



Rick Scott
Governor

H. Frank Farmer, Jr., MD, PhD, FACP
State Surgeon General

FLORIDA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting summary from the meeting of
July 7, 2011

Walt Disney Hilton
Orlando, FL

Members Present

John Scott, Chairman
John Bixler, Bureau of EMS Chief
Cory S. Richter, EMT (Fire)
Maria Fernandez, Hospital Administrator
Brad Elias, M.D., Physician
Michael Patterson, EMS Administrator (Non-Fire)
Amy Paratore, Emergency Nurse
Daniel Griffin, EMS Educator
Tom Quillin, EMT (Non-Fire)
William Colburn, EMS Administrator (Fire)
Alan Skavroneck, Commercial Ambulance Operator
Regina Sofer, Lay Person
Nelson Mesa, Department of Financial Services
Julie Bacon, EMS for Children Liaison
Trenda McPherson, Department of Transportation
Joe Nelson, D.O., State EMS Medical Director
Patricia Byers, M.D., State Trauma Medical Director

Note: Due to technical difficulties with the audio during the meeting, this is only a meeting summary.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Scott called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the October meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Mr. Scott then conducted a roll call of the members.

STATE EMS BUREAU REPORT

Chief Bixler introduced the newest member of the EMSAC, Mr. Nelson Mesa with the Bureau of State Fire Marshall.

MEDICAL DIRECTORS REPORT

Dr. Nelson reported in May, the cardiac committee was approved for a Take Heart America Chapter in Florida.

Dr. Byers commented that she would like to see EM Systems give a presentation at the next EMSAC meeting. She commented that there are still several issues hindering hospitals from using the system.

She then reported that the annual meeting will be held May 3-5 in Sarasota.

Lastly, she reported that the Trauma State Plan is on task and ready to go out for bid. This plan is being funded through a Department of Transportation (DOT) motorcycle safety grant.

PASSING OF THE GAVEL

Chief Bixler presented a plaque to outgoing chairman John Scott for his time and service while on the EMSAC.

John Scott then passed the gavel to incoming Chairman Cory Richter.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

William Colburn, EMS Administrator (fire)

Chief Colburn stated that the annual Florida Fire Chiefs meeting will be held July 22-27 at the Marco Island Marriott Beach Resort.

Amy Paratore, Emergency Nurse

Ms. Paratore stated that the national conference will be held September 20-24 in Tampa, FL.

She then reported that Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) was the recipient of the 2011 State Council Achievement Award.

Lastly, Ms. Paratore offered assistance with EM Systems.

Trenda McPherson, Department of Transportation (DOT)

Ms. McPherson reported that this would be her last meeting representing the DOT and that Jason Colson would be her replacement.

Julie Bacon, EMS for Children Liaison

Ms. Bacon reported that EMSC is sponsoring a four hour MCI triage course available to all ten regions of Florida School Nurses. This training is being conducted by the National Association of School Nurses, based on the Jump Start Curriculum. Over 100 school nurses were trained recently in the Tallahassee area.

She also reported that the on-site education program is continuing to bring quality pediatric and neonatal education to staff at their agencies. Please contact the EMSC office for information on how to schedule education free of charge for your crews.

Lastly, the 2011 Florida EMS for Children Hero's Award was given to Michael Rushing, a nurse and paramedic from the Panhandle, for his pursuit to provide pediatric/neonatal education to prehospital staff.

Carlton Wells, Department of Management Services

The EMS Communications Plan, Volume one has been finalized and posted on the Division's web site. Items included in the revision were announced at the January meeting. A comprehensive list of changes is in the revision memorandum included with the finalized plan online.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Richter appointed that following individuals to serve along with him as chairman.

- Danny Griffin as Vice Chair
- John Scott as Secretary
- Regina Sofer as Parliamentarian

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee

The Education committee met and discussed the Strategic Plan. Mr. Griffin gave an update to the EMS Agenda Implementation. The Legislation was not approved during 2010 session, however; the bill will be resubmitted for the 2011 session in January.

Dr. Stepanovsky discussed the progress with the revision of the EMT and Paramedic curriculum frameworks. The EMT and Paramedic updates are completed and work will begin on the AS degree updates later in July.

Awards were presented during the annual meeting of the Florida Association of EMS Educators (FAEMSE). Awards were presented for EMT, Paramedic, Continuing Education Instructors, Program Director and Preceptor of the year.

Mike Flannigan discussed the 64J EMS Instructor rule amendment. It has been completed and sent to the Bureau for review.

President Jamie Green presented his 2011 goals for the FAEMSE including common course number changes and standardized state EMT curriculum.

Medical Care Committee

The steering committee for EM Systems requested that representatives from the EMS constituency groups join the committee.

PIER Committee

The PIER committee elected a new chairman, Bob Smallacombe, as Chief Richter stepped down to concentrate on the EMSAC chair position. Chief Richter will still report for PIER unless Mr. Smallacombe can attend the EMSAC meeting. PIER is working on a program to develop Injury Prevention PSAs and show them in movie theaters. We are looking into making it a contest for schools. FDOT is looking to partner with us to help on this project. This is in the early developmental stage right now but this may be our main project for the year.

Legislative Committee

Mr. Skavroneck reported that during the past legislative session, over 285 bills passed with over 2,000 bills filed.

Strategic Visions Committee (SVC)

Efforts were made this legislative session to increase the plan from a two year plan to a five year plan; however the bill failed in the Senate and will be resubmitted in the next legislative session in 2012.

