

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Rick Scott
Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS
State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

FLORIDA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL (EMSAC)

Meeting minutes from the meeting of
October 18, 2013

Hutchinson Island Marriott
Stuart, Florida 34996

Members Present

John C. Bixler, EMS Program Administrator
Cory S. Richter, EMT (Fire), Chairman
John Scott, Air Ambulance Operator
Tom Quillin, EMT (Non-Fire)
Charles E. Moreland, Ed.D., Paramedic (Fire)
Alan Skavroneck, Commercial Ambulance Operator
Maria Fernandez, Hospital Administrator
Julie Bacon, EMS for Children Liaison
Preston Bowlin, Department of Financial Services
Sheila Bradt, Emergency Nurse
Lt. Timothy Roufa, Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles

Note: A verbatim transcript of the entire meeting is available for review at the EMS Program Office.

Florida Department of Health

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CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Richter called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Richter then conducted a roll call of the members.

A motion was then made to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on July 18th in Orlando. The motion was seconded and approved.

STATE EMS BUREAU REPORT

Mr. Bixler reported that the call logs and reports were released based upon submissions to EMSTARS. He is encouraged by the report and looks forward to many other products such as these.

He also recognized Mr. Roy "RC" Pippin for his service with the EMS Program. Mr. Pippin recently retired with the Department and appreciates all that he provided during his tenure.

Chairman Richter then officially welcomed Sheila Bradt as the Emergency Nurse Representative to the EMS Advisory Council.

Next, Chairman Richter announced that Chief Ray Colburn retired from his position on the EMS Advisory Council. Chairman Richter then commended Chief Colburn for his time and service on the council.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Lieutenant Timothy Roufa, Florida Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles (HSMV)

Lt. Roufa announced that the texting while driving law went into effect October 1st. HSMV and Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) are partnering together to enforce and educate the public.

John Scott, Air Ambulance Operator

Mr. Scott asked for a moment of silence for a fellow colleague that recently passed away, Lynn Stevens.

Mr. Scott then reported that during the air medical group meetings, the new Strategic Plan goals and objectives were discussed.

Julie Bacon, EMSC Liaison

Mrs. Bacon began her report by welcoming the newly appointed members to their committee. She is encouraged by the years of experience and community involvement that each member will bring to the committee.

Next, she mentioned the National Pediatric Readiness survey that Florida recently completed. The national average of Emergency Room (ER) readiness was 69% and that Florida's average was 82%.

Mrs. Bacon then reported on educational opportunities. The first project is the Reporting Injury Education Project on concussions, which is being led by Daniel Griffin on concussions. The second education project is securing pediatric patients in the back of ambulances. Each of these sessions are free of cost to providers.

PRESENTATION

Mrs. Christy Luce with the Department of Health presented information on the Healthcare Preparedness Program. Mrs. Luce shared that the Department of Health will no longer contract with hospitals but with "Healthcare Coalitions". She stated that healthcare coalitions must be made up of essential partners including EMS, hospitals, long-term care, behavioral health centers, laboratories, etc. For more information regarding Mrs. Luce's presentation, please contact her at: 850.245.4440, ext. 3625.

Chairman Richter then gave thanks and appreciation to the Treasure Coast Fire Chiefs for organizing and sponsoring the evening cruise event that was held on Wednesday.

Mr. Duggar with the Jacksonville Esophageal Cancer Support Group spoke to the EMSAC. Mr. Duggar would like to help educate EMS about patients with this type cancer that cannot lie down flat due to aspiration risks. He stated that approximately 18,000 cases are diagnosed each year and that his organization is requesting that training and awareness be provided to the providers on Esophageal Cancer.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Medical Care Committee

Mr. John Scott reported that during the committee, Dr. Carl Schulman presented to the group information regarding car automated trauma alert systems. This project is not currently being utilized in Florida but will allow the "OnStar" system to directly send crash data to the 911 dispatch center.

Next, he stated that a report was given by Steve McCoy regarding the percentages of victims meeting trauma alert criteria that were transported to a trauma center. The report identified 37% of individual's that were not transported to a center due to medication errors.

Mr. Scott also stated that the committee discussed disaster protocols, trauma triage protocol revisions, and Strategic Plan goals and objectives.

Public Information, Education, and Relations (PIER) Committee

Mr. Smallacombe stated that the committee discussed various topics for webinar presentations for EMS Week 2014, as well as Strategic Planning goals and objectives.

Strategic Visions Committee (SVC)

Chairman Richter gave thanks and appreciation to Melissa Keahey for her hard work and dedication to making the Strategic Planning summit a huge success. He stated that he and Julie Bacon will now gather all of the comments and edits and merge into a final document that will be presented to the EMS Advisory Council for approval in January.

Legislative Committee

Mr. Skavroneck stated that the committee reviewed the proposed language for cardiopulmonary resuscitation as part of the basic first aid training in high school. After review of the language, the committee has decided to not support the proposed language at this time.

Next, in an effort to meet Goal 5.8 of the Strategic Plan, the committee discussed community paramedic efforts.

In regards to Medicare reimbursements, the Inspector General released its report on September 24th. The following are changes outlined in the report:

- Payment for ambulance transports increased 130%;
- Medicare ambulance transports increased 69%;
- The number of beneficiaries who received ambulance transports increased to 34%;
- The number of BLS non-emergency transports increased by 94%; and
- The total number of ALS emergency transports increased to 68%.

Data Committee

Dr. Moreland reported that the committee will hold a webex in November to update individuals on the transition to Version 3.0. He encouraged all agencies reporting to Emergency Medical Services Tracking and Reporting System (EMSTARS) to continue to work with their vendor on the transition plans for Version 3.0

Lastly, he recognized the hard work of the Data Committee with the adoption of the business rules. He stated that that the National Data Managers Council will most likely recommend to National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) to adopt the Florida EMSTARS Committee business rules.

Access to Care Committee (ATC)

Chief Patterson reported the committee is focusing on Goal 3.2 and best practices.

In regards to Community Paramedic, he stated that the “model design” is not feasible for each community and that your community should develop its own model that fits best.

Disaster Response Committee

Chief Quillin stated that presentations were given by Bobby Bailey and Christy Luce and that copies of their presentations will be distributed to the committee.

Next, Mr. Bixler addressed the committee on the use of Professional Resource Network (PRN) for EMS. Mr. Bixler noted that the position of the Department is that providers should continue using their local processes that are currently in place.

He then stated that Bobby Bailey updated the committee on the EMS Grant funding. He noted that all EMS related projects were cut during the budget cycle. He encouraged all providers to prepare for grant funding to continue dwindling over the upcoming years.

Drug Shortage Committee

Chairman Richter stated that the committee has decided to discontinue their monthly conference calls and that information will continue to be sent out via email on updates and progress.

Additional Comments and Voting

Mr. Scott commented on Rule 64J-1.014, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) records and reports. He requested that the EMS Advisory Council support the language as written. Mr. Bixler clarified his position on the rule and stated that he was asked by the Department to reduce rules by 15%.

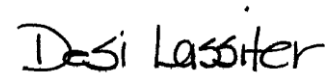
Discussion was held, and a motion was made by Mr. Skavroneck to strike the language “available upon request.” The motion was seconded and approved.

Chairman Richter then assigned Sheila Bradt to the Access to Care Committee.

Ms. Bacon then recommended to the council that the Department of Health create a new State EMS Award Category named the Lynn Steven Excellence EMS Award for Safety.

A final motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and the meeting was then adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Desi Lassiter

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Desi Lassiter". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Administrative Assistant II, EMS Program