be completed in 2015. Applications for re- verification as an EMSOP are due to the Medical Director’s Office at MIEMSS by November 15, 2014. MIEMSS staff will conduct meetings with each jurisdictional EMSOP to establish their current status relative to the COMAR Title 30 regulations, answer questions and begin the re-verification process.

Overdose Prevention Council. Dr. Alcorta said that MIEMSS is working collaboratively with DHMH as a member of the Overdose Prevention Council formed by Executive Order to counter an increase in the number of heroin overdose deaths. DHMH is integrating MIEMSS data with other agency data sets to track trends for intervention, treatment and prevention to reduce the likelihood of heroin overdose death. The use of Naloxone has been expanded to include EMTs and law enforcement agencies, as well as the public in certain circumstances.

Guidance to First Responders for the Active Assailant Incident. Dr. Alcorta said the Work Group has incorporated comments received into the final guidance document and is waiting for the Governor’s Forward for general distribution.

eMEDS®. Dr. Alcorta said that MIEMSS is working with participating Hospitals on the completion of MOUs regarding hospital visibility and utilization of the dashboard for patient searches and EMS patient Care Records.

New Hospital. Dr. Alcorta also announced that Holy Cross’ new Germantown facility is scheduled to open in October 2014. He said the hospital has contacted MIEMSS to obtain information on designation requirements and the installation of communications equipment.

Cardiac Arrest Steering Committee (CASC). Dr. Alcorta said the committee, chaired by Dr. Seaman and supported by Ms. Myers (MIEMSS), has multiple components which include 9-1-1 dispatch, prehospital provider treatment, community response and data collection and reporting. The very successful and effective “Hands Only” CPR event at Ripken Stadium will be used as the basis for developing a template and process for future mass CPR events. Linda Dousa said the After Action Plan from the Ripken event was sent to the CASC. Dr. Alcorta asked for any jurisdiction planning on a similar event to contact their MIEMSS Regional Administrator. Dr. Alcorta added that Jim Brown, MIEMSS, is currently working on a PSA.

Star Spangled Spectacular. Dr. Alcorta gave an overview of the events from September 8<sup>th</sup> thru September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 including the possible participation by the medical unit of the Maryland National Guard. CHEMPACK will be moved forward through the city.

## **SEMSAC REPORT**

Mr. Berg said that Dr. Allen Walker has resigned as the American Academy of Pediatrics representative on the SEMSAC and introduced Dr. Jennifer Anders as the new representative. Mr. Berg added that Dr. Anders is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine and the Fellowship Director for Pediatric Emergency Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Anders previously worked as Staff Pediatrician, Naval Hospital Great Lakes and as Lieutenant Commander, Medical Corps, US Navy Reserve.

Mr. Berg said the EMS Board approved the Mobile Integrated Health Pilot. This Pilot seeks to address community-wide fragmented access to healthcare by identifying those individuals who frequently utilize 9-1-1 for non-life threatening or medical reasons in Queen Anne's County at the August meeting. The EMS Board also approved the Neonatal and Specialty Care Regulations and approved 5 year designations for Prince George's Hospital, St. Joseph's Medical Center, Suburban Hospital and Union Memorial Hospital as Cardiac Interventional Centers.

## **NATIONAL STUDY CENTER REPORT (NSC)**

Dr. Faden said the National Study Center continues to work on the AACN project with MIEMSS and are currently developing an IRB submission that will allow review of retrospective data. Dr. Faden added that NHTSA is conducting a traffic records assessment in Maryland. NSC, the Highway Safety Office (HSO) and MIEMSS are working together to provide answers to the over 120 questions related to injury surveillance, data and state reports. The final report is due in December 2014.

Dr. Faden reported that the NSC staff met with Tom Gianni, Chief of the Highway Safety Office, to confirm the continuation of the expanded relationship between the NSC and the HSO.

## **MIEMSS LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION UPDATE**

Maryland Provider Registry. Ms. Oliveira said that the legacy data was transferred to the Maryland Provider Registry (MPR) at the end of July 2014 and L & C is reconciling with the data in the MPPR. There are three teaching agencies (CCBC-Essex, Harford and Anne Arundel Community Colleges) that are piloting and are utilizing the web-based system for EMT. The current plan is to process these classes through the new system. L & C continues to work with MFRI on their data downloads as the transition is made to the new process.

Ms. Oliveira reported that National Registry testing for EMR and EMT will begin with the 2014 fall classes. Students under the age of 18 will test through NREMT, but will only receive a Maryland certification; they can apply for NREMT when they turn 18 if they choose to do so.

There are currently 11 NREMT testing sites in Maryland. A list of locations can be found at: [www.vue.com/vtlocator](http://www.vue.com/vtlocator) testing does not need to take place in Maryland. If a prospective provider resides closer to a site in a bordering state, the can go that testing site.

