



## RETAC Council Meeting Minutes

**Date:** January 21, 2014

**Location:** City of Fountain Fire Department, Station 1  
811 N Santa Fe Avenue  
Fountain, CO 80817

**Attendance:** See attached list

A quorum was present. Rob Handley, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

### I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kim Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator, presented the proposed agenda. Tim Dienst moved to accept the agenda as presented. Lynn Andersen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2014

Rob turned the meeting over to Kim Schallenberger for the Council Chair election. Kim requested nominations for the position of Council Chair. Lynn nominated Rob Handley. Bonnie King seconded that motion. Tim moved to close nominations. Nate Lenn seconded the motion. Motion passed. By consensus, Rob Handley was elected as the Council Chair for 2014. Kim turned the meeting back over to Rob.

Rob requested nominations for the position of Council Vice Chair. Bonnie nominated Tim Dienst. Nate seconded the motion. Lynn moved to close nominations. Bonnie seconded the motion. Motion passed. By consensus, Tim Dienst was elected as the Council Vice Chair for 2014.

Rob requested nominations for the position of Council Secretary/Treasurer. Nate nominated Lynn Andersen. Tim seconded the motion. Tim moved to close nominations. Nate seconded the motion. Motion passed. By consensus, Lynn Andersen was elected as the Council Secretary/Treasurer for 2014.

### III. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 15, 2013 MINUTES

Minutes were reviewed by those present. Tim moved to accept the minutes as presented. Lynn seconded the motion. Motion passed.



#### **IV. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Kim presented documents reflecting the financial activity of the Regional office for October, November, and December 2013. Kim explained that a \$50 deposit in December by himself was due to an error in his salary payment. The Cheyenne County BoCC had offered to provide a \$50 bonus for all employees. Kim had explained that was not within the RETAC budget and refused the payment. Due to a miscommunication, the payment was still made and this action has reversed the error. Lynn moved to accept the financial report as presented. Tim seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Kim provided the Council with a document showing the various purchases made by each County using their designated funds during the past quarter and a summary of the past twelve months. Roxie Devers noted that Lincoln County would be making a request from their designated account in the near future.

Kim reminded the Council about the FY14 Supplemental Funding provided as a grant through the EMTS Section. Kim explained that 50% of the funds would be used at the local level and split evenly among the five counties. He provided a summary about the local efforts to utilize the funds for the most appropriate purpose. Kim further provided an update on the 50% of the funds which were to be used at the Regional level for Recruitment and Retention, Education, and Leadership training.

#### **V. CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence at this time.

#### **VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Kim provided a document regarding the posting of meeting notices in accordance with the Colorado Open Meetings Law. Tim moved to accept the notice as presented. Bonnie seconded the motion. Motion passed.

#### **VII. REPORTS**

##### **A) Officers**

All officers indicated any reports were within the approved agenda.



B) Regional Coordinator

Kim indicated that most of his activities would be covered within the agenda. Kim spoke about the Healthcare Coalitions within the Region. He is attending meetings as possible and providing technical support where appropriate.

Kim explained that the FY14 Colorado Rural Health Center RAED grant was now completed. The grant provided funds to place an AED in Kit Carson County at the Stratton Community Center, one in El Paso County with Edison FPD, and five units in Lincoln County with local law enforcement offices.

Kim noted that the FY14 Regional Equipment grant for the Masimo RAD 57 CO detector was completed with equipment purchased and delivered. Masimo also provided onsite training for the agencies receiving the equipment.

Kim reminded the Council that the RETAC had written a grant for a Consultative Visit for Cheyenne County. Kim explained the purpose of the project and provided the names of the review team. Rod Pelton and Pat Ward both spoke about the situation in Cheyenne County and stated they were looking forward to the recommendations from the review team. The dates for the project will be February 16-19, 2014.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

A) State Council Report

Kim provided two documents. The first was the agenda and committee schedule for the SEMTAC meetings in Denver January 29-30, 2014. The second was the EMTS Section quarterly report of activities within the section. Kim encouraged all stakeholders to review the report. Kim further noted that numerous members of the Council would be attending the SEMTAC meetings and encouraged others to participate if possible.

B) Board of Health Rules

Kim explained that the Critical Care Paramedic endorsement workgroup had completed their work. He provided a document showing the most significant changes to rules which would be required for the endorsement. Kim stated that the public comment is now open and gave a timeline for the final approval of the endorsement.

C) Legislative Update

Kim read an email from EMSAC regarding four current legislative topics for this session. The first is an effort to provide protection from discovery for EMS providers and their medical



# Plains to Peaks

*Emergency Medical & Trauma Service Region*



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directors. Tim provided additional information on the topic and the group discussed the issue. Kim and Tim will continue to keep the Council informed.

Kim explained that other issues included a bill to allow EMTs to provide care for animals associated with human patients. The EMS license plate bill is going to be introduced once again. The fourth topic surrounds raising the penalty for assaulting an EMS provider to the same level as assaulting a firefighter or police officer.

#### D) State Provider Grant

Kim reminded the Council that the FY15 EMTS Provider grant is now open for applications. Kim informed those present that the RETACs in the state are working together in an effort to write statewide Consolidated Grants rather than the Regional grants in past years. The Plains to Peaks RETAC will be supporting a Physio Control equipment grant. This project currently supports 30 agencies across six RETACs. Kim noted that he had worked with the Cheyenne County Clerk and CPA to apprise them of this grant. Kim informed the Council that he would write in \$1000 for indirect costs to support Cheyenne County with this project.

Kim informed the Council that he would ask Black Forest Fire/Rescue if they would host the Regional Grant hearing. After discussion, the Council decided the date of the hearing would be March 19, 2014 from 0900 to 1300. Council members volunteering to review grants included: Sue Kern, Cheyenne County; Lynn Andersen and Nate Lenn, El Paso County; Rob Handley, Lincoln County; Tim Dienst and Candy Shoemaker, Teller County. Kim will contact the Kit Carson County representatives to request a volunteer.

#### E) Statewide RETAC Forum

Kim noted that he and Rob continue to attend the quarterly forums. The most recent forum focused on EMS data, revisions to the Biennial Plan template, group purchases for the provider grant, and EMTS at the Capitol. The last item discussed at the forum was a survey developed by the CMD group to provide a more complete picture of EMS in Colorado. Tim spoke about the survey and encouraged strong participation in the survey to provide quality information when speaking to CMS and the legislature about issues within the EMTS system.

The next RETAC forum will be March 5-6, 2014.

#### F) Pediatric Issues

Rob provided some concerns he has regarding proposed reductions in the level of pediatric care available. He stated that there are efforts being put forward by some committees which he believes will negatively affect pediatric care. He strongly encouraged those in attendance to make their voices heard at these meetings.



G) Drive Smart Colorado, CDOT Grant

Kim noted Drive Smart Colorado continues to meet the deliverables within the CDOT Occupant Safety grant. He indicated that the contractor is working closely with local stakeholders to maintain strong coalitions supporting traffic safety.

H) Regional CQI Committee

Kim provided an update on the work of the Regional committee. He explained that the contractor, Jeremiah Ahrens, was working closely with Image Trend and the agencies to obtain quality data for the CQI Committee. Kim also noted that numerous changes will be occurring within the Region regarding Medical Direction for agencies. The resignation of Dr. David Ross leaves many agencies in need of a new medical director. Kim stated that he is working with the agencies and potential physicians to fill these positions.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

A) State Capitol Event

Kim and Tim provided information about the EMTS at the Capitol events scheduled for January 28, 2014. All agencies and facilities were encouraged to participate if at all possible. Tim spoke about the successes from past years and the potential for this year.

B) El Paso County Ambulance coverage

Kim provided a brief summary of the evolution of ambulance coverage over the past year. He noted that numerous rural and frontier areas of El Paso County are struggling to develop the most effective method of ground ambulance service given the proposed reduction in service to be provided by a contractor. Chief Carl Tatum, Hanover FPD, spoke about some of the concerns. Kim stated he would keep the Council informed about the status of the services and would provide technical assistance where appropriate.

(C) Other

Rod Pelton, Cheyenne County Commissioner, asked if he could speak about the relationship between the RETAC and Cheyenne County as the fiscal agent. Rob Handley granted the request. Rod Pelton indicated that Cheyenne County has enjoyed being the fiscal agent and would like to continue in that capacity. He did however note that some of the RETAC fiscal policies and the Cheyenne County policies may not always align. Rob Handley thanked Cheyenne County for their work as the fiscal agent but reminded everyone that the RETAC approves the bills prior to submission for payment. Rod Pelton agreed with that statement but indicated that Cheyenne County would continue to review all invoices as is their policy. Rob



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Handley agreed with that policy and encouraged them to bring any concerns before the full Council. Tim suggested that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting. All agreed.

## (D) Roundtable Discussion

Rob Handley suggested that the Council should recognize Judi Mitchek for her service to the RETAC. He further requested that Dr. David Ross be recognized for his years of service as a medical director for many agencies. All agreed with the suggestion. Kim was tasked with obtaining appropriate items for such recognition. Rob also noted that Limon Ambulance Service would be starting an academy by April. He also stated that the Red Cross had expressed interest in working with agencies more closely in the Region for sheltering and disaster relief events. Kim will contact the Red Cross to be on the April agenda.

Tim Dienst explained that Teller County is in the process of finding a new medical director for all agencies in the County.

Pat Ward spoke about the lack of volunteers for the ambulance service in Cheyenne County.

Bonnie King introduced two new trauma coordinators at Penrose: Melinda Rivera and Valerie Brockman.

Lynn Andersen reminded the group that Dr. Andrew Berson had been appointed to serve on the SEMTAC.

Sue Kern informed the Council that she would be leaving her position as director of Cheyenne County Ambulance Service.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further to discuss, Rob adjourned the meeting at 1515.

The next meeting of the Plains to Peaks RETAC will be April 15, 2014 in Cheyenne County.

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Kim E Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator