



Peninsulas Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc.

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PEMS EMS Operations Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 07-11-17

Meeting Location: PEMS

Chaired By: T. McGregor

Begin Time: 6:30 p.m.

End Time: 8:26 p.m.

Minutes Submitted By: M. Player

Draft Approved Date: 10-04-17

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Staff:	Others:
Beam, Bradley	Aigner, Andy	Player, Michael (PEMS)	Payne, Christopher (Navy Reg Mid-Atlantic)
Harris, Beverly	Ashe, Ryan		
Laing, James	Baker, Greg		
Lankford, David	Baylous, Denise		
McClure, Rick	Beasley, Jeff		
McGregor, Terrance (Chair)	Beauchamp, Wally		
Payne, Jeffery	Brann, James		
Prata, Anthony	Buchanan, Chris		
Rodman, Jason	Buis, Judy		
Sweet, Jason	Cumbie, Beth		
	Dougherty, Jason		
	Griffiths, Darryll		
	Hall, Skip		
	Harmon, Mike		
	Harper, Kim		
	Hogge, Lauren		
	Hunter, Gregory		
	Lee, Robert		
	Lenderman, Joseph		
	McDaniel, Tamara		
	Newsome, Patricia		
	Nugent, Mark		
	Reinhardt, Joey		
	Smith, Thamera		
	Snyder, Larry		
	Thurman, Sadie		
	Tucker, John (City of Hampton)		

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Staff:	Others:
	Young, Chris (City of Newport News)		
	Young, John (City of Poquoson)		

Item	Discussion	Action Required	By Whom/When
Call to Order	By T. McGregor @ 6:30 p.m.		
Introductions	Introductions present		
Minutes	Motion by J. Laing to approve EMS Operations Committee meeting minutes of April 4, 2017 as presented. Second by B. Beam. Motion passed unanimously.		
Appointments	<p>Phillip Veek has stepped down as EMS Chief of Abingdon Vol Fire and Rescue. No appointments have been made to replace him as yet.</p> <p>York County has appointed Battalion Chief Anthony Prata to be the primary representative to the EMS Operations Committee and Assistant Chief Jeff Payne as the backup.</p> <p>Jim Laing states that he has been appointed as the backup for Nightingale.</p> <p>The EMS Operations Committee nomination to the PEMS Board of Directors representing Licensed EMS Agencies (Middle Peninsula) was tabled until the September meeting due the lack of Middle Peninsula representation at the meeting.</p> <p>Battalion Chief Christopher Payne, Director of EMS Programs of the Navy Regional Mid-Atlantic Fire and Emergency Medical Services Agency introduced himself and stated he will be attending the meetings.</p>		
Staff Report	<p>Seth Craig, IV - M. Player reported the Peninsulas Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc. (PEMS) is pleased to announce the newest member of its professional staff. On April 10, 2017, Mr. Seth Craig, IV, will join the team as the Council's EMS Field Coordinator – Clinical Care. In this critical position, Mr. Craig will work with our Medical Advisor's Committee (MAC) to help define the regional standard of EMS care. Additionally, he will oversee a variety of day-to-day clinical functions to include the development, implementation, and coordination of the Regional Treatment Protocols, Policies and Procedures.</p> <p>Seth is a Virginia and National Registry Paramedic and works in the Lancaster County Emergency Services and Gloucester Volunteer Fire and Rescue organizations. He has a diverse background in volunteer and career EMS service and has formerly worked as both an educator, and a forensic scientist. He serves as an Adjunct Instructor for the Rappahannock Community College EMS Program and his formal education includes a BS in Biology and Secondary Education from the University of Richmond, and an MS in Forensic Toxicology from the University of Florida.</p> <p>DEA Update – T. McGregor reported that the bill passed the house without floor debate and is stuck in the Senate. T. McGregor discussed the importance of advocacy in this issue and others involving federal lawmaking that impacts EMS. He urged the committee to become part of the annual "EMS On The Hill"</p>		

