



Peninsulas Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc.

PO Box 1297, 6876 Main Street

Gloucester, VA 23061

Office (804) 693-6234 - Fax (804) 693-6277

PEMS EMS Operations Committee Meeting Minutes

A PEMS Council Standing Committee

Meeting Date: 04-05-2022

Meeting Location: Virtual Meeting –
MS Teams

Chaired By: Brad Beam

Begin Time: 2:02 p.m.

End Time: 3:00 p.m.

Minutes Submitted By: Steve Pincus Draft: Approved X Date: 07-12-22

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Staff:	Others:
Beam, Brad (C)(TC)	Ashe, Ryan	Craig, Seth (TC)	
Doak, Melissa	Baylous, Denise	Pincus, Steve (TC)	
Hunter, Greg (TC)	Brann, James	Player, Michael (TC)	
Judkins, Chris (TC)	Buchanan, Chris		
Kerns, Lewis (TC)	Cease, William		
Morey, William (TC)	Davenport, John		
Paulette, Mitch (TC)	Dougherty, Jason		
Samuels, Gary (TC)	Griffiths, Daryl		
Smith, Matt (TC)	Harper, Kim		
Tucker, John (TC)	Harris, Bev		
Williams, Shannon (TC)	Kain, Mark		
Young, John (TC)	Lankford, David		
	LeFever, Jeremy		
	Louka, Amir		
	Packet, Wes		
	Payne, Chris		
	Prata, Tony		
	Quinnerly, Nikosha		
	Reaves, Stacy		
	Reinhardt, Joey		
	Rodman, Jason		
	Smithers, Tabitha		

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Staff:	Others:
	Snyder, Larry		
	Young, Chris		

Item	Discussion	Action Required	By Whom/When
1. Call to Order	Brad Beam called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.		
2. Introductions/Roll Call	Brad let committee members introduce themselves as when he called their names from the meeting attendance. Steve Pincus checked attending members in on the roster	Complete hand annotated Roster	Steve
3. Approval of Minutes	Chris Judkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 4, 2022 meeting. Melissa Doak provided the second. Motion carried to approve the minutes	Change 1/4/22 minutes to final minutes	Steve
4. Appointments	<p>a. Chief Tom Breitbeil Newport News Fire Department b. Remove Mark Kain c. Remove Jimmy Brann</p> <p>Brad stated that there were several committee membership items (listed above) that needed to be addressed.</p> <p>Mitch Paulette made a motion to accept Chief Tom Breitbeil to the committee and remove Mark Kain and Jimmy Brann from the committee roster. Chris Judkins provided the second to the motion. Motion carried with the stipulation that Chief Breitbeil's appointment to the committee is contingent upon the receipt of the appointment letter from Newport News City Manager.</p>	Update committee roster	
5. Staff Report	<p>There was no one in attendance from OEMS.</p> <p>Steve Pincus reported that Seth Craig has moved to a part-time position with PEMS. He will still facilitate the PPP committee, the PCC committee, etc.</p> <p>There have been several discussions relating to PEMS staff returning to the office and how that will work with committee meetings and other PEMS activities. PEMS staff will return to the office in May. For the committee meetings, PEMS will hold a simultaneous in -person and virtual meeting on MS Teams. This means that committee members will be able to choose how they will actually attend the meetings.</p>		

Item	Discussion	Action Required	By Whom/When
	<p>People from OEMS came to the PEMS office on Friday, April 1st to conduct a site visit for the PEMS Council redesignation process. All indicators are that PEMMS will receive “Redesignation” as a council.</p> <p>Brad Beam asked whether PEMS staff are actually working in-person. Steve Pincus stated that several PEMS staff would go into the office but that it will not be until May that there should be someone physically in the office during business hours. If someone wants to meet at the PEMS office, they just need to contact the staff member that they wish to meet with to arrange a time.</p>		
<p>6. PEMS Committees w/EMS Ops Representation Reports</p>	<p>a. Pharmacy Committee (Brad Beam)</p> <p>Steve Pincus stated that he will give a report for Pharmacy under new business.</p> <p>b. PICO Committee (John Davenport)</p> <p>Shannon Williams stated that there is currently a rolling national back-order on D-fib pads. She asked that if agencies have any expiring d-fib pads to hold onto them and turn them back into the EDs. The hospitals intend to go to the manufacturers to see if the expirations may be able to be extended. Riverside has looked at multiple vendors to try to obtain the pads, but there is a problem in getting the plastic used in the manufacturing process.</p> <p>Gary Samuels stated that he will research from the Bon Secours side to see if they are experiencing the same thing.</p> <p>Gary Samuels also stated that they are already planning for EMS Week in May. He will be sending out flyers for both RGH and Mary Immaculate to PEMS and to the EMS agencies.</p> <p>c. MAC (Tony Prata, Dr. Louka)</p> <p>Steve Pincus stated that PEMS has a “Protocol Review Request form” on the website that can be accessed by the end users to make suggestions or ask questions. A form was received regarding Mag Sulfate. This was initially sent to the PPP who, after discussion, then forwarded it to the MAC. The person submitting the form noted that there was disparity between the AEMTs and Ps as to who was able to administer it – specifically the difference between the Respiratory Distress Pediatric Protocol and the Adult Protocol. In the Peds, the AEMT could administer it versus the adult protocol where only Ps could administer it. Mag sulfate is also not clearly listed out within the state formulary.</p> <p>Dr. Louka did some further research and also noted that in the respiratory distress protocol, there were also some other things that needed to be evaluated. For example, can an A give epi in for someone in respiratory distress and is that not better suited for</p>		

