



PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL

Your Voice In EMS

PEHSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Doubletree Hotel, Lancaster, PA

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Minutes

CONVENE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Mr. Jones, President, called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm and introductions were made.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Allegheny County EMS Council – Douglas Garretson
Allegheny General Hospital – David Lindell
American Heart Association – Great Rivers Affiliate – Alexander Kuhn
Center for Emergency Medicine of Western PA – Walt Stoy, Ph.D.
Center for Emergency Medicine of Western PA – Ronald Roth, MD
Emergency Medical Service Institute – Thomas McElree, esq.
First Aid and Safety Patrol of Lebanon County – Anthony Deaven
Harrisburg Area Community College – Robert Bernini
Highmark, Inc. – Robert McCaughan
Horsham Fire Company No. 1- Duane Spencer
Main Line Health – Christopher Knaff
Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County – Steve Bailey
Northwest EMS Inc. – Scott Kingsboro
Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center – Steven Meador, MD
Pennsylvania State University – J. David Jones
Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation – David Bradley
Philadelphia University – Jean Bail, RN, Ed.D
Reading Health System – Anthony Martin
Second Alarmers Association and Rescue Squad of Montgomery Cty. – Ken Davidson
Seven Mountains EMS Council – Timothy Nilson
VFIS/Education & Training Services – William Niehenke
Williamsport Area Ambulance Service Cooperative – Gregory Frailey, DO

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania – Heather Sharar
Emergency Health Services Federation, Inc. – Michael Reihart, DO
Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA – Tom Grace, RN
National Ski Patrol – David Hayes
Pennsylvania Society of Physician Assistants – Sarah Lewis
Southern Chester County EMS – Robert Hotchkiss
Southwest Ambulance Alliance – J.R. Henry
Uwchlan Ambulance Corps. – John Applegate
Valley Ambulance Authority – Melvin Musulin

OTHERS

Donna Fehrenbach, DO
Kent Knable, Centre LifeLink EMS

BUREAU OF EMS

John Englert

Travis Woodyard

PEHSC STAFF

Janette Swade, Director
 Patricia Morrison
 Angie Poorman
 Donald Potter

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Henry and seconded by Dr. Bail to approve the previous board meeting minutes of June 14, 2017. (Motion Carried.)

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Jones, President, provided the following report:

- There are over 300 attendees registered for this year’s conference.
- There will be a social reception following the Board meeting from 5-7pm. V.E. Ralph and Highmark are sponsoring the event.
- The PA State EMS Awards luncheon will be held on Thursday and the American Heart Association is sponsoring a luncheon on Friday for all the Mission Life Line award winners.
- Mr. Grace shared his experiences working in both Texas and the Florida Keys after the hurricanes devastation and asked for prayers for all.
- Millie Finke passed recently; condolences to her family.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Dr. Roth, Treasurer, gave the following report:

PEHSC Account Balances FY 2016-2017

ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CASH BALANCE AS OF:						
		7/31/2016	8/31/2016	9/30/2016	10/31/2016	11/30/2016	12/31/2016	1/31/2017
Contract Fund	2016-2017 Contract Amount \$538,224.00	69,683.92	87,115.84	143,726.20	106,589.84	101,581.11	47,742.53	99,499.18
Payroll Account	Transfer Account	8,509.94	6,735.02	4,226.87	20,250.04	11,644.79	8,099.57	2,631.76
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA	14,495.65	14,417.54	14,345.06	14,295.33	14,235.45	13,825.51	13,825.63
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income	74,733.36	52,962.09	66,634.41	46,448.78	31,307.64	31,272.90	31,238.17
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance	222,246.02	222,641.03	223,131.60	220,549.36	220,616.70	223,089.40	224,897.95
ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CASH BALANCE AS OF:						
		2/28/2017	3/31/2017	4/30/2017	5/31/2017	6/30/2017		
Contract Fund	2016-2017 Contract Amount \$538,224.00	92,963.44	77,471.22	102,859.18	60,635.39	53,720.50		
Payroll Account	Transfer Account	3,503.93	3,864.08	4,452.02	5,103.95	4,988.61		
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA	13,597.38	13,527.48	13,527.59	13,115.12	12,953.23		
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income	30,773.28	30,906.06	32,363.75	34,028.77	37,248.27		
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance	228,386.07	228,960.15	230,336.11	231,846.71	232,327.47		