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	<p>Virginia Delegation.</p> <p>No Match Grant Opportunity for Initial Certification Programs - M. Player reported that the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) recently announced a NO MATCH grant funding opportunity that is available to reimburse non-profit EMS agencies for enrollment costs for initial EMS certification programs. He stated that the funding is for programs that start on or after July 1, 2017, and before December 31, 2017 and is based on the OEMS pricing structure. All information is available on the OEMS website at http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/administration-finance/rsaf-grants-program/, the grant deadline of July 21, 2017.</p> <p>Intermediate 99 - M. Player reported that the town hall process was complete, and according to the EMS Advisory Board Training and Certification Committee (TCC) workgroup, most are in favor of the workgroup's recommendation. The TCC approved the following recommendation:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"With the initial activity performed by the TCC workgroup and in review of the available information from the Intermediate 99 Town Hall meetings and public comments, the TCC supports the findings that Virginia does not have the resources to develop and maintain valid, reliable and legally defensible certification exams. The workgroup further recommends that when the National Registry of EMTs no longer offers an Intermediate 99 examination, Virginia will cease issuing initiate Intermediate certification and that existing Intermediates in Virginia will be able to maintain their Intermediate Certification indefinitely through continuing education, with no reentry mechanism."</i></p> <p>M. Player reported the EMS Advisory Board's Medical Direction Committee passed the same recommendation. Essentially, the motion going before the EMS Advisory Board on August 4, 2017 for consideration, if passed, will essentially end all initial Intermediate training program enrollments as of July 1, 2018 and no one will be certified at Intermediate in Virginia after the completion of those final approved programs. It is important to remember that this is not a final approval. It must be brought before the EMS Advisory Board in August and vetted through the discussion process before it is brought to a vote.</p> <p>M. Player reported that the PEMS distributed MC55 Scanners and the package uploaded will no longer be supported as of Aug 1, 2017. OEMS will continue webinars regarding new scanners and during educator updates.</p> <p>VA EMS Symposium - M. Player reported that the Virginia EMS Symposium Registration will open on July 15. The said there were 360 Programs, most hour long programs. Although there are still some multi-day programs including a Teleflex program for IO and video laryngoscopes with Cadavers</p> <p>EMS Programs Under Investigation - M. Player reported that the TCC announced that two accredited programs under investigation for falsification of clinical records (students in the program self-reported that they falsified their clinical records, hours, and competencies and an agency is under investigation for helping students to falsify their records).</p>		

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	<p>New Rules for EPCR Reporting - M. Player brought up the new OEMS rules for EPCR reporting and a discussion followed on the impact of the new rules on agency operations, especially those combination fire/EMS agencies. A copy of the new rules was forwarded to M. Player by J. Sweet to be included with the minutes. (See Attachment 1 - <i>Patient Care Documentation - April 17, 2017</i>)</p> <p>The Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate CompAct (REPLICA) - M. Player reported that 11 states have approved the compact and they are now sending representatives to begin working on the Commission.</p> <p>CE and EMS Auxiliary Training Program - M. Player gave a presentation on the new CE and EMS Auxiliary Training Program (See Attachment 2 - <i>CE and EMS Auxiliary Training Program</i>).</p> <p>Draft Revision of the 2018 PEMS Protocols Policies and Procedures - M. Player reminded all agencies to have their Operational Medical Directors weigh in on the 2018 Draft Revisions to the PEMS Protocols Policies and Procedures using Survey Monkey. To date, only 8 OMDs have submitted comments. The revisions will be voted on at the September Operational Medical Directors meeting.</p> <p>Hospital Diversion Policy - M. Player presented a new Hospital Diversion Policy draft to the EMS Operations Committee. Discussion followed generally supportive of the draft as written. B. Beam motioned that the Committee approve the policy, B. Harris seconded the motion. J. Laing stated that the policy did not cover "soft diversions" that occur when medical control physicians on the radios divert patients from their facilities. B. Beam amended his motion adding language that "Units diverted by medical control should be documented using a PEMS Medical Incident Review Form." B. Harris agreed with the new language. The motion passed unanimously (See Attachment 3 - <i>Regional Diversion Policy - Draft with EOC Additions</i>).</p> <p>ICCT Committee Representation on the BOD - M. Player reported that as a result of recent Bylaw Changes, the Interfacility and Critical Care Transport Committee will appoint a representative to sit on the PEMS Board of Directors.</p> <p>VHAC-PEMS (Mission Lifeline) - M. Player reported that PEMS had joined the Eastern Region of the Virginia Heart Attack Coalition and that it would be making available Mission Lifeline Award criteria to the EMS agencies and encouraging their participation as a way of bringing public and professional attention to the strides they and the region have made in emergency cardiac care in the last several years and the excellence of current STEMI care (See Attachment 4 - <i>Mission Lifeline</i>).</p>		
PEMS Committee Reports	<p>Pharmacy Committee - B. Beam reported that the CDC has extended the expiration dates of several medications. M. Player shared the new procedures adopted by the Medical Advisory Committee to address medication shortages. (See Attachment 5 - <i>Pharmaceutical Shortages Affecting PEMS Medication Kits</i>).</p> <p>PICO - J. Laing reported that all of the PICO reviewed all of the recently reviewed/revised regional plans without objections. He also reported concerns regarding the recent State Trauma Triage Report that identified PEMS as having 48% "under-triaged trauma patients. M. Player stated that the Council is attempting to obtain the EPCRs on the 37 patients to identify the issues identified as "under triage" . T. McGregor stated that</p>		

