

**SEVEN MOUNTAINS EMS COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Meeting Minutes April 18, 2019
Council Bellefonte Office**

I. Call to Order

President Mike Coldren called the Board of Directors' Meeting to order at 12:05 PM.

II. Roll Call (sign-in sheet)

A sign-in sheet was circulated. Due to a lack of quorum, President Coldren asked that staff provide 'informational' reports until a quorum can be obtained – additional Board member(s) are expected.

III. Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Mike asked that the attendees stand & recite the Pledge of Allegiance then remain standing for a moment of silence.

IV. Business

2018-19 Provider Equipment projects – Opening discussions
Using information obtained through a survey of regional agencies, Jim prepared a spreadsheet of equipment requests. He emphasized those items that are direct patient care – AEDs, suction units, CPAPs, stair chairs – using a 60/40 cost split, that equipment would cost EMSOF \$7380. He also looked at upgrading the LifePac Monitors with the 4G modems that will be required after January 2020. Based on figures obtained by their sales representative, regionally we need to upgrade 45 additional modems at a cost of \$723/each – totaling \$32,535 or \$19,521 using the 60/40 split. This would upgrade ALL regional ALS agencies as some are being upgraded already due to purchasing of new equipment and other brand monitors are already compliant. Discussion followed including: System wide improvements vs. agency equipment funding; past/current project status; Task force & Council funding/projects. Tim mentioned that Mark came to him with a concern we may wish to address. Commonwealth wide, there have been concerns raised about the preparedness of EMS certification candidates to take the National Registry (computer adaptive) written exam. EMS West has developed a 'Test Preparation' class which is offered to individuals who don't successfully complete the exam after their first attempt – Mark wants to implement that same type program; but, also wants to try to better prepare for the exam prior to their first attempt. Mark then explained the situation & his proposal – using FISDAP as the platform provider. A couple additional projects that could be considered is "provider recognition" in the form of an EMS practitioner appreciation day with the Spikes (or another team/event, they are the ones who contacted us); EMS Week event/gift; and/or LODD provider attendance at the National EMS Memorial Service at National Harbor, Maryland.

Tim mentioned that he has mentioned to the Personnel Committee that he intends to review the staff position descriptions, having updated ones available for review & approval at the June meeting whereby a new EMS

Systems Development Coordinator can be hired to assist staff in on-going projects. His proposal is to modify the position description to allow hiring of a non-EMS certified individual to do some additional statistical, compliance, and agency/stakeholder education & outreach projects.

V. Council Reports

Regional MAC

Met on the Friday afternoon of the Spring Conference.

Dr. Kupas reported from State MAC:

- 1) Protocols still haven't been finalized. "Crashing Patient Protocol" – New
- 2) National Scope of Practice changes presented. A lot are bringing National scope up to already approved PA scope. Nebulized Albuterol is a new skill at the EMT Level.

Regional MAC issues:

- 1) 2018 Etomidate uses - 6 with 100% successful intubation after use.
- 2) Ketamine – 3 uses since regional approval. 1 case required agency medical director intervention.
- 3) Suggested Regional QA project looking at 'Use of ALS'.
- 4) Next meeting will be by teleconference – June 4, 2019
- 5) Jim encouraged agency/provider participation within the MAC.

CARES

Kim provided an update on Commonwealth/Regional CARES activities:

- 1) CARES database has been 'closed' for the last three days to allow for generation of the annual reports. She has been working on generating those reports. Should go out in the mail within a few weeks.
- 2) 147 EMS agencies included in the 2018 report.
- 3) Finding an anomaly in the data - Utstein survival report shows 28.2% regional survival rate overall though the 'bystander assisted' survival rate was 26.1% - should be higher than overall?
- 4) Seven Mountains has full ALS agency participation within CARES though 1st quarter 2019 reporting is lagging.

Chad Aucker joined the meeting by teleconference at 1300 hours.

VI. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Dave Jones, 2nd by Scott Rhoat to approve the Meeting Agenda as presented. Motion approved.

VII. Approval of Minutes – January 17, 2019

A motion was made by Bob Edwards, 2nd by Tom Derby to approve the January 17, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Motion approved.

VIII. Financial Reports – October 2018 – March 2019

Tim thanked the Board for delaying approval of the October-December finances to allow staff to get the new accounts correctly established & balanced. Financial reports provided include a Balance sheet as of March 31; Total income & expenses for the 2018-19 grant from July 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; Transaction summary from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; CARES transactions from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019; and CARES grant income & expenses encompassing the entire grant period.

Motion by Dave Jones, 2nd by Bob Edwards to approve the financial reports as submitted. Motion Passed.

Scott Rhoat reported that he and Tim met with representatives from Kish bank concerning the interest rate received on Council accounts. Currently Council receives 0.4% on all our accounts. Kish proposed keeping the checking account at the current rate but increasing the other MMA accounts to 2.45% while also allowing us additional ‘transfers’ from those accounts throughout the month as needed – prior to this, allowed 1 per month.

IX. Council Reports (Continued)

STAFF:

All staff provided written reports prior to the meeting. Nothing additionally was added and no questions were raised.

EMS LEADERSHIP

Scott Rhoat reported that they met with a representative from Congressman Thompson’s office concerning the CMS, ET3 pilot. Also discussed the potential for increase of minimum wage.

BY-LAWS

Dave Jones reported that the By-Laws Committee met to look at three areas of the current bylaws – Quorum of membership meeting; Changing of By-Laws; and officer term limits. Committee has some suggestions to offer for the October Council meeting.

PEHSC

No report other than Dave Jones is back on the Board for PEHSC.

X. Business

Operations Overview

PPECC – Mark reviewed a project that the Bureau is involved in with PEHSC, EMS for Children & HERSA – Prehospital Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator. Each EMS agency is being asked to identify a PPECC who will be responsible for assuring that pediatric patient care was being considered in all aspects of agency operations. It was emphasized that each individual agency doesn’t need to identify a unique PPECC and it is even suggested that multiple agencies work together in identifying a single PPECC to serve those agencies even on a County and/or regional basis. Identification of a PPECC is being included on the EMS agency licensure application. More information to follow.

Warm Handoff – Tim reported that he attended two warm handoff seminars – one for each of our health districts. His concern is that the process seems to be working in getting some of the opioid use disorder (OUD) patients into the treatment they need; but, EMS seems to be off the radar as far as handoff is concerned. He noted that Berwick was recognized at the NorthCentral Meeting for the intervention program they implemented within that community. He is exploring how to get EMS more involved in the discussions without committing a lot of additional resources – including staff time, unnecessarily. Statistics he was

given suggest between 85%-90% of the prehospital OUD patients seen by EMS are being transported to emergency care facilities where a warm-handoff can be established.

2019-20 Grant – Council’s budget proposal has been submitted to the Bureau of EMS for grant cycle 2019-20 with level funding but still including our \$25,000 allocation for CARES. Most categories stayed constant but additional funds was put into several including telephone, information technology, & provider equipment.

Healthcare Coalitions – Jim reported that they were told at the last SouthCentral Mountains Healthcare Coalition meeting that the healthcare coalitions would be going through a restructuring whereby there would be one FTE staff person assigned to each coalition; consequently, SouthCentral & SouthCentral Mountains would be combining. The two coalitions have been cooperating on most everything already so the impact is expected to be minimal.

Recruitment – Tim congratulated Mark, and Council, for a successful media release of our recruitment campaign – “Hear Our Stories”. Two local TV stations were here to cover the event; program information will be available on our homepage by end of business today. Mark is working on getting the information out on our social media outlets as well as the public media outlets that have expressed interest.

Provider Equipment Discussion

Motion by Scott Rhoat, 2nd by Jamie Blount that Council implement a pilot candidate remediation project for students within regional EMS training programs through institutes that don’t currently offer computer aided testing experiences. Pilot will include 100 candidates with both unit & comprehensive exam assistance. Motion Passed.

Romayne Naylor entered the meeting at this point

Motion by Dave Jones, 2nd by Tom Derby to approve the regional 12-Lead, 4G upgrade project as outlined by Jim using the 60/40 funding formula to allow us to complete these upgrades in a single grant year. Motion Approved.

Annual Spring Conference

Tim provided a tentative financial overview of the 2019 Spring Conference. Currently income is \$32,505 with \$37,400 anticipated. Expenses so far total \$12,634.75 with an outstanding Toftrees bill of \$18,328.14. Mark went on to explain, for those that didn’t know, that Toftrees experienced a water main break early Sunday morning and were required to clear the building; therefore, we had to cancel all classes after the first session. To make up for the cancellation, we agreed to provide a refund of \$60 to all currently in attendance and to offer a follow-up con-ed session – hopefully covering the topics missed. We are still in negotiations with Toftrees to see what “harm” that cancellation had on Council and how they could assist in making us ‘whole’. All said, we anticipate showing a profit this year and two additional sessions – tentatively, one in June, one in July – are currently being scheduled. We should have everything finalized by the June meeting. All-in-all, the conference was a major success.

Other Business

-The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has released an update to the 1996 EMS Agenda for the Future: EMS Agenda 2050. It is downloadable and/or contact the Council office and we will forward a copy.

-Also released was a new National EMS Scope of Practice Model 2019. Not a whole lot of changes expected to the PA Scope of Practice as, basically, this new National Model brings the rest of the nation up to PA's current scope. Again, downloadable or contact the Council office for a copy. One major change is approval of 12-Lead EKG acquisition & transmission at the EMT level.

XI. Good of the Organization

- EMS Week. May 19-25, 2019. Theme: Beyond the Call

Proclamation requests are going out to counties & municipalities.

Information on the National Moment of Silence will be distributed to regional PSAPs asking for their participation.

- Mike recognized and the Board thanked the former and current Board officers who provided leadership to the organization. It has been long overlooked; therefore, mugs and certificates of recognition are being presented to all individuals who served as a Board officer since 2000.

- Tim was asked if he received any correspondence from Goodwill. He stated that he (and Jim) did receive a request to change personnel who could access & modify their licensure application. Jim handled that request and at the same time mentioned that if there was a change in delegate and/or representation on Council that the Board President should contact Tim to advise him of that change as there was a meeting scheduled. Neither of us have heard anything further.

XII. Next Meeting

June 20, 2019 at the Union County Government Center (Lewisburg) – starting at noon.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion by Dave Jones, 2nd by Allen Weaver to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 PM.

Motion passed.

Attendance/Sign-in Sheet
Board of Directors' Meeting
April 18, 2019
Council Bellefonte Office

Michael Coldren, Delegate, FAME EMS*
Dave Jones, Delegate, University Ambulance Service*
Bob Edwards, Delegate, Penn State University*
Scott Rhoat, Delegate, Bellefonte EMS*
Allen Weaver, Delegate, Juniata County EMA*
Thomas Derby III, Delegate, Geisinger EMS/Berwick Ambulance*
Dayne R. Brophy, Delegate, Bloomsburg Vol. Ambulance*
Kent Knable, Delegate, Centre LifeLink EMS
Paula Miller, Delegate, EMTs Inc.
James Blount, Delegate, William Cameron Hose Co.*
Laura Shay, Delegate, Port Royal EMS*
Chad Aucker, Delegate, Central Susquehanna Regional 911* (telephone)
Romaine B. Naylor, Delegate, American Red Cross*
Kimbra Shoop, Council Staff
Tim Nilson, Council Staff
Cathy Grimes, Council Staff
Jim Urban, Council Staff
Mark Wolfgang, Council Staff

* Board Member