Information on the process for student registration and student course verification is being sent to teaching agencies. The next BLS Committee meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2014; a tutorial will be given on the student registration and course verification at that time. Ms. Oliveira said that National Registry is a two year certification. Maryland is not requiring providers to maintain National Registry. The 24 hour refresher meets the core requirement and can be applied toward the 72 hours of continuing education required for maintaining National Registry.

LMS. Ms. Oliveira said that MIEMSS is updating the current Online Training Center programs to a new format that will address the current issue of completed courses not transferring to a provider's continuing education records at MIEMSS. Target date is by end of September 2014.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

EMD Committee: Written report submitted.

Quality Improvement Committee. Mr. Barto said the MIEMSS Staff has been conducting QA/QI Officers Training Courses for a number of years. On August 20, 2014 the reestablished Quality Improvement (QI) Committee met at MIEMSS. The QI Committee will be reaching out through the Regional Councils for jurisdictional current practices and working on benchmarks and standardizations for Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement best practices. The Goal of the QI Committee is to share best practices. Mr. Barto will bring regular Committee updates to the SEMSAC.

JAC. N/A

## **MARYLAND STATE FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION**

Mr. Keller, President MSFA said that Johnnie Roth is the current 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Mike Davis is the current 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the MSFA.

The next MSFA meeting is scheduled for December 6 & 7, 2014 in Pocomoke City, MD. At the meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2014 there will be a benefit (where your favorite sports jersey) for the Bessy Marshall Fund. The cost is \$10.00.

Ms. Dousa said, at the last MSFA meeting in August, concerns were discussed with MIEMSS staff regarding EMT National Registry Testing and the scarcity of testing sites. The possible loss of volunteers due to long drives (over 50 miles in some areas) to testing sites was discussed.

## **MARYLAND STATE POLICE AVIATION COMMAND**

AW139 Transition. Major Lioi said that on July 11, 2014 Trooper 2 (Washington Section) transitioned to 24/7 operations with the AW139. Trooper 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 are fully operational on a 24/7 basis. Trooper 5 (Cumberland) started its transition on July 28, 2014 and is expected to be completed by the end of September 2014. Trooper 1 (Baltimore Section) is scheduled to begin transition training in October 2014.

Second In Command (SICs). The MSPAC Personnel Unit has reviewed over 150 applications. Interviews are scheduled through the end of September to select the ten (10) additional SIC PINs funded this year (FY 2015). MSPAC is currently waiting on the completion of background checks for the first 6 or 7 hires prospective hires.

Trooper 2 Ribbon Cutting. Major Lioi said that the Trooper 2's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony took place at the Club Level at FedEx Field on August 5, 2014 to commemorate that Section providing full service to the National Capitol Region in the new AW-139. During the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, the MSPAC officially recognized the United States Park Police for their outstanding support and service to the

citizens of Maryland and to the MSPAC during the transition to the AW139 in the National Capitol Region. Major Lioi thanked all of the MSPAC partners who attended the celebration.

Major Lioi reported that the Board of Public Works approved the procurement of the AW139 training device and anticipates it will be operational in July 2016.

A discussion regarding the differences in training for various terrains on the AW139 ensued.

Major Lioi added that once the transition to the AW139 begins at Trooper 1, the Dauphine will be taken out of service and turned over to the Department of General Service for disposition.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

EMS Plan. A copy of the EMS Plan Goals and Objectives, EMS Plan Acronyms sheet and EMS Plan Action Steps, showing revisions in red line, were distributed to the SEMSAC members for review. Ms. Gainer said the Action Steps are essentially the “to do” for MIEMSS over the next 5 or 6 years and that MIEMSS will be asking the SEMSAC and the EMS Board for approval of the EMS Plan Action Steps at a future meeting.

EMRC/SYSCOM Upgrade. Mr. Balthis said that construction began on June 23, 2014 with renovations to the Operations Center configuration anticipated to be completed on October 10, 2014. Once the Center renovations work is complete, installation of the new Communications furnishings should take approximately a week and the installation of the SYSCOM/EMRC consoles is anticipated to be completed by the end of February 2015. After training of the SYSCOM/EMRC staff on the new equipment is complete, renovations on the reconfiguration of the support staff offices will begin. Mr. Balthis added that the room will be ADA compliant.

Mr. Balthis said that, during the construction phase, all tours of SYSCOM/EMRC have been discontinued. Please be mindful when visiting the 5<sup>th</sup> floor that the area around SYSCOM/EMRC is a construction zone.

Ms. Alban added that the project is on schedule. The operators have been moved to the temporary operations center. (The old modified staff offices). Ms. Alban said the upgrades include separate cooling and fire suppression systems in the Operations Center and the Equipment room.

Mr. Balthis showed pictures of the SYSCOM/EMRC renovation.

Minimal Equipment Standards Workgroup. Mr. Simonds said the first meeting of the Workgroup is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at MIEMSS starting at 1:30pm. Mr. Simonds the Workgroup is working with the MIEMSS Regional Offices to solicit statewide participation.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**A motion was made and seconded to move to closed session.**