

STATE OF COLORADO

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Executive Director and Chief Medical Officer

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

State Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Advisory Council

July 12, 2012

MINUTES

Call to Order

Chief Dan Noonan, SEMTAC Chair, called the July 12, 2012, Colorado 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, Denver CO, 80246.

Roll Call

Randy Kuykendall, SEMTAC Secretary, conducted the roll call.

Members present: Dr. Walt Biffl, Mr. Brandon Chambers, Dr. Christine Darr, Dr. David Dreitlein, Dr. Gene Eby, Ms. Arlene Harms, Mr. John Harney, Mr. Steve Hilley, Mr. Robert Hudgens, Mr. Ray Jennings, Commissioner Linda Joseph, Dr. Ed Lopez, Ms. Kathy Mayer, Chief Rich Martin, Mr. Fred Morrison, Dr. Roger Nagy, Chief Daniel Noonan, Mr. Travis Polk, Mr. Larry Reeves, Mr. Carl Smith, Commissioner Nancy Stuart, Dr. Dennis Vollmer. A quorum was established.

Members excused: Dr. Jeff Beckman, Commissioner Lew Gaiter, Mr. Randy Leshner.

Ex-Officio members present: Mr. Kevin Eldridge, Ms. Carol Gould, Mr. Randy Kuykendall, Mr. Zane Laubhan, Mr. Bill Voges. Ex-Officio members excused: Mr. Michael Carter. Ex-Officio members absent: Sheriff Don Krueger.

EMTS Section staff present: Ms. Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse, Ms. Joni Briola, Mr. Steve Boylls, Mr. Sean Caffrey, Mr. Jesse Hawk, Dr. Art Kanowitz, Ms. Margaret Mohan, EMTS Section Chief Michelle Reese, Ms. Grace Sandeno, Mr. Michael Seiffertt, Ms. Betsy Stephens.

Member Appointment Update

Mr. Randy Kuykendall welcomed and introduced the recently appointed members of Dr. Christine Darr, Mr. Steve Hilley, Mr. John Harney, Chief Rich Martin, Dr. Roger Nagy, Mr. Carl Smith, Dr. Dennis Vollmer and the reappointed member of Commissioner Lew Gaiter. Mr. Kuykendall thanked the outgoing members for their service and dedication and recognized Ms. Nancy Frizell, Dr. John Nichols, Ms. Dale Quimby, Dr. Lara Rappaport, Dr. Joel Schaefer, Chief Ralph Vickrey and Mr. Todd Wright.

Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Chief Noonan indicated that elections for chair and vice chair were needed. **MOVED BY DR. BIFFL TO NOMINATE CHIEF NOONAN TO CONTINUE AS CHAIR, SECONDED BY TRAVIS POLK. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MOVED BY TRAVIS POLK TO NOMINATE DR. WALT BIFFL AS VICE CHAIR, SECONDED BY FRED MORRISON. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Approval of Minutes

Chief Noonan indicated the draft minutes of the April 12, 2012, SEMTAC meeting had been e-mailed to each of the SEMTAC members for their review and approval, and that these minutes are also available for viewing at www.coems.info/semnac. **MOVED BY NANCY STUART, SECONDED BY RAY JENNINGS, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 12, 2012, SEMTAC MEETING AS WRITTEN. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Correspondence

Mr. Randy Kuykendall indicated that no correspondence had been received this quarter.

Public Comments

No written requests for public comments were submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

SEMTAC Meeting Dates

2012 meeting dates: Oct. 4, 2012

2013 meeting dates: Jan. 24, April 11, July 25, Oct. 24, 2013

Chief Noonan stated that the April meeting in Glenwood Springs was successful. Volunteer hosts are needed to continue holding one meeting a year offsite. Anyone willing to host the April 2013 SEMTAC meeting should send a letter of request to Chief Noonan and the EMTS office. Final determination of the location will be made at the October SEMTAC meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Colorado Trauma System, Rapid Planning Event Team Recommendations

Chief Noonan spoke about the Rapid Planning Event that took place following Dr. Chris Urbina's directive at the October 2011 SEMTAC meeting. He indicated that the process caused mixed reactions, including consternation, agreement and fear of change. He asked everyone to consider where they are and why, and to take a moment to reflect. He read the poem "What Will Matter" by Michael Josephson, and then reminded everyone that it is because we have the best interests in mind of the people we serve that we are here, and that working together we can figure it out and continue the process of improvement of the system.

Ms. Nancy McDonald, Health Facilities and EMS Division Director, stepped up to introduce Dr. Chris Urbina, who thanked everyone, indicating that this is a start of process and that the recommendations about to be presented are part of an ongoing dialogue to collectively make Colorado's EMS and trauma system better.

Ms. McDonald presented the recommendations in a slide show that initially focused on the Reason for Action, Participants, Process, Breadth and Depth, Extensiveness of the Work, the A3 Process and Insights. Then the recommendations were presented with the announcement that there will be a written comment period from July 12 – Aug. 27, 2012, and an interim meeting of the Statewide Trauma Advisory Committee on Sept. 5, 2012, from 1-5 pm prior to the October SEMTAC meeting, at which time the SEMTAC will finalize its report to the Department. Ms. McDonald emphasized that the recommendations needed to be vetted for priority as well as finalization.

The recommendations focused on Critical Care Ground Transport; Interfacility Transport; Medical Records and Imaging Transfer between Facilities; Outreach Education from Level I and II Facilities to Rural Facilities; Required Education at Rural Trauma Facilities; Telemedicine Consultation; Data Performance and Improvement; Trauma Center Designation; and Designation Criteria for Level I and II Trauma Centers.

Discussion centered on the recommendations. Dr. Walt Biffl acknowledged the working group, which was mostly made up of clinicians coming from different perspectives. He indicated it was critical to get commentary and feedback on the recommendations so they can be refined in order to have the best system for patients.

Dr. Joel Schaeffer offered that there are many great things in Colorado, and that the national perspective shows that Colorado's system is not a broken system, but one that needs refinement. He stated that this is the opportunity to have one of the strongest systems not just in Colorado, but in the nation.

Mr. Carl Smith expressed concern that "cost" was eliminated during the A3 process, as many of the recommendations carry a cost. He asked where the funding would come from to implement the recommendations. Chief Noonan clarified that cost is a factor within each recommendation, and that it is not a decision for the small group but an overriding issue.

Further discussion revealed that as the recommendations are finalized, it is important to ensure that work is not duplicated; costs are kept to a minimum; and quality of care is kept at a high level. Additionally, it was discussed that rural and frontier areas need to be able to retain appropriate approaches to difficult geography, while at the same time having enough resources to ensure proper patient care and/or transfer.

Ms. Lori McDonald commented that the process of input from attendees at the RPE did not generate "fear" but "exclusiveness," and she asked for more clarification on the status of the American College of Surgeon's 2009 assessment recommendations. Chief Noonan responded that the RPE was an open process, and Dr. Chris Urbina indicated that this is a challenging issue that requires an ongoing process. Dr. Urbina stated that the recommendations are a first cut and that next steps look forward with broad discussion and input. Dr. Urbina clarified that some of the 120+ ACS recommendations were addressed in the RPE report, but not all of them. He stated that as the process continues over the years, the ACS recommendations would continue to be addressed and incorporated as appropriate. Dr. Biffl clarified that the top 10 ACS recommendations were a focus of the RPE report.

The full report of the draft recommendations can be found at www.coems.info/trauma.

CREATE Program Annual Report

Ms. Shelly Collings of the Colorado Rural Health Center presented the annual report of the Colorado Resource for Emergency and Trauma Education (CREATE) project. Each year \$500,000 is contracted through the Colorado Rural Health Center to support EMS and trauma provider education, both initial and continuing. Ms. Collings reported that for the fiscal year 2011, there were 134 applications and 1,350 students trained, and for the fiscal year 2012, there were 207 applications and more than 1,600 students trained. Final numbers are still coming in for the fiscal year 2012, and when it is finalized, the annual report will be posted at www.coems.info/grants.

