



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
4300 CHERRY CREEK DRIVE SOUTH
DENVER, COLORADO 80246

STATE EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND TRAUMA
SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL (SEMTAC)

12 January 2012
DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO
ORDER

Chief Dan Noonan,
SEMTAC Chair

Roll Call

Randy Kuykendall,
SEMTAC Secretary

Members Present

Chief Dan Noonan, SEMTAC Chair, called the 12 January 2012 State Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Advisory Council (SEMTAC) to order at approximately 9:02 a.m. at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, Denver, Colorado, 80246.

Randy Kuykendall, SEMTAC Secretary, conducted the roll call. A quorum was established.

Dr. Jeff Beckman, Dr. Walt Biffel, Mr. Brandon Chambers, Dr. David Dreitlein, Dr. Eugene Eby, Ms. Nancy Frizell, Commissioner Lew Gaiter, Ms. Arlene Harms, Mr. Robert Hudgens, Chief Ray Jennings, Commissioner Linda Joseph, Mr. Randy Leshner, Dr. Ed Lopez, Ms. Kathy Mayer, Mr. Fred Morrison, Dr. John Nichols, Chief Daniel Noonan, Mr. Travis Polk, Ms. Dale Quimby, Dr. Lara Rappaport, Mr. Larry Reeves, Dr. Joel Schaefer, Commissioner Nancy Stuart, Chief Ralph Vickrey and Mr. Todd Wright.

Members Excused

None.

Members Absent

None.

Ex-Officio Members
Present

Mr. Michael Carter, Capt. Kevin Eldridge, Mr. Randy Kuykendall, Mr. Zane Laubhan and Mr. Bill Voges.

Ex-Officio Members
Excused

Ms. Carol Gould excused.

Ex-Officio Members
Absent

Sheriff Don Krueger.

EMTS Section Staff
Present

Ms. Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse, Ms. Marilyn Bourn, Mr. Steve Boylls, Mr. Sean Caffrey, Mr. Rio Chowdhury, Dr. Holly Hedegaard, Dr. Art Kanowitz, Ms. Margaret Mohan, Ms. Michelle Reese, Ms. Grace Sandeno, Ms. Celeste White.

Colorado Trauma
System Rapid
Improvement Event

Chief Dan Noonan led the discussion with a reminder that it is important to not have pre-conceived assumptions. He used a video clip to portray possible consequences.

Dr. Chris Urbina introduced the trauma system RIE by explaining LEAN methodology will be used to create recommendations to move the trauma system forward. The RIE will be as inclusive and transparent as possible.

The RIE will include:

1. Using data and statistics to look at trauma designation system to make sure it is the correct one.
2. Look at the trauma designation process and make sure the process is the right one.
3. Looking at system as it currently operates and looking for ways to improve the system.

Ten (10) SEMTAC members were selected for the team: Dr. David Dreitlein, ER doc in Montrose; Dr. Walt Biffel, trauma surgeon at Denver Health; Dr. Eugene Eby, ER doc from Porter/Littleton; Larimer County Commissioner Lew Gaiter; Dr. Ed Lopez, trauma surgeon from Ft. Morgan; Dr. John Nichols, neurosurgeon from Centura; Durango Fire Chief Dan Noonan; Travis Polk, trauma nurse coordinator for NCMC; Dale Quimby, CNO for Memorial in Colorado Springs; Dr. Joel Schaefer, trauma surgeon from Grand Junction.

Dr. Urbina stressed that the recommendations and outcomes made by the group are not final and will come back to SEMTAC for consideration.

Some details of the event have already been determined, including:

1. Nancy McDonald will facilitate
2. Randy Kuykendall will be the team lead
3. Two (2) three-day events, held in Denver 3/5-3/7 and 5/9-5/11. Specifics about the venue and time will follow.
4. Will have some audience seating (gallery) and time for public comment.
5. Will be inviting SEMTAC members and members of the trauma community to come in as "subject matter experts," if needed.
6. All invited to attend, listen and comment but the event will not be televised nor made available via teleconferencing.
7. If issues arise, ask the advisory group to take concerns and issues forward.

Expectations:

1. By July 2012, a report of recommendations from this group will be available for review and comment. SEMTAC will review and comment at the July meeting.
2. From these recommendations, there may be some rule changes that will occur. Any proposed changes will go through the SEMTAC recommendation process and the Board of Health process for adoption. This will give an additional opportunity to make comments.

Introductions/
Correspondence

Randy Kuykendall,
SEMTAC Secretary

Randy Kuykendall introduced a new ex-officio member, Captain Kevin Eldridge representing Colorado State Patrol. Captain Eldridge replaces Captain Brett Williams.