PEHSC Account Balances FY 2017-2018

ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CASH BALANCE AS OF:					
		7/31/2017	8/31/2017				
Contract Fund		91,304.52	93,182.47				
Payroll Account	Transfer Account	6,442.79	9,964.09				
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA	12,892.34	12,830.47				
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income	46,755.67	65,494.14				
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance	236,190.58				DRAFT	

Dr. Frailey motioned and Mr. Deaven seconded to accept the Treasurer’s Report.

(Motion Carried.)

(The Treasurer’s Reports are on file for members to review.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Ms. Swade, Executive Director, gave the following report:

- We need all Board & Council members that have recently merged to send updated paperwork to the Council.
- We are still without a funded state budget.
- The Council will be going thru budget changes as we renew and amend the current contract.
- Angie Poorman has moved into the position of the EMSC Project. An additional staff member will be hired to fill her previous position.
- We will be receiving funds to update the public recruitment website; input is wanted. Also funds as carryover for EMSC will be available to assist in purchase of pediatric devices for services to meet the new standards.
- The System Priorities Survey will be released to determine priorities from the 2009 survey to this one.
- The Ambulance Association (AAP) working together on Replica as a consideration for PA.
- Legislation still following: Medical Assistance increases, SR6, Treat No Transport payments, EMSOF increase, CPR Requirement (hands only) for schools.
- NAEMT is following the 5 year extender for EMS payments via medicare.
- Working with DOH Committee for policies in regard to patient option to refuse opioid therapy and its applicability to EMS practice.
- Thank you to staff for all of their efforts at the conference.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REPORT

Mr. Englert provided a brief report from the Department:

- The Department of Health will be hiring a Director for BEMS. Please apply for the position if you are interested.

TASK FORCE/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Medical Advisory Committee – Dr. Reihart, Chair, provided the following report:

The MAC met by conference call on August 16, 2017.

- Dr. Kupas reported that both the BLS blood glucose monitoring and naloxone educational programs are now available on PA TRAIN. He noted that as of September 1st, all providers should have completed the online protocol update and begin using the updated protocols.
- The MAC continues to discuss alternatives to expensive Epi auto-injectors. The committee received a briefing on a successful pilot program from New York State using a pre-assembled kit containing a vial of Epi and an “Epi Safe Syringe.” The New York pilot included a standardized training program and quality improvement requirements. It is now part of their regular program as a medical director alternative. The kits used in the pilot are commercially available for \$42.00 each.

A few members questioned whether the Epi-Safe syringes contained in the kits are engineered in a manner that prevents more than the adult dose of Epi to be drawn up? We will investigate this and provide follow up at the fall committee meeting.

Dr. Kupas questioned whether this is an actual statewide concern or one that is being driven by a few BLS agencies. Furthermore, he is not sure how many BLS agencies voluntarily carry Epi auto-injectors and has that number declined since the dramatic increase in price.

The FDA did recently approved an alternative device to the traditional auto-injector: Symjepi™ from Adamis Pharmaceuticals. Although pricing is not yet available for this proprietary device, press statements by the manufacturer note their intent to provide a more reasonably priced alternative to the Epi-Pen and similar products. The company also stated they are currently working on a pediatric version.

- Janette Swade reported that Act 126 of 2016 requires the Department of Health to create a “Pennsylvania Patient Voluntary Non-Opioid Directive.” This written directive will be binding on all healthcare providers, which includes EMS and will indicate the patient’s desire that opioid pain medications not be administered. The Act also directs that a workgroup be formed to design a standard directive form and instructions – PEHSC is part of this group.