Item	Discussion	Action Required	By Whom/When
	<p>an A to give in a respiratory distress situation.</p> <p>d. BOD (Rick McClure, Chris Judkins, Brad Beam, Greg Hunter)</p> <p>e. PPP (Melissa Doak, Seth Craig)</p> <p>Seth Craig reported that they are looking at the AEMT Scope of Practice. This arises from some events in Gloucester where there is a lack of Paramedics. This specifically comes down to pain management issues. The majority of the agencies in the Middle Peninsula and the Northern Neck do not necessarily have the availability of a Paramedic on duty. The biggest concerns by the OMDs is for proper administration of fentanyl and morphine so that the patients do not get “snowed.”</p> <p>PEMS is working on the “Red Dot” program that the State placed on the formulary. The protocols will be updated to reflect the new changes and will go out to agencies prior to the July 1st State “Go Live.”</p> <p>PEMS is also working on training for the Red Dot. If you have any ideas, please forward them to PEMS. Seth then went on to provide a brief overview of the Red Dot program.</p> <p>Melissa Doak asked whether the document on the Scope of Practice Red Dots issued by the State was a “guidance document?” Gary Samuels replied that it is not a guidance document – “it’s not an optional document. It is the max that a provider is allowed to do based on their level of training. This is the same with the formulary as approved by the State OMD.”</p> <p>Mitch Paulette raised concerns regarding the timing of the Red Dot Scope of Practice. He stated that from the outward appearance, the skills that were already previously performing are no longer going to be allowed until the new requirements are met.</p> <p>Gary Samuels stated that this program came from the medical direction committee and from the Department of Health – not from OEMS.</p> <p>Brad Beam asked Seth Craig if this goes into effect on July 1st which Seth affirmed that July 1st was when the training and documentation had to be in place by the agencies.</p> <p>Melissa Doak inquired again if this was a guidance document. She looked at State Code regarding “Guidance Document: status and stated that there should have been [in her opinion] a 30-day comment period.</p> <p>Steve Pincus projected the memo from the State regarding the Red Dot Scope of Practice Requirements. That memo at the bottom said that compliance with the</p>		

Item	Discussion	Action Required	By Whom/When
	<p>requirement would begin on July 1, 2022.</p> <p>William Morey stated that the training requirement will present issues especially with the three-month window to complete.</p> <p>Steve Pincus stated that PEMS has compiled concerns regarding this and Chief Player intends to present them to the state. Concerns from this discussion will be noted and included with that.</p> <p>Chief Player joined the meeting. Mitch Paulette provided a brief summary of the concerns that were discussed above. He asked how this was going to work within the timeframe that the state set forth. Chief Player stated that all of the regional councils prepared a letter to go to the medical direction committee who will be meeting on Thursday, April 7, 2022 and he intends to be there along with the other council directors. The biggest issue for many of the councils is that the implementation timeframe is too quick. He went on to say that the directors will make that clear to the medical direction committee.</p> <p>Chief Player stated that PEMS is also looking a potential development of a training program that will perhaps be held on a bi-annual basis for agencies where a certificate of attendance would be given. Then the OMDs could then use to sign off on the skills training for the providers that would be included in their files.</p> <p>Chief Player stated that the impetus for the Red Dot Program came about because agencies were not able to charge for some of those advanced procedures for critical care. In VA there is no critical care certification so Medicare Medicaid would not allow for those critical care service charges. The state was not going to create a critical care medic level. However, there are advanced skills within the paramedic curriculum that would meet the advanced care criteria. By having the Red Dot program, this will allow agencies to be able to charge for the advanced level care.</p> <p>Brad Beam asked Chief Player to provide the EMS Ops Committee with an update once he attends the Medical Direction Committee meeting.</p> <p>f. STEMI Report (Debbie Thomas)</p> <p>Chris Judkins stated that over the past weekend he learned that Sentara Williamsburg Cath lab is having trouble keeping an interventionist so for STEMI Alerts the person is coming from Hampton Careplex Facility. He wanted to find out whether that was true. Brad Beam stated that he would have a conference call after this meeting for a follow up.</p>	<p>Send EMS Ops Update on Red Dot Program</p>	<p>Chief Player or Steve</p>