Randy Kuykendall also introduced Susan Jenkins, the new minutes recorder.

No correspondence was received.

Approval of Minutes

Dan Noonan, SEMTAC
Chair

The draft minutes of the 13 October 2011, SEMTAC meeting were emailed to each of the SEMTAC members for their review; they are also posted at www.coems.info/semtac.

MOTION

MOVED BY DR. WALTER BIFFEL, SECONDED BY LINDA JOSEPH, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE 13 OCTOBER 2011, SEMTAC MEETING WITH TWO MINOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS TO BE CORRECTED.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Public Comments

Dr. Dan Noonan,
Chairman

Howard Paul, Executive Director of EMSAC, discussed the organization pursuing a license plate honoring the EMS profession. Three thousand signatures are needed in order to make this request from the legislature. Mr. Paul emphasized that by signing the petition, one was only supporting the license plate being available; one was under no obligation to purchase a plate. Mr. Paul requested that all present sign the petition if they had not done so previously.

OLD BUSINESS

SEMTAC Meeting
Dates 2012

Chief Noonan reminded group of 2012 meeting dates. The 12 April 2012 SEMTAC Meeting will be held in Glenwood Springs as an effort to have at least one meeting annually outside the Denver metro area. Flyers with information on special rate for overnight accommodations for the April 2012 meeting were available and information would be emailed to stakeholders. Additional meetings are scheduled for July 12 and October 4.

NEW BUSINESS

CREATE Program
Update

Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse,
EMTS Provider Grants
Program Manager

Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse gave an update on the Colorado Resource for EMS and Trauma Education (CREATE). This program is administered by the Colorado Rural Health Center and provides grants for tuition, books, fees and travel expenses. Since July, CREATE has handled 121 applications and approved \$385,000 for training and education state-wide.

Grant Reviews

Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse,
EMTS Provider Grants
Program Manager

Grant season has started for the Provider Grant and System Improvement Funding requests. Deadline for submission is 15 February 2012. Important dates in the process:

Grants due - 2/15/2012 at 5 pm
Provider Grant Financial Waiver review - 3/2/2012
RETAC provider grant hearings March and April
SEMTAC grant hearings 5/16/2012 and 5/17/2012

The reviews help determine rank and priority of the grant applications. RETAC review counts for 50% of the score. SEMTAC review score counts for 50%.

SEMTAC hearings are broken up by category. There are 4 review sessions spread over the two days (one in am/pm for each day). The sessions are broken up into 8 categories; however, as the majority of requests are for equipment, this category has been spread among all review time slots in an attempt to balance this out. Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse sent around a sheet for SEMTAC members to sign up to score grant applications.

Public Policy and Finance Committee will be reviewing the system improvement requests at the April 2012 meeting in Glenwood Springs.

Chief Noonan encouraged all to be part of the review process, as this helps SEMTAC understand the some of the challenges for the state. All members should make a concerted effort to participate in this process.

EMS & Trauma Day
at the Capitol

Linda Joseph encouraged all to attend between 8 and noon at the Capitol and to personally contact legislators and invite them for the event. There will be two citizens who used the EMS system to share their experience with the EMS and Trauma system. Also, EMSAC is hosting a reception

January 13, 2012
Commissioner Linda
Joseph

Thursday evening.

Chief Noonan also thanked Linda Joseph and Celeste White for their time and effort related to this event.

Trauma Program
Grace Sandeno, Trauma
Program Manager

Level II Trauma
Center Designation
Recommendation
Northern Colorado
Medical Center

Grace Sandeno the site review findings and recommendations for the Northern Colorado Medical Center (NCMC) in Greeley, Colorado. This included a summary of the findings, a plan of correction (accepted by staff) and supporting documents.

Grace Sandeno indicated that issues brought up in review seem to be reflective of multiple personnel changes recently and that the program is maturing. Facility appears engaged and willing to grow.

MOTION

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER LEW GAITER , SECONDED BY CHIEF RALPH VICKREY, TO RECOMMEND CONTINUED LEVEL II DESIGNATION OF NORTHERN COLORADO MEDICAL CENTER.

Discussion arose regarding neurosurgical coverage at the facility and neurosurgical involvement in quality improvement.

Grace Sandeno requested the record to show that the meeting ran ahead of schedule, which accounted for the representatives from NCMC arriving mid-discussion. In attendance representing NCMC: Dr. Samuel Saltz; Toni Moses, Trauma Program Director; and Marilyn Fain, Emergency Services Director.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION PASSED WITH TRAVIS POLK ABSTAINING.