Dr. Kupas commented this might be a good time for the MAC to renew their previous discussion regarding non-opioid pain control alternatives. The results of which, along with information regarding the patient-driven directive would likely trigger an off-cycle ALS protocol update.

- Dr. Reihart solicited the committee’s interest in possibly establishing a PA state chapter of the National Association of EMS Physicians. Establishing a state chapter could provide a bridge between the PEHSC MAC and the state’s EMS and emergency medicine physicians. The committee indicated their interest and more information will be gathered on how to establish a state chapter.
- The next meeting of the MAC will be on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 1000 hours. The meeting will be held in the Mechanicsburg area at the Hampton Inn and Suites.

EMS for Children Advisory Committee – Ms. Poorman, in the absence of Mr. Stuart, Chair, provided the following report:

Pediatric Symposium Webinar Series

- We are continuing to see the webinar series utilized for providers for continuing education. We will be working with the Department in the coming weeks to try and get those webinars loaded to the PA TRAIN site as well.
- We are always looking for new speakers to present if you have anyone in mind please send them my way.

Pediatric Voluntary Recognition Program

- We are working on the updates to the agencies enrolled in the program and continue to receive regularly, agencies that want to either enroll or upgrade their level. We have 192 agencies currently participating and several with applications pending.

Safe Transport Guidelines

- Mr. Stuart and Mr. Hraber are currently holding the first workshop which includes both didactic and practical components. We have 4 regions currently represented in the course that will then be able to assist agencies in their regions with training in the practical sessions. We are scheduled to have this workshop professionally recorded on October 30th for distribution on our website.

Pediatric Skills Pig Lab

- Scheduled for today during the pre-conference workshops. Unfortunately the instructor was taken to the hospital Sunday and diagnosed with a bowel obstruction and cancer.

Emergency School Nurses Guide

- We are in the process of finalizing some revisions and awaiting final budget confirmation to send them to the printer. In the meantime, updates will be posted to the website in a downloadable form that can be printed.

EMSC social media webpage

- We will be working on this in the future to have a social media page strictly dedicate to EMSC and not be posting so much EMSC information of the PEHSC webpage.

Membership Committee – Mr. Bernini, Chair, provided the following report:

- Three new Council memberships and one new Affiliate membership were received since the last Board Meeting: Lancaster EMS, Montgomery County Ambulance Association, and New Holland Ambulance Association for Council membership and Hastings Area Ambulance Association for Affiliate membership. **A motion was made by Mr. Deaven and seconded by Mr. Spencer to approve the organizations for membership.** (Motion passed.)

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Deaven provided an update on Line of Duty Death benefits:

- Benefits for the federal program application was made. State benefits required legislation intervention; the final outcome is pending.

BEMS staffer Travis Woodyard presented the online Patient Tracking System

ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation – Mr. Bradley provided the following update:

- There are currently 40 hospitals that are trauma centers
- Eleven hospitals currently pursuing accreditation
- Fall Conference – Train the Trainer Stop the Bleed program will be available

Ambulance Association of PA (AAP) – Ms. Sharar provided the following update:

- Medical assistance relief still pursuing
- HB 699
- AAP and PEHSC are working on consideration of Replica for PA
- LODD – another death that was exempted from benefits
- The EMS Bike Ride was from Shanksville to Harrisburg. At the 911 Dinner 2 grants were given to EMT's to become paramedics.
- AAP is working with Boroughs Association to educate them on EMS agency operations and challenges.

American Heart Association (AHA) – Mr. Kuhn provided the following update:

- CPR for high school students legislation is a national effort by AHA
- ECC Guidelines to change including an electronic feedback component
- Congratulations to all who took part in Mission Life Line. There were 76 organizations from Pennsylvania

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be held on December 6, 2017 via web conference call.

ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING

Following the business of the day, Mr. Bradley motioned and Mr. Deaven seconded to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. David Jones

President

JDJ/pm

Please Note: Recommendations voted upon at meetings are reflective of the consensus of the group present at that meeting, and does not guarantee a policy or procedural change by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the regional EMS councils.