

DRAFT
Statewide EMS Advisory Meeting
Santa Fe, New Mexico
February 26, 2015

Committee Attendees:

Pete Bellows, NM EMT Association, Chair
Jim Stover, NM Hospital Association
Gregg Kotila, EMS Region 1
Nate Lay, Emergency Services Council/SAR
Joaquin Graham, Region 2
Art Rios, NENA
Mick Leo, MD, ACEP, Medical Society
James Williams, EMS Region 3
Chad Hamill, NM Fire Chiefs, Vice-Chair
Brent Hamilton, NMAMTAC
Kurt Krumperman, NM Ambulance Association
BJ Brunt-Palmer, NM Nurses Association

Absent:

Mike Richards, MD, UNM Health Sciences
Linda Warren, EMS for Children
Marc Nason, NM Firefighters Association
Vacant, Consumer Advocate
Vacant, NM Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness

Pete Bellows called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the November 5, 2014 meeting were reviewed and Chad Hamill moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Gregg Kotila. All approved.

Pete Bellows requested introductions and asked for changes to the agenda.

Additions to Agenda:

After review, it was determined that there were no additions or deletions to be made to the agenda.

Committee Reports:

Air Medical Transport Advisory Committee:

Brent Hamilton reported that the next quarterly meeting would be held on March 3, 2015 at 7 Bar Aviation.

The topic of discussion for this meeting will be the issue with Presbyterian Hospital Downtown's landing area. A meeting has been held with the facilities' management and security and it was determined that a fence should be erected to secure foot traffic.

Medical Direction Committee:

Dr. Brian Moore reported that the December 14, 2014 meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2015 at Central New Mexico Community College at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Moore reported that there are various national issues that will be discussed at this meeting, i.e., Veterans' Administration requesting feedback re: narcotics and EMS, and DEA's involvement with regard to NARCAN.

Dr. Moore further stated that there are differing interpretations from various field offices regarding NARCAN drug shortages wherein many states are trying to take away EMS' ability to administer the drug.

Dr. Moore suggested that the Committee look at NASEMSO's national model project as it contains performance measures which are becoming more vital in decision making.

Joint Organization on Education (JOE) Committee Report:

Jessica Medrano reported that the statewide curriculum for EMT-Basic and EMT-Intermediate has been obtained and approved.

Jessica reported that Santa Fe Community College has been approved to add a Paramedic course to their curriculum.

There will be a retreat held on March 4 and 5, 2015 in Ruidoso, New Mexico wherein various certification and degree programs will be considered. It was suggested by Pete Bellows that the committee re-evaluate the number of training hours needed to complete each of these programs.

EMS for Children Committee:

DeeDee Lindsey reported that the first EMS for Children Committee meeting will be held April 29, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Trauma Advisory Systems Stakeholder Committee (Trauma Advisory Committee):

Liana Lujan reported that the TASSC met in February and discussed improving performance.

She further reported that the Committee had received a letter of intent from Mountain View Regional Medical Center in Las Cruces to become a Level III trauma center.

Public Regulation Commission:

Amanda Grey, PRC Economist, reported that Bryan Brock is the new Division Director for Transportation at the PRC.

Amanda further reported that she will be presenting a state-wide tariff change with regard to rates being charged by ambulance services. She further reported that she will be contacting all services via e-mail to request their assistance in preparing the tariff, and will also request that they be not only attend the rate hearings, but be available to testify at the hearings.

EMS Bureau Employee Update:

Charles Schroeder introduced Debbie McLaughlin to the committee and advised them that she had been hired to replace AJ Romero. Debbie's primary function will be to process renewals; however, she will also be taking minutes during the SWAC meetings.

Charles also reported that Martin Moulton has been hired as the new Licensing Manager. Martin will begin work at the Bureau on March 30, 2015.

Charles further reported that Bryan Patterson, Epidemiologist, and Patty Anello, Trauma Coordinator, are no longer working at the EMS Bureau. Charles further reported that these position will be posted and on the State Personnel website in the near future.

Background Checks:

Charles Schroeder reported that background checks will begin for out-of-state applicants on April 1, 2015; in-state initial and renewal applicants will begin July 1, 2015. Charles further reported to 3M Cogent will be performing the background checks at a cost of \$44.00.

Joaquin Graham inquired as to whether the Bureau would be providing a “list of disqualifiers”, to which Charles Schroeder responded that there will not be such a list.

Department of Health (DOH) Department of Transportation Grant (DOT):

Charles Schroeder reported that DOH and DOT have been working collectively on a \$200,000.00 grant which will provide a new licensing program for the EMS Bureau, and statistical data for DOT.

Licensing:

Charles Schroeder reported that the Licensing Commission met on February 12, 2015 wherein action was taken on 15 licenses. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2015.

Charles reported that there were 4,068 licenses up for renewal, with a total of 2,278 having been renewed to date.

Legislative Discussion:

Charles Schroeder reported on the following House and Senate Bills are being considered during this legislative session:

SB 81 – Proposed changes to Stroke Act; SB 362 – proposed changes to Good Samaritan Response Act; SB 362 – Proposed budget cuts to DOH’s Trauma Fund, and Fund Act; HB 244 – proposed changes to EMS funding; and HB 542 – proposed changes to the Health Care Liability Act.

