



## **RETAC Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** July 19, 2005

**Location:** Woodland Park Ambulance Service  
785 Red Feather Lane  
Woodland Park, CO

**Attendance:** See attached list

A quorum was present and Ted Foth, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM

### **I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Gary Beedy moved to accept the agenda as amended. Paul Lastrella seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chief Dave Ury moved to accept the minutes of April 19, 2005 as presented. Tonda Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **III. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Documents reflecting the financial reports for April, May, and June 2005 were reviewed. Kim Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator, answered any questions regarding the report. Kim explained some differences in fund balances that were due to the purchase of AEDs through the Colorado Rural Health Center. Greg Griswold moved to accept the financial report as presented. Tonda seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Kim provided the Council with documents reflecting the FY05-06 Regional Budget. He explained the figures as broken out on the pages and further noted that this document was a deliverable to CDPHE under the new contract. Greg moved to accept the budget as presented. Paul seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **IV. CORRESPONDENCE**

Andy Pittman, AMR Disaster Coordinator, was present and provided the Council with information being considered by Senator Wayne Allard and Representative Joel Hefley. This legislation would attempt to provide funding specifically for Colorado ambulance transport services. The goal would be to raise the level of training and equipment necessary for responding to a Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD) event. He requested information from



# Plains to Peaks

*Emergency Medical & Trauma Service Region*



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each transport service regarding the equipment, training, and approximate cost of same to reach a minimum level of response. Some of his suggestions were escape level PPE, awareness haz mat training, and radiation detection equipment. After discussion, Ted requested that Kim contact each transport agency in the Region to request the information. These agencies will then provide the information to Kim who will provide the composite data to Andy. Ted asked that the information be provided to Kim by July 29, 2005 in order to provide a timely response to the legislators. Randy Kuykendall, CDPHE EMTS Section Chief, requested that this project be taken to the statewide RETAC forum scheduled for August 3-4, 2005. He felt this would help to provide an estimate regarding needs and costs across the state.

## **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Nikki Berkhoff, Memorial Hospital, provided those in attendance with educational opportunities coming in the near future at Memorial Hospital. These included the following topics: Burn Care, Neurovascular Emergencies, Pain Management, and Abdominal Reconstruction.

Tonda spoke about a two day workshop on quarantine and isolation that will be held in Lamar on August 16-17.

Ted informed the group of a vacancy on the Council. Gordon Hildebrant, Penrose/St Francis Health Services representative, has resigned his position on the Council and as Vice Chair. Gordon recently accepted a position with another company. Kim informed the Council that Jody Wallace, Penrose/St Francis Health Services, was present today and indicated that they would be sending an appointment letter to the Regional Office in the near future. Ted asked the Council if they would like to fill the vacant Vice Chair position today or wait until January 2006. Consensus opinion of the group was to wait and fill the position in the regularly scheduled election cycle.

## **VI. REPORTS**

### Officers

Neither officer present had any report at this time.

### Regional Coordinator

Kim presented a written report and expanded on the issues addressed in it. That report is attached to these minutes. Discussion regarding the HRSA grant to provide Trauma/MCI supplies to RETACs occurred. Kim answered questions and asked the MCI committee to meet briefly after the Council meeting to further discuss the issue.



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In addition, Kim presented the Council with information provided by the Trauma Care Preservation Coalition that highlights some of the ongoing issues surrounding the changes in auto insurance legislation enacted last year and its impact on the trauma care system in the state. Nikki, Tim Dienst, and Candy Shoemaker each provided discussion about the coalition and its work. Candy made a motion to have the Council provide a letter to the Coalition expressing support for their work. Tonda seconded the motion. Discussion followed requesting more information about the Coalition. Ted requested a vote on the motion by the Council. Motion passed with two abstentions. Ted then asked Kim to invite a member of the Coalition to speak to the Council at the RETAC meeting in October. Kim and Ted will compose a letter of support from the Council and Kim will also begin attending Coalition meetings when possible.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A) State Council Report**

Tonda informed the Council that SEMTAC had not met since the last RETAC meeting so she had no report at this time. She further stated that the next SEMTAC meeting is scheduled for July 27-28. Randy encouraged those in attendance to go to [www.coems.info](http://www.coems.info) for information about the upcoming meetings.

### **B) Board of Health Rules**

Randy was asked to provide information about these issues. Randy stated that the Ground Ambulance Licensing Rules and the changes to Chapter 3 of the Trauma Designation Rules will be presented to the Board of Health July 20, 2005. If approved by the Board of Health, the rules will go into effect in about 60 days.

Kim spoke briefly about his involvement with the Ground Ambulance Licensing Rules. He felt that one of the best outcomes of the new Rules was a promise by Kathay Rennels, Larimer County Commissioner, to increase the level of training for Commissioners across the state on this important issue.

### **C) Legislative Update**

Randy was again asked to provide information on this topic. He stated that the bill regarding licensure of air ambulances was passed. This bill will require air ambulance services to be CAMTS certified to be licensed in the state.

Randy also spoke about the EMT Subpoena and Conduct Bill. It was signed by the governor and will go into effect August 8, 2005. This bill will grant the EMTS Division subpoena authority to investigate misconduct by emergency medical technicians. It will also require agency personnel to report such misconduct and provide those personnel with protection.



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## D) State Provider Grant

Kim offered a summary of the seven grants from agencies in the Plains to Peaks Region. Kim thanked the agencies that applied and encouraged all in attendance to consider applying next year.

## E) High Country EMS

Kim informed the Council that this issue was complete and thanked Randy and the Teller County representatives for their diligent work which helped to deal with the issues. Randy also thanked those who worked on the project and informed the Council of some potential changes in the contracts which accompany successful Provider Grant awards. This will include having CDPHE on the vehicle title for the useful life of the unit and further developing rules regarding what the “useful life” of an asset will be.

## F) Divert & Code 3 Reports

Kim had no report this quarter due to other commitments for the Region. He will compile and present this information at the next meeting.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### A) Destination Guidelines

Randy spoke to the Council about several projects being undertaken by the EMTS section at CDPHE. The data development project continues to progress slowly and a one year contract was just signed with the Western RETAC. This contract will pay for technical assistance to implement the project at the local level. In addition, work continues on the web based model for delivery of data into the state data base. Randy indicated this would be most appealing to agencies with fewer than 500 patient transports per year. The anticipated trial release date will be January 2006.

Randy presented the Council with an opportunity funded by \$11,000 of EMSC funds. Randy and staff at CDPHE would like to develop a statewide template for pediatric destination guidelines. This project is in conjunction with the already approved Trauma Triage Algorithm and will deal specifically with the “right side” of the document which allows each RETAC to determine the patient destination from the field. Randy felt that the Plains to Peaks Region has the structure and makeup to develop a comprehensive template that could be used statewide to assist in completing patient destination guidelines. Dr. David Ross, AMR medical director, provided numerous suggestions regarding the process for development of the template. Randy stated that the money will need to be spent by the end of April 2006. Ted asked each Council member to express their interest in participating in this type of project. Council consensus was



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to direct Kim to move forward with the EMTS section on this project. Kim will meet with Randy and his staff after the SEMTAC meetings to initiate the paperwork necessary. Kim was also directed to begin soliciting participants for this project.

## B) 2005 Plains to Peaks Biennial Plan

Kim provided copies of the 2005 Plains to Peaks Biennial Plan to the Council. He explained the process used to develop it and thanked those who provided input. Kim explained that this was a deliverable under the contract with the state and that all deliverables had been met at this time. Paul made a motion to accept the 2005 Biennial Plan as presented. Sue Kern seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## C) Injury Prevention

Kim informed the Council that the Provider Grant written by the Region for injury prevention had been awarded in the amount of \$2500. He explained that the program will have three projects within it. Nikki spoke about the "Trauma Nurses Talk Tough" program to be presented to high school students by Memorial Hospital. Jody Wallace provided information about the program to be provided by Penrose/St Francis Health Services which will address falls in the elderly population. Kim discussed the third project which will involve seat belt use among high school students. Each of these projects will be directed mostly toward the rural areas of the Region.

## D) Plains to Peaks Awards Program

Kim spoke briefly about the program and provided those in attendance with award criteria and nomination forms. Kim encouraged everyone to consider participating in the program this year.

## E) Rural AED Project

Kim reviewed the history of the procurement and placement of AEDs received by the Region through the Colorado Rural Health Center. He then asked Roxie Devers to present concerns that the Lincoln County EMS Council had brought to her. Roxie had two issues to address. The first of these was regarding who actually owns the AEDs. The second issue pertains to liability regarding placement of both Public Access AEDs and those placed with emergency responders. Paul, Randy, and Dr. Ross each provided comments about the legal aspects of AED placement. General consensus was that the fiscal agent, Cheyenne County, owns the units until they have documentation showing transfer of ownership. In addition, the Council felt that liability does exist but that if the agency responsible for the unit follows applicable statute and rule their exposure is minimal. Randy stated he could find no case law showing an agency to be found negligent if the units were placed and operated in good faith.



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**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further to discuss, Tonda moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 PM. Greg seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The next meeting of the Plains to Peaks RETAC will be October 18, 2005 in Cheyenne County.

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Kim E Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator