



MINUTES: July 8, 2015
Orlando, Double Tree Hilton

Officers:

Alan Skavroneck, President, present
John Glover, V-Pres., present
Dave Dyal, Secretary/Treasurer, present
Mark Postma, Member-at-Large, present

Convened at 1100 hours
Introductions made by Pres. Skavroneck.
Minutes of July, 2014 meeting: M/S/P
Minutes of January, 2015 meeting: M/S/P
Treasurer's Report: M/S/P

State Office Report: Lea Colston updated the membership on the reorganization. Barbara Hyde is retiring in August and her position will not be filled. The work will be distributed to others to complete with Kimberly Moore taking the lead and other investigators assisting. The investigator assigned to an agency will not be the one performing any complaint investigation of that agency.

There are hundreds of jobs not being filled due to cut backs at the state level across the entire employee population.

No October meeting has been announced yet.

New Business:

MMA (Medicaid) process remains slow. Mixed reviews on payments received. Caution to members that they must ensure that any MMA contracts they may invoke with these brokers need to be for Medicaid only as these brokers also contract for other ambulance services for the HMO's.

A0426 and A0428 apply to non-emergent transports. In some cases, these crossovers are not being paid. Insurers are citing FSS 409.908 13 c 4 as justification for not paying the crossovers.

Leadership: President Skavroneck discussed the need for future leadership for the FAA to step forward soon as his term is coming to a close and other officers may be reaching their last years of employment. FAA needs to have a representative on the EMSAC and it generally falls to the FAA to nominate that position. No one expressed interest, so further discussion was tabled. Pres. Skavroneck urged members to think about it and discuss with their individual business leaders for support. As a member of EMSAC, there is a stipend to pay for most of the travel expense.

Ambulance specifications: The GSA KKK specifications are sun-setting in June 2016. The FSS and 64J rule refer to that specification. The state is working to convene emergency rule hearing to establish the current specification without Change Order 8 as the rule in force today so that ambulance purchases can move forward. Change Order 8 includes extensive requirements for securing cots and equipment that will add thousands of dollars to the cost of new trucks. FAA will continue to monitor and inform its membership of any rule development sessions.



Maria Bianchi of the American Ambulance Association presented extensive discussion on federal law changes pending as well as discussed proposed changes that did not occur – which are usually more beneficial than if they had occurred. An ounce of prevention.....

Expect ICD10 codes to go into effect soon. AAA has developed an app for its membership to translate ICD9 to ICD10 into the appropriate Condition Code.

Discussed prior authorizations for repeat client transports. AAA encourages agencies to properly document and comply with the CMS guidelines to reduce exposure to liability.

Mobile Integrated Healthcare (community para-medicine) will be in the future of EMS, but the industry is asking that such reimbursement be "new" money and not simply existing money being shunted from transport over to MIH.

HRA 17: Fairness in Ambulance Reimbursement Act. Zip codes being reclassified frequently. Billers need to stay on top of the classifications as many rural areas being reclassified to urban and its lesser reimbursement fees.

Air ambulance may be getting a 20% raise and funded out of existing dollars (again) being shunted from ground transport to air.

Adjourned: 1210 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

D. Dyal, Secretary/Treasurer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "DD", is written over the typed name "D. Dyal, Secretary/Treasurer".

Good of the Order:

Next meeting, Daytona, January 2016