

STATE OF COLORADO

John W. Hickenlooper, Governor
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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 Public Policy and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes April 9, 2014 – DRAFT

Public Policy & Finance Committee members: Dr. David Dreitlein, Jim Felmlee, Commissioner Lew Gaiter, Chief John Hall, John Harney, Captain Rob Hudgens, Commissioner Linda Joseph, Chief Randy Leshner, Chief Rich Martin, Fred Morrison, Commissioner Buddy Schmaltz, Carl Smith, Jimmy Taylor.

EMTS Branch staff: Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse, Matt Concialdi, Mike Gerber, Dr. Art Kanowitz, Randy Kuykendall, Margaret Mohan, Matthew Paswaters, Grace Sandeno, Bill Voges.

SEMTAC and members of the public: Amy Allen, Peggy Berkey, Dr. Andrew Berson, Sean Caffrey, Tim Dienst, Dr. Gene Eby, Josh Eveatt, Stephanie Eveatt, Terri Foechterle, Elaine Foster, Robyn Funk, Craig Gravitz, Rob Handley, Stephanie Harrison, Chuck Ippolito, Karen Maciejko, Lori McDonald, Melody Mesmer, Jon Montano, Mary Myers, Dan Noonan, Kim Schallenberger, Jeff Schanhals, Eric Schmidt, Mike Scott, Shirley Terry, Dr. Mark Turpen, Pat Tritt, Linda Underbrink, David White, John Wysong.

Call to order

9:10 a.m. A quorum was established.

Introduction

Randy Leshner welcomed everyone to the Public Policy and Finance Committee meeting.

Old Business

Review of minutes

The committee reviewed the January 2014 meeting minutes. **David Dreitlein made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and Lew Gaiter seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015

Jeanne-Marie reported that in the current FY14 year, just over \$3 million has been requested for reimbursement and 80 categories have closed. With that, there has been \$24,000 in reversions. She stated a work group has been crafting some CREATE scoring tool change recommendations, but those recommendations are not yet final. They will likely be an agenda item for July. The FY15 SEMTAC provider grant hearings will be held May 15-16.

New Business

Fiscal Year 2016

For fiscal year 2016, Jeanne-Marie mentioned that a group had formed to look at the organizational profiles and recommend needed updates and changes. The group's first meeting will be April 30. Progress will be

reported at the next meeting, and work is expected to last through the summer with final recommendations to be heard at the October meeting.

The committee discussed making the application for ideas on an incentive category available again. The incentive category would automatically provide a reduced match in the provider grant application. **David Dreitlein made a motion to release the application for ideas on possible incentive categories, and Linda Joseph seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Randy Kuykendall updated the committee on programs within EMTS that had exceeded the 16.5% fund balance cap. These include the trauma and air ambulance programs. He indicated the trauma program fund balance is cyclical in nature, and that it is not unusual for the fund balance to be high during year one of the three-year designation cycle. Funds are spent down throughout the three year cycle then. The department is seeking an exception through the legislature next year because of the cyclical nature of this program. For the air ambulance program, Randy said that the fund is carrying around \$53,000. Air ambulance companies pay a per base and a per aircraft fee when licensing with the department. These funds are used by the division for administration of the program, including licensing and investigations. When the fee was set back in 2007, there were significantly fewer licensed air ambulances as well as a higher occurrence of air ambulance crashes. Randy proposed that the department initiate a rule-making process through the Board of Health to have air ambulance fees suspended for two years in order to spend down the account, and he requested input from the committee on the idea. There was clarification that only the fees would be suspended, not the actual licensing process, and that although air ambulance companies had not yet been asked for input on the idea, they would be included in the discussion. **Rich Martin made a motion to support the department moving forward to suspend air ambulance licensing fees for two years, and Jimmy Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Randy mentioned the Colorado Operations Resource Engine (CORE), which is a replacement to the current state accounting system. The transition will occur on July 1, and while it should be seamless to entities that have contracts or purchase orders with the department, there is a potential risk of delays to July start dates.

System improvement funding request hearing

The committee heard presentations by the applicants requesting system improvement funding and asked clarifying questions in order to score the requests. These requests are scored competitively with the provider grants, and this year approximately \$855,000 has been requested with \$676,000 available to award.

Regional medical direction projects

The committee heard presentations from the 11 RETACs on proposed funding for regional medical direction. This is the first year of implementing the set-aside of \$363,000 for three years, for the regions, for the purposes of regional medical direction projects. The committee asked clarifying questions of each, requested a status update in six months, and made the following motions.

- Foothills and Mile-High RETACs: Fred Morrison made a motion to accept the proposals, and David Dreitlein seconded. The motion passed with two abstentions.
- Southern and Southeastern Colorado RETACs: David Dreitlein made a motion to accept for proposals upon submission of clarifying budgets, and Fred Morrison seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.
- San Luis Valley RETAC: Fred Morrison made a motion to accept the proposal upon resubmission of the budget, and Lew Gaiter seconded. The motion passed with 2 abstentions.

- Southwest RETAC: David Dreitlein made a motion to accept the proposal, and Rob Hudgens seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.
- Western RETAC: Rich Martin made a motion to accept the proposal, and Linda Joseph seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.
- Northwest RETAC: Rich Martin made a motion to accept the proposal, and Jim Felmlee seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.
- Plains to Peaks RETAC: Lew Gaiter made a motion to accept the proposal, and Jimmy Taylor seconded. The motion passed.
- Northeastern Colorado RETAC: John Hall made a motion to accept the proposal, and Rob Hudgens seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.
- Central Mountains RETAC: David Dreitlein made a motion to accept the proposal, and Rich Martin seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.

Meeting adjourned

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Next regular meeting

July 9, 2014, 10 a.m., Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Denver.