

Peninsulas EMS Council

Education, Training and Quality Improvement Committee

Minutes March 3, 2005

In attendance:

Cindi deCapiteau	Mid-County VRS
Wayne Berry	Newport News FD
Bill Henderson	Northumberland VRS
George Netroe	Mar-Mac Ambulance Service
Scott Hudson	Lancaster County EMS
Nick Klimenko	Center for Emergency Health Services
Caren Frigge	Mathews County VRS
Lindy Hatch	Mathews County VRS
Mike Senyk	Mathews County VRS
Lynne Harley	Ft Eustis EMS
Roxanne Gabany	Gabany Enterprises
Tom Ezell	PEMS, James City County FD
Ellen Vest	PEMS, Newport News FD
Dane Davis	PEMS

Regional History

A rapid review of PEMS (Coming up on its 29th Anniversary in April) and the progression from contracting training through ALS Training funds grants to where we are today struggling with the demands of accreditation.

Dane announced a meeting of the "Rural Coalition for EMS Education" to be held at Lowery's Restaurant in Tappahannock March 24, 2005. This will be a first, bringing together all the political leaders and CEOs of hospitals and community colleges for the planning districts of the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck with the primary goal of bringing to the forefront their responsibility for ensuring the continuation of high quality advanced pre-hospital care in their regions.

Mike Senyk brought to the committee's attention the aberration of Mathews being represented by Senator Rerras from Norfolk.

Instructional Resources

Ellen Vest presented the Instructor's Webpage as a new addition to the PEMS website at www.peninsulas.vaems.org. Click on Regional Training Opportunities to find the link near the top of that page. Already on this page is a form to access training equipment formerly housed at the Peninsulas Center for Regional EMS Education and prior to that the PEMS offices. Equipment has already been

disbursed around the region and already functioning is the equipment Nick Klimenko is storing at the Center for Emergency Health Services facility in James City County. The prototype reservation notebook he will use to monitor the coming and going of the equipment was also on display. Currently equipment is located with Suzanne Tolson (ALS C/EMT Instructor) in Montross, Tidewater Community College at Newport News Fire Training, with Scott Hudson (ALSC) and Craig Rice (ALSC) in Kilmarnock, Lynne Harley (ALSC/EMT-Instructor) at Ft Eustis, and with Donna Galganski-Pabst (ALSC/EMT-Instructor) in Williamsburg.

The webpage will also be set up to be a complete resource for our regional instructors for networking and current information from both the council and the state.

ALS Training Funds Program

Dane Davis reported that for Continuing Education Programs reimbursement is through the council office with a reimbursement of up to \$35 per hour when the class meets OEMS requirements.

For auxiliary programs (BTLS, PHTLS, ACLS, PEPP, etc) reimbursement for qualifying students is \$80 per student from OEMS.

Many of these available funds go unclaimed.

EMT-Intermediate Accreditation Funding:

Dane reported that there is \$15,500 per planning district available to start an accredited program. The Center for Emergency Health Services received the funding for the Peninsula, and now a new site may use that funding for the Peninsula also. No other programs have started the accreditation process. Suzanne Tolson is considering Montross VRS as an accredited training site.

Problems identified:

- Lynne Harley reported that classes have to be "OPEN" in order to access training funds. Classes on military bases cannot be "open" when security is high.
- Roxanne Gabany reported that studies of high school students taught using remote access videos result in a 10% pass rate.
- Nick Klimenko reported that only 25%-30% of his students stay in EMS and many go to higher paying jobs out of state.
- Nick also reported that he has found that agency paid students do much more poorly in class than self-pay students.

Regional Needs Assessment

Immediately there is a great need for EMT Cardiac to Intermediate Transition programs. There are approximately 300 Cardiac Techs and Shock Trauma Techs still in the region that require upgrade to Enhanced and Intermediate.

Ellen Vest reported that she and Scott Hudson have completed an Enhanced class in Kilmarnock and encouraged others to do the same around the region until accreditation problems are resolved. This will give providers some experience in IVs, advanced airways, and some pharmacology making them more comfortable with skills before moving on to Intermediate.

14 students started the Enhanced class in August. 7 students have completed the class. 4 students have completed the skills. One student has tested successfully. Three students are testing in Portsmouth on March 12. It is a struggle to get the clinicals and required skills accomplished in a rural environment and students have had to go to ODEMSA for some clinical time.

Bill Henderson went on to report that it is very disappointing to start with a good number of students and lose them over the course of the class. He had 3 EMT students test this past February. (Bill had been teaching EMT since the 70s in the Charlottesville area before retiring to the Northern Neck)

Nick stated that if he were to expand his current accredited Intermediate program into the Northern Neck, he would have to duplicate \$108,000 of equipment to meet the accreditation requirements.

Regional Quality Improvement Initiatives

Dane reported that every agency is to have a QI program in place monitored by its OMD.

Wayne Berry shared how Newport News FD is handling QI. There are monthly meetings with the OMD and ongoing PPCR review. He emphasized that it is very important that the PPCR reports be sent in (as required) to OEMS. The statistical data from the reports can help target areas in the community where special needs exist.