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	<p>without the actual reports it is difficult to determine if it is a protocol issue, a resource issue or a training issue.</p> <p>Medical Advisory Committee Meeting - T. McGregor reported that Sentara made a second presentation to the Medical Advisory Committee regarding their request to allow EMS patients to be transported to free-standing-emergency departments. M. Player stated that the discussion centered around the types of patients that should/should not be transported by EMS to a free standing ED, and what capabilities should the facility have in order to ease the concern of the EMS agencies transporting patients to them. Sentara Port Warwick will return to the September Medical Advisory Committee meeting with responses to the Medical Advisory Committee concerns. PEMS staff and the MAC leadership are ensuring that the discussion remains centered on patient care and not market share.</p> <p>Board of Directors - J. Sweet reported that the PEMS Bylaws were approved replacing the Military EMS representative on the Board with a representative from the Interfacility and Critical Care Transport EMS agencies.</p> <p>Communications Adhoc Workgroup - T. McGregor reported that additional members are needed for the Communication Ad-hoc Workgroup. Greg Hunter, who is chairing the workgroup plans to have an initial meeting in September or October. T. McGregor asked committee members to let him know as soon as possible if they have personnel who can serve on the workgroup; members of the workgroup do not necessarily need to be members of the EMS Operations Committee. Greg would like to have 2-3 members from each peninsula. The following goals have been established for the workgroup:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Objective 1 - establish NON PROPRIETARY regional communications and data transfer needs and prepare a regional analysis. This will require an inventory of anything data and communications in the region for hospitals and prehospital setting</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Objective 2 - prioritize the projects and identify gaps</p> <p>M. Player suggested that the workgroup contact the Eastern Virginia Healthcare Coalition who just completed a Hospital Communications Assessment.</p> <p>CLIA Update - M. Player reported that the following agencies must still provide their CLIA waiver forms to J. Bendit at jbendit@vaems.org</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newport News Shipyard Abingdon Volunteer Department of Fire and Rescue Gloucester Volunteer Department of Fire and Rescue Middlesex Rescue Squad West Point Volunteer Fire Department King William Fire Department Mattaponi Volunteer Rescue Squad Richmond County Emergency Services Mattaponi Volunteer Rescue Squad Richmond County Emergency Services 		
New Business	Needle Stick/PEMS Medication Boxes - M. Player reported that we are still having needle sticks, in spite of all efforts to control them. Agencies must continue to reiterate the importance of controls.		

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	<p>EMS "On the Hill" - T. McGregor reported on the pending federal legislation: Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act (Administer medications under standing orders); Kits Act (which involves Pediatric Medications/Equipment in Aircraft Emergency Kits); Firefighter Cancer Registry ; Public Health Emergency Response Accountability Act ; Length of Service Award Caps Under the Tax Code ; EMS Memorial; First Responder Medical Device Tax Relief Act; Controlled Substances Act, all are on hold (See Attachment 6 - <i>Federal EMS Legislation Update - June 21, 2017</i>).</p> <p>CDC Extension of Expiration Dates - M. Player reported nothing else to add to the earlier report.</p>		
Good of the Order	<p>NAEMT Region 2 Representatives - NAEMT has announced the opening of nominations for the Region 2 Representative on the Board of Directors.</p> <p>Chief Christopher Payne, the new EMS Program Manager from Navy Regional Mid-Atlantic Fire and Emergency Medical Services introduced himself and thanked the committee for allowing him to attend.</p> <p>Upcoming PEMS EOC Meeting Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 October, 2017 <p>Important Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSAF Grant Applications Due - September 15, 2017 		
Adjournment	Motion to adjourn by B. Beam. Second by J. Laing. Motion passed unanimously at 8:26 p.m.		