Ann Martinez reported what she knew about the budgetary cuts and how it will affect the Bureau’s Fund Act.

Data Program:

Cynthia Romero reported that there are 337 services in signed up to utilize the NEMSTARS program, 97.9% of who are inputting their data.

Cynthia further reported that she will be a presenter at the EMS Region III conference in Ruidoso, New Mexico and hopes to encourage 100% participation.

Dispatch and Communication:

Shannon Talent reported that he has had some difficulty in obtaining miscommunication data from a number of agencies in order to compile statistical data. Shannon stated that he will be continue to work with these agencies in order to compile the data and resolve their issues.

Shannon also reported that there is still a possibility that a repeater may be erected on Pajarito Mountain in order to resolve Sandoval County’s communication issues.

Trauma Program:

Liana Lujan reported the dates of upcoming Trauma Program committee meetings.

Stroke/STEMI Program:

Alyssa Patterson reported that the last STEMI meeting was held on February 25, 2015, and the next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2015.

Alyssa also reported that she recently attended that International Stroke Convention in Nashville, Tennessee and was able to learn about other states' programs.

Fund Act:

Ann Martinez introduced Chief Ron Hahn and Dr. William Boehm of LaLuz Fire and Rescue in Otero County, New Mexico. Chief Hahn and Dr. Boehm gave the committee an overview of the services LaLuz Fire and Rescue provide, and read letters of support from members of their community.

Ann reported that Otero County is 100% NMEMSTARS participation; however, LaLuz will not begin utilizing this program until 2016. **Joaquin Graham moved to approve funding to the LaLuz Fire and Rescue, seconded by Art Rios. All approved.**

Ann made the recommendation to Chief Hahn that LaLuz submit its Medical Rescue Application to the EMS Bureau as soon as possible.

Ann reported that an application for funding had been submitted by Bernalillo County, acting as Fiscal Agent for the UNM EMS Consortium. Discussion was held regarding the Consortium's services in the field. **Jim Stover moved to approve \$1,500.00 in funding to the UNM EMS Consortium, seconded by Art Rios. Dr. Mick Leo abstained from the vote.**

Ann reported that there has been some discussion regarding changes to the Fund Act rule.

Ann provided the results of Special Projects as follows: 26 local system improvements; 15 vehicle purchases; and 5 state-wide systems improvement.

Ann expressed her concerns regarding the continuous problems she encounters with the Fund Act applications. She encouraged those in attendance to discuss her concerns with their respective agencies.

Regional Updates:

EMS Region 1:

Jerome Haskie provided the results of Special Projects as follows: 7 vehicles; 23 local systems applications and 6 TSFA applications.

Jerome reported that they are continuing to work on Medical Rescue applications.

Jerome further reported that he recently met with Alyssa Patterson regarding Stroke/STEMI assistance.

EMS Region 2:

Doug Campion reported that they had just completed TSFA reviews.

Doug further reported that Region II had re-posted the EMS Coordinator position as the six (6) applicants from their first posting did not meet the criteria for this job.

Doug advised the committee that a fiscal review is being conducted to determine if the Region can host a conference in the near future.

EMS Region 3:

Donnie Roberts reported that Region III has been providing initial and continuing education training for EMD and EMD instructors.

Donnie further reported that he met with Alyssa Patterson regarding Stroke/STEMI assistance.

Donnie provided the dates for the Region's upcoming conference in Ruidoso, New Mexico and encouraged everyone to attend.

EMS Training Schools:

Shelly McLaughlin provided information to the committee regarding upcoming Paramedic classes at UNM's Valencia and Los Alamos campuses; an on-line Paramedic class for the Albuquerque Fire Department; rural programs and continuing education classes.

Shelly also reported that she is currently working on various other issues with the EMS Bureau regarding combat medics.

Jessica Medrano reported the number of EMT classes offered at CNM, and the number of students attending these classes, by level.

Jessica further reported that CNM has a new facility, has hired additional instructors, and has developed on-line continuing education courses.

Sahaj Khalsa reported the number of EMT classes offered at the Santa Fe Community College. Sahaj also advised the committee that SFCC is currently accepting applications for its' Paramedic program scheduled to begin in August, 2015.

Other Business:

Sahaj Khalsa advised the committee that the Educators Association Conference is being held in Ruidoso, New Mexico March 6-7, 2015 and it does offer continuing education credits.

Rural Education and EMS Funding:

Kyle Thornton reported that there is concern regarding funding for EMS services in New Mexico.

Kyle encouraged those in attendance to educate those in their communities to make them aware of how vital EMS services are to their respective communities, and to come up with strategies to fund these services.

Kyle provided statistical information to the committee regarding EMS funding across the country and again implored to those in attendance the need to come up with ways to fund EMS services.

Next Meeting Date:

April 29, 2015 @ 1:30 p.m., Ruidoso New Mexico.

James Williams moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chad Hamill. All approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.