Item	Discussion	Action Required	By Whom/When
	<p>William Morey stated that they mainly deal with the ODEMSA region and wanted to know if the STEMI committee received that information. Shannon Williams asked for William to send her an email so that she could ask Debbie Thomas about this.</p> <p>g. Pediatric Care Committee (Bill Morey, Seth Craig)</p>		
7. Old Business	<p>a. EMS Awards Nomination Closing</p> <p>Steve Pincus stated that he really needed assistance from the group to provide nominations. The nomination period will close on April 15th and PEMS wants to make certain to acknowledge providers within the PEMS region. PEMS is actually going to have EMS Day at Busch Gardens where the awards will be distributed.</p> <p>b. HandTevy</p> <p>The State is taking care of the roll out of HandTevy because each agency will have to have a contract with the State.</p> <p>c. RSAF Spring 2022</p> <p>Grant request will be evaluated by the PEMS Committee on April 12th.</p> <p>d. PEMS Staff Return to Office</p> <p>It is anticipated that PEMS staff will return to the office in May.</p> <p>e. Meeting Format</p> <p>Brad asked if the afternoon meetings were working. There was no discussion regarding the meeting time.</p> <p>Steve Pincus stated that the meetings will have both an in-person option as well as a virtual option for committee members to be able to attend in the manner they choose.</p>		
8. New Business	<p>a. Shortages IV Fluid Bags and Meds</p> <p>TEMS notified PEMS that they were experiencing shortages because of the plastic supply. Cindy Williams of Riverside Pharmacy was contacted to get an update. She in turn checked with her peers at Bon Secours and Sentara. She reported that they have looked at various vendors but they are anticipating that the supply chain issues will go on beyond the end of April.</p>		

Item	Discussion	Action Required	By Whom/When
	<p>b. Please return expired Lifepak Defib Pads to the ED</p> <p>Shannon Williams asked that these are returned to the EDs. They are expecting that the manufacturers will extend the shelf life and will provide a letter to that effect. This letter will be provided to the agencies.</p> <p>c. Training Fluids and CSRs</p> <p>Steve Pincus stated that he had received an inquiry regarding this because it showed up on the OEMS website. This is a requirement of the Board of Pharmacy for agencies to obtain a CSR specifically for “Educational/Training materials.”</p> <p>d. Regional Medical Director</p> <p>Steve Pincus informed the committee that Dr. Louka informed PEMS that he would not be renewing his contract as the Regional OMD due to his time constraints. (Dr. Louka’s contract ends at the end of June.) PEMS will be advertising to bring a new Regional OMD onboard for the PEMS Region.</p> <p>e. State Formulary and Required Training</p> <p>See above</p> <p>f. State Scope of Practice Formulary and PEMS Formulary within the Protocols</p> <p>See above</p> <p>g. Taking Pictures of Pharmacy Exchange Form</p> <p>The Pharmacy Committee asked that agencies be informed that they are welcome to use pictures of the pharmacy exchange sheet as an addendum to their PCRs. However, personal phones should not be used to take the pictures as this could be a potential HIPAA violation.</p> <p>h. PEMS Field Coordinator – Education Programs</p> <p>Steve Pincus informed the committee that there were three candidates for the position and interviews were set up.</p>		
9. Good of the Order	<p>Mitch Paulette stated that the fingerprinting process by the state is problematic. He stated that the closest facility via air miles is 35 miles away but it is in Lexington Park, Maryland which is two hours away/four hour round trip. He requested that PEMS look into this to make it so that this is not so much of a burden on his agency.</p>		

Item	Discussion	Action Required	By Whom/When
	<p>Gary Samuels suggested that Mitch contact Ron Passmore with the State.</p> <p>Tom Breitbeil introduced himself as the new NNFD EMS Chief.</p>		
10. Important Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 1, 2022 - PEMS Site Visit for Re-designation 09:30 - 12:30 • April 15, 2022 PEMS Regional Awards Nominations Closes • April 22, 2022 Hampton Roads Trauma Symposium • May 10 -15 Tidewater Healthcare Education Exposition • May 20, 2022 CHKD's Eastern Pediatric Trauma Conference • May 21, 2022 - EMS Day at Busch Gardens, PEMS Regional Awards Celebration • June 3, 2022 Riverside's Stroke Symposium • July 5, 2022 Next Meeting 		
11. Adjournment	Melissa Doak made the motion to adjourn. Mitch Paulette provided the second.		