The SVC web site (<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/DEMO/EMS/Stratplan/stratplan.htm>) has been updated to receive updates to each constituency group action plan. The process has been simplified to make it easier for the groups to submit their updates. Chief Richter stressed how important it is that everyone submit their updates so the EMSAC can give a high level report to the legislative body. Chief Richter also urged all constituency groups to continue the momentum and report their progress to help justify the meetings.

Lastly, the SVC will be reaching out to all the goal owners and objective leads for input and any proposed updates to the plan. Because the legislation did not get approved last year the plan must be updated in 2012. Our plan is to do this via WebEx and have a draft available to all the groups for the September meetings.

Data Committee

The EMSTARS Project Team facilitated several EMS Advisory Council Data Committee meetings via WebEx for updates and discussions on:

- EMSTARS
 - NEMSIS 3.0
 - Subcommittee activities (Education/Training, Definitions, Outreach)
 - EMS Data Mart (demonstration of reporting capabilities)
- The EMSTARS Project Team conducted several planning calls / WebEx with Data Committee Outreach Video team.
 - 130 agencies currently reporting data to EMSTARS
 - Approximately 3.8 million patient care records in the EMSTARS database

Florida has approximately three million NEMSIS compliant records in the national EMS Information System database.

In May 2011, the Data Section submitted 322,942 EMSTARS records (for the last part of 4th Quarter 2010 and the first part of 1st Quarter 2011) to NEMSIS (National EMS Information System).

- Florida is the second highest ranking state in total records submitted to the NEMSIS database
 - Florida is currently one of twenty-nine states that are reporting to NEMSIS
- NEMSIS 3.0 will be released July 21 in a beta version.
 - The Data Committee will be working on a transition plan for the state.

Access to Care Committee (ATC)

The committee discussed efforts towards obtaining a Blue Grant working through and with Florida Association of County EMS (FACEMS). The purpose of the grant was intended to pay for editing the Firestorm video and make it more of a user friendly media tool in order to educate hospitals, civic groups, and the general public about hospital overcrowding and bed delays. We received assistance working on the grant from WellFlorida staff and Talking Eyes Media. The grant was well written but unfortunately was denied. The ATC committee will continue to make efforts towards developing a media tool for use by EMS systems and hospitals according to the Strategic Plan.

Also promoted at the ATC meeting was an effort to encourage participation in the EM System program by Capt. Ken Devin of JFRD. Capt. Devin is the systems administrator for EM Systems in the Northeast Florida Region. Present EM System participation in many regions is unacceptable as the system has been funded through the state and works well. A shining example of how versatile EM System can be is the Orange County scenario. Orange County has expanded EM System to the point that they use it for much more than tracking ED diverts and hospital status. The ATC committee will continue to attempt and encourage support and expansion of EM system for use by EMS and hospitals throughout the state.

Disaster Response Committee

The committee reviewed Strategic Plan Goal 7. The Committee should look into compiling a survey to learn the status of provider and agency training on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and disaster plans/protocols.

The committee had a lively discussion regarding legal authority of EMS agencies to have the ability to transport patients from the scene to an ACS, Alternative Care Site (formally called AMTS)

Dr. Nelson stated the Statewide Disaster Protocols were complete and undergoing review at the Bureau. We asked that the Disaster Response Committee have an opportunity to review before they are finalized.

Dr. Brantley addressed the Committee by updating the status of the cyanokit distribution. Some agencies choose not to participate and the additional kits were distributed among those that wished to receive the countermeasures.

Dr. Elias mentioned reviewing some unclassified law enforcement documents that indicate potential overseas terrorist plots that used cyanide and reaffirmed his belief in this important project. Additionally he warned of shrinking Federal funding for countermeasures and difficulties ahead in regarding obtaining support for countermeasure projects moving forward.

Next, Dr. Elias reported that Bobby Bailey is working to modify the Ambulance Deployment Plan (ADP) so it adheres to Florida Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) CPG 101 standards.

Mike McDonald provided an update to the Committee regarding ESF-8 role during the recent Hurricane Griffin exercise.

The Committee will also look to reach out to the SERP and FAMA to make certain the current positions required for a successful deployment are filled.

EMS Communications Committee

EMS Strategic Goal 10.2 activity is underway for EMS radio communications. A survey was prepared with Cory Richter's support on Survey Monkey, and then distributed to approximately 500 contacts that encompassed EMS Providers, EMS Dispatch, and EMS Facilities. The response rate was approximately 13%. The responses are being assessed for the measures in this goal.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Carl Schulman presented to the group information on improving pre-hospital care for vehicle crashes using telematics data. The PowerPoint is attached to and made apart of this summary.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Capt Devin addressed the council regarding EM Systems. He stated that the system works and that it has been utilized in Duval County for 12 years. He offered assistance to anyone that is having issues using the system.

Mr. Elliot Fish addressed the council in regards to 365.171 which addresses AED placement and third party notification.

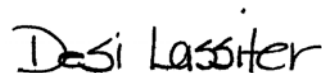
VOTING AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Chairman Richter made the following appointments.

- Nelson Mesa assigned to the Legislative Committee.
- John Scott to assist Regina Sofer with Goal 1 of the EMS Strategic Plan.
- Chairman Cory Richter will remain chair of the Strategic Vision Committee.

A final motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and the meeting was then adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Desi Lassiter



Administrative Assistant II, Bureau of EMS