Waiver Request:
Keefe Memorial

Grace Sandeno presented Keefe Memorial waiver for the rule regarding a physician being available within 20 minutes of notification for the trauma patient. This repeats request made at the October 2011 meeting as a result of the facility's designation period ending in February. The facility is requesting to have a physician available within 30 minutes 100% of the time and will have the physician there within 20 minutes 90% of the time. Nurse practitioners and PAs will be filling in until physician can arrive. There was discussion at the STAC meeting and prior SEMTAC meeting and the waiver was approved previously. This is a request for an extension of that waiver into the next designation period.

MOTION

MOVED BY JOEL SCHAEFER, SECONDED BY TRAVIS POLK TO APPROVE THE WAIVER REQUEST FOR ANOTHER YEAR BY KEEFE MEMORIAL

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Designation Review
Committee
Grace Sandeno reporting

Three of the nine members have terms that are set to expire (terms are three years). One of these three members must be a SEMTAC member. Chief Noonan presented the recommendation to re-appoint the existing sitting members, Dr. Charles Mains, Dr. Eugene Eby and Phyllis Uribe.

MOTION

MOVED BY LINDA JOESPH, SECOND BY CHIEF RALPH VICKREY, TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF SITTING MEMBERS, DR. MAINS, DR. EBY AND MS. URIBE TO THE DRC.

Discussion included how many applications were received, and whether the current DRC composition is adequate to get the job done. The DRC has seen a decrease in the plans of correction, perhaps as a result of the outreach provided to the facilities ahead of time by Margaret Mohan, EMTS Section Trauma System Specialist. Candidate reviews include an assessment of factors such as geography, experience, etc.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Positively Collaborative Award

The recipient of the Positively Collaborative award is Dr. Chris Colwell from Denver Health Medical Center. Dr. Colwell was nominated by colleagues from Children's Hospital Colorado for his efforts to go above and beyond his job to improve emergency medical services, especially for children, around the state.

Recognition

Randy Kuykendall,
SEMTAC Secretary

In response to her resignation, Marilyn (Merrle) Bourn was recognized for the tremendous impact she has had on the in the area of EMTS credentialing and the EMS education system.

Committee, Task Force and Workgroup Reports

Injury Community Planning Group

Nancy Frizell, Injury
Community Planning
Group Co-Chair

The Injury Prevention Group met on 11 January 2012 and is trying a new format where, in addition to regular items that need to be discussed, a new program is highlighted and an education piece is offered.

Karen Masters of Lutheran Medical Center presented their new program called Senior ED. This program has changed the way elderly patients are cared for in the ED and has modified the ED environment to accommodate the special needs of older patients.

Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse discussed the differences between grants available, explained the scoring tools, level of detail and supporting documents necessary to ensure success with grant request.

Strategic areas that fall to the committee include: Motor Vehicles and graduated driver's licenses; Rural Traffic Safety and ATV and motorcycle safety; Suicide Prevention and boosting dissemination of the EMS suicide prevention/education program (for the next 9 months, there is a 50% off course fee); and older adult falls task force and the 5 building blocks for prevention.

Another area of focus for discussion was concussion legislation and education. In an effort to standardized information being disseminated, there will be a webinar on February 2, from 1 to 2 pm given by Karen McAvoy.

A new injury prevention Google group is being formed to share ideas, information on evidence-based programs and upcoming events. Lindsey Myers will send out additional information.

Emergency Medical Practice Advisory Council (EMPAC)

Dr. Eugene Eby, EMPAC
Liaison

Dr. Eugene Eby reported the EMS CQI research guide, entitled An Introduction to Continuous Quality Improvement for EMS Systems, was finalized and released. The guide is a tool kit for EMS agencies and medical directors for establishing or updating their CQI programs and is available on the department's website.

At 3 November 2011 meeting, the council approved 67 waivers, of which 33 were renewals. Council also approved Will Dunn to remain as Chairman and Dr. Kevin Weber as Vice Chairman for the upcoming year.

Much of the discussion at EMPAC centered on pediatric RSI, including the Council having looked at pediatric airway and intubation and adult RSI literature as well as state data and reviewing stakeholder input, including input from the Pediatric Emergency Care Committee. The Council discussed the efficacy of pediatric RSI. The discussion was rather controversial and lengthy. The measures brought forth on this issue have been approved. However, Dr. Eby felt that a summary of the discussion and controversy that arose was important to share with this group. The following are some highlights from that discussion:

- EMPAC worked very diligently at this issue, especially given the limited information available regarding pediatric RSI. Looked also at pediatric airway and intubation and adult RSI literature, both of which were more readily available.
- EMPAC also looked at state data. This data was useful to an extent; however, it did not pare out EMS data from other scenarios.
- Reviewed stakeholder input.
- Reviewed opinions from state experts, many of which were opposed to pediatric RSI.
- Received input from PECC, who could not recommend unless strict criteria met to justify practice.

Randy Kuykendall discussed the relationship between SEMTAC and EMPAC. The EMPAC is a governor's appointed, expert, Type 2 board, similar to the SEMTAC. The two groups are on equal footing and are independent of each other. A member of SEMTAC is a liaison position to EMPAC. Both SEMTAC and EMPAC are advisory committees to the CDPHE, with all final decisions made by CDPHE.

Dr. Eby concluded his report by noting the next EMPAC meeting will be on 13 February 2012 from 9 am to noon at Department Room C-1E. Deadline for waiver request submittals will be 17 January 2012. Teleconferencing will be available.

Designation
Review
Committee

Dr. Charles Mains,
Chair

Dr. Charles Mains reported on the DRC recommended designation of three facilities with no reservations or deficiencies. The next meeting will be in February 2012. It is anticipated that the next cycle will be busy.

Pediatric
Emergency Care
Committee

Dr. Lara Rappaport,
Chair

Dr. Rappaport reported that in addition to the RSI issue, the committee has been working on representation at the American Academy of Pediatrics EMS committee. This will result in having liaisons to emergency medicine colleagues on a national level. The committee maintains a website with links to education calendar, resources, etc. Visit www.emsccolorado.org.

The PECC is currently lecturing on family center care protocols around the state. The next committee meeting will be on 23 February 2012 at 1:30.

Statewide Trauma
Advisory Committee

Dr. Joel Schaefer

Dr. Joel Schaefer reported that STAC had meetings on 30 November 2011 and 11 January 2012. Ongoing topics include:

- Benchmark reporting on rib fractures nearing completion,
- Resources for trauma nurse coordinators/trauma program managers to explain the trauma designation process now available on at www.cotauma.info,
- The Inter-facility transfer and consult rule rewrite project is continuing, and current focus is on the care of the head injured patient.

The next meeting will be on 22 February 2012.

Public Policy and Finance Committee

Randy Leshar, Public Policy and Finance Committee Chair

Randy Leshar reported the committee met on 11 January 2012. A committee has been established to review financial waiver requests on March 2.

The PPF committee discussed the funding process as it relates to specific priority items. A committee has been formed to provide a review of the priority category process for FY 2014, regardless of whether any specific priority item is identified. This committee is comprised of Ray Jennings, Linda Joseph, Ralph Vickrey, and Eric Schmidt.

The RETAC opportunity paper needs to be pushed out further to county commissioners, Colorado Counties, Inc., and other agencies to provide written feedback by March 28. The paper and comments will be presented at the April 2012 SEMTAC meeting.

EMTS Section Report

Randy Kuykendall, EMTS Section Chief

Randy Kuykendall presented the EMTS Section report and noted it is available at www.coems.info/semnac.

Personnel changes include Marilyn Bourn, EMTS Certification and Education Coordinator, and Nick Boukas, EMPAC Coordinator, resignations. Jobs will be posted open competitive across the state. Mr. Kuykendall also mentioned the interim positions are working their way through the system, and he expects decisions will be made by late February/early March. He also wanted to thank Michelle Reese and the EMTS team in seeing to the public's needs.

Randy Kuykendall also shared Governor Hickenlooper's initiative in exploring statutory changes with regards to certifications or licensing in an effort to make Colorado one of the most veteran-friendly states in the US. This would allow military personnel a 6 month window to renew a certification without recertification requirements if the certification expired while serving overseas.

The initiative would also include provisions for certifying an EMS provider-spouse of military service personnel stationed in Colorado.

Since the statute is being opened, the department took the opportunity to make changes in nomenclature by switching from an EMT to EMS Provider to be consistent with the new EMS provider certification rules and the national agenda.

Investigation Unit continues to be busy with the on-going credentialing processes and disciplinary proceedings.

Work continues in the data management program. Conversion to ImageTrend is ongoing, and MATRIX program will be going offline in March. Dr. Hedegaard indicated that her team will be using this month and February to work with agencies that are using other database software to convert to ImageTrend.

Dr. Art Kanowitz reported on regional medical direction (RMD): San Luis Medical RMD, Dr. Mathers, is moving out of the valley but has agreed to stay on through August, as San Luis Valley RETAC seeks a replacement. In Northwest RETAC, Dr. Hall has been successful in getting the medical directors of that region together and forming a regional protocol. The Mile-High and Foothills RETAC have completed their renewed set of protocols. In Western RETAC, Dr. Dreitlein is getting medical directors together to design the RMD program.

Flyers for 2012 EMS Educators Conference on May 18 and 19 are available.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11: 25 a.m.