Award Presentation

Chief Noonan announced there would be a special award presentation. The Regional Emergency Medical and Trauma Advisory Council coordinators Skyped in Theresa Jimison, who recently announced that she is resigning as the Southern Colorado RETAC coordinator. The coordinators thanked Theresa for her passion to the job over the years, and Jon Montano read a poem summarizing the coordinators friendship and support of Theresa. Mr. Randy Kuykendall also thanked Theresa for her service on behalf of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Provider Grant Program

Ms. Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse thanked the RETACs and the SEMTAC for their work scoring the fiscal year 2013 grant applications. Awards have been announced with \$684,838 awarded for system improvement funding and \$5,451,487 awarded for provider grants. She indicated it is not too soon to start thinking about fiscal year 2014 and that the revised application and guidance will be distributed in the fall for finalization. Sessions will

be offered at the January committee day for an overview of the grants program and the scoring process, as well as by invitation to RETAC board meetings.

Trauma Program

Ms. Grace Sandeno reported that an ACS verification and state designation survey had occurred April 17-18, 2012, at Children's Hospital Colorado and that all criteria were fully met. **MOVED BY RAY JENNINGS TO RECOMMEND THE REGIONAL PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTER DESIGNATION OF CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL COLORADO, SECONDED BY DR. DENNIS VOLLMER.** Dr. Steven Moulton, trauma medical director from Children's Hospital Colorado thanked the committee. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ms. Sandeno announced that with the resignation of Theresa Jimison, a spot on the Designation Review Committee has come open and that a RETAC coordinator will need to fill the role. The section will send out a formal announcement for recruitment purposes.

Ms. Sandeno announced that the recipient of the Positively Collaborative Award this quarter is Dr. Gene Moore. Dr. Moore was nominated by his staff for "...exemplifying the true passion and dedication to improving the Colorado Trauma System by creating trauma guidelines through research and promoting collaboration of all trauma hospitals."

Revisions to EMS Certification and Education Rules

Mr. Randy Kuykendall and Ms. Michelle Reese updated everyone on upcoming rule changes needed to support a Legislative bill that received the Governor's signature authorizing certain military personnel exemptions from certification. Ms. Reese stated that the section will draft the changes, as they are procedural and administrative in nature, and will distribute the draft for comment in September. The full SEMTAC can then discuss and approve the draft at the October meeting, so the request for a Board of Health hearing can occur in November, allowing for a January 2013 rule-making hearing and February effective date.

Committee, Task Force and Workgroup Reports

Chair's Report: Chief Dan Noonan indicated the Chair's Report had already occurred.

Injury Community Planning Group: Commissioner Nancy Stuart reported that the Injury Community Planning Group met on July 11 and continues to work on the strategic plan. Ten community-based, multidisciplinary teams were selected to attend a Motor Vehicle Winnable Battle Academy in Colorado Springs on July 18-19. Attendees will create action plans to address a motor vehicle safety issue in their communities. The Office of Suicide Prevention has a new suicide prevention campaign targeting men, Man Therapy (www.mantherapy.org). The Office of Suicide Prevention is preparing to implement House Bill 1140, which requires the Office of Suicide Prevention to provide hospitals with information to give to family members of suicide attempters. Sally Duncan from Memorial Health System provided a presentation on Abusive Head Trauma. Lauren Croucher from Denver Health conducted training on logic modeling. A new collaboration website for the Injury and Violence Prevention Network was introduced (www.VIPreventionnetworkco.com).

Emergency Medical Practice Advisory Council: Dr. Gene Eby indicated 35 waivers were reviewed in May, with 20 approved, 11 tabled and four withdrawn. There are 63 waivers submitted for review on Aug. 13, which includes the 11 tabled from the May meeting. Dr. Diana Koelliker from Telluride has been appointed for the Rural EMS Medical Director vacancy, and Section Chief Michelle Reese has been appointed to replace Mr. Randy Kuykendall on the EMPAC. Education and Practice Coordinator Joni Briola started with the section in June and will be the primary staff contact for this council. The EMPAC and the department are continuing a process to update the Practice Rules (6 CCR 1015-3, Chapter 2) with an anticipated effective date of June 30, 2013. Input on the rule changes is being solicited through an online survey available at www.coems.info. A new waiver application has been rolled out, and work is underway to include waiver applications and medical director registration into the ImageTrend online licensing management system. Task force work will be

concluded next Monday, July 16 to develop and review standards and clinical practice guidelines for pediatric airway management including a component to address standards for pediatric RSI waivers similar to the adult RSI program. The next meeting of the EMPAC is Monday, Aug. 13, 2012, at 9 a.m. at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in Room C1E.

Designation Review Committee: Dr. Charles Mains reported that there were three re-designations and one new designation for Level IV facilities. There are 13 reviews next quarter.

Pediatric Emergency Care Committee: Dr. Christine Darr indicated that the mobile pediatric simulation lab had been funded through the Provider Grants Program, and that the HRSA funding for the EMS for Children program continues. Tom Candlin has been conducting PEPP outreach classes, and work on pediatric RSI continues.

Statewide Trauma Advisory Committee: Dr. Walt Biffel reported that the STAC met on July 11, 2012. The Trauma RPE report was announced, with next steps identified as a written public comment period and an interim STAC meeting on Sept. 5, 2012. The Trauma Chapter Two rule rewrite has been tabled until the recommendations from the RPE are known and prioritized. The benchmarking project is moving forward again and Jesse Hawke will send out a notice asking for ideas from the group for the next round of reports. Revisions to the Field Triage Decision Scheme released by the CDC in 2011 were discussed, and the 2011 changes were compared to the current Adult and Pediatric Trauma Triage Algorithms found in Trauma Chapter Two (6 CCR 1015-4). Adding "pulseless" to the crushed, degloved or mangled extremity on the Anatomical Criteria listed on the department Adult and Pediatric algorithms was supported for future revisions to this rule. The next meeting will be held on Sept. 5 from 1-5 p.m. at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Public Policy & Finance Committee: Mr. Brandon Chambers reported that the PP&F committee met on July 11, 2012. Updates to the grants program were provided and a revised placemat was distributed. Discussions on the topics of regional medical direction and grant-funded conference support revealed the need for an interim meeting, which will be announced once the date/location are determined. Mr. Rob Hudgens was identified as a volunteer for the Education Review Committee (ERC) of the CREATE program. **MOVED BY RAY JENNINGS, SECONDED BY DR. LOPEZ TO ACCEPT ROB HUDGENS AS A MEMBER OF THE ERC. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

EMTS Section Report: Deputy Director Randy Kuykendall reported on the section's activities over the past quarter. Ms. Joni Briola has joined the section as the Education and Practice Coordinator. The position of the Operations Program Manager, renamed as Professional Standards Program Manager, is being filled with final interviews scheduled this month. The Boards/Commissions/Contract Coordinator position is close to being filled, and the Grants/Web Coordinator and Trauma Administrative Assistant positions should be announced for applications soon. The position description for the data program manager is under review and will be sent through the personnel system soon. The Operations Program has issued 3,457 EMS Provider certificates so far this year. A number of EMS Education programs have recently renewed, and there are currently 20 Colorado licensed air ambulance services in Colorado. Three EMS Provider certifications were placed on probation this quarter, four voluntarily agreed to a Stipulation for Suspension and two received a Letter of Admonition. There were 284 background investigations completed on new and renewal applicants, and the section responded to four written complaints and conducted two administrative proceedings. Five facility reviews were conducted this past quarter, and 13 are planned for next quarter. The full section report is available at www.coems.info.

Ms. Shirley Terry announced to hold the date for Oct. 10-12 for the 5th Annual Safety Summit to be held in Loveland, Colo.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.