



RETAC Council Meeting Minutes

Date: October 20, 2015

Location: Kit Carson County Ambulance Service
1576 Lowell Street
Burlington, CO 80807

Attendance: See attached list

A quorum was present. Rob Handley, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. Rob also noted that it was great to have some new participants attending the meeting such as Tri Lakes FPD, Colorado Springs Fire Department, and American Medical Response. He thanked them for their time.

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kim Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator, presented the proposed agenda. Pat Ward moved to accept the agenda as presented. Jody Wallace seconded the motion. Motion passed.

II. APPROVAL OF July 21, 2015 MINUTES

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

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

Kim presented documents reflecting the financial activity of the regional office for July, August, and September 2015. Breanna Lightle moved to accept the financial report as presented. Jody seconded the motion. Motion passed. Tim Dienst abstained from the vote due to his initial review of the documents on a monthly basis.

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.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence for the meeting.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kim informed the Council that seven of the eight designated trauma centers in the region had undergone their state trauma reviews in the past year. All facilities passed without any deficiencies. Pikes Peak Regional Hospital will be reviewed in early 2016.



VI. REPORTS

A) Officers

None at this time

B) Regional Coordinator

Kim Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator, informed the Council that most items would be covered during the regular agenda.

Kim presented a potential project for the Council to consider. There are efforts to provide a paramedic refresher course in the region prior to the March 2016 NREMT deadline for renewal. A coordinated effort would provide the option for live streaming and recording of the education which would benefit all stakeholders involved. Kim informed the Council that cost savings within the FY15 grant were a potential source for funding the equipment needed to make this project a success. Kim suggested that the equipment would also be valuable for the RETAC BLS Conference and for numerous other educational offerings within the region. As the issue was not on the posted agenda, action will be postponed until the January meeting but there was general consensus that the project was valuable. Kim will work with other stakeholders to gather additional information.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A) State Council Report

Kim provided the Council with Rob's notes from the October SEMTAC meeting. Kim and Rob spoke about a couple items. One of those items is potential legislation to move EMR certification from the Division of Fire Safety to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Kim also provided a copy of the EMTS Branch Quarterly Newsletter, the Data Task Force report, and the Community Paramedic/Mobile Integrated Health Task Force report.

Tim Dienst mentioned that the quality measures being developed for EMS are available at www.emscompass.com.

Tim also spoke about the progress of the CP/MIH Task Force. There was progress made towards the end of the meetings to agree on various issues. Tim noted that legislation during the 2016 session is likely to establish the provider and the agency in law/rule. Tim also noted that there may be attempts to stipulate funding levels for CP/MIH by Medicare and Medicaid. The Colorado Nurses Association had also provided a strong letter of support for the CP/MIH program to move forward.

B) Board of Health Rules

Kim and Rob spoke briefly about potential rule changes in Chapters 1 & 2 of the trauma rules. These changes pertain to the trauma registry reporting and the REPLICA certification reciprocity rules.



C) Legislative Update

Tim provided an update on the Medicare Rate Review committee established after the 2015 legislative session. Tim is the prehospital transport representative and the committee will meet quarterly for the next four years. The first sector to be discussed will be prehospital transport and the community will be pushing for a 100% increase in reimbursements for emergency transport and a 50% increase for nonemergency transport. Tim indicated a significant need for data to support this type of increase and will be contacting agencies for their input. Tim indicated there will be survey coming online for the data.

Tim also reported that EMSAC is working with the Colorado Association of Health Plans to develop more realistic transport reimbursement rates. They also will try to have payments go to the service rather than the patient. Charlie Sheffield is the director of the CAHP and a potential ally for the project.

Tim provided an update on the EMS Day at the Capitol. It is being scheduled for the latter half of January. He encouraged all agencies to participate in this important event.

D) State Provider Grant

Kim provided an update on the current status of the FY15 and FY16 Consolidated Grants supported by the RETAC. He asked if the Council would like him to pursue another consolidated grant during the FY17 grant cycle. The Council felt this was an important opportunity for the agencies and facilities and the RETAC was the appropriate entity to lead the effort. Kim was tasked with polling the RETAC agencies/facilities about potential equipment needs that would support a consolidated grant application. Kim and Rob will take the results of the poll to the RETAC Forum in December.

E) Statewide RETAC Forum

Kim noted that he and Rob continue to attend the quarterly forums. Rob noted that these meetings are valuable for networking and to keep all RETACs moving forward. The next meeting December 9-10, 2015 is in Loveland.

F) Pediatric Issues

Rob informed those present about plans by Children's Hospital Colorado to build a facility on the north side of Colorado Springs by 2018. Kim noted that the Centura Health system has also announced plans for another facility on the west side of Colorado Springs.

Jason Schallenberger announced that he had been appointed to the Pediatric Emergency Care Committee under SEMTAC.

Rob mentioned a Pediatric Educator conference to be held in Nathrop, Colorado in October. Rob and Jason both plan to attend.



G) Drive Smart Colorado, CDOT Grant

Kim noted that the FY16 grant submission was successful and will extend the program for three more years. Rob thanked Kim and the Drive Smart Colorado contractor for their efforts to keep this program moving forward and successful.

H) Regional CQI Committee

Kim updated the Council on the committee status. The group continues to meet every other month. Kim also spoke about the current effort to write and update the prehospital protocols. This project is being done in conjunction with the Southern and Southeast RETACs. In addition to the protocol development, a smart phone application is being created to house the protocols. This application should make the protocols very interactive and useful for providers. It is hoped that the projects will be complete in the first quarter of 2016.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A) EMSAC Award Nominations

Kim provided a memo showing the nominations by the Plains to Peaks RETAC of regional providers and agencies for the EMSAC statewide awards program. These included:

BLS EMS Professional of the Year	Nicole Richards, Kit Carson County Ambulance
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ALS EMS Professional of the Year	Chad Bauer, Ute Pass Regional Ambulance District
EMS Executive of the Year	Carl Tatum, Hanover Fire Protection District
Ambulance Service of the Year	Limon Ambulance Service

B) Trauma Destination Guidelines

Kim reminded the Council of the rules which require the RETAC to develop trauma destination guidelines for the region. As is the custom in the Plains to Peaks RETAC, discussions are held at the local level regarding the guidelines and then approved at the RETAC level if appropriate. Kim informed the Council that Memorial North was designated as a new Level III trauma center in October 2015. The Emergency Care Committee of the El Paso County Medical Society had discussions regarding trauma destinations with this addition. The proposed new guidelines were reviewed by the RETAC Council for consideration. Gary Coop moved to approve the new guidelines as presented. Pat seconded the motion. Motion passed. Elizabeth Spradlin, Carolle Anne Banville, and Jody Wallace abstained. Kim will provide the new trauma destination guidelines to the state EMTS office.

C) Goal Committees

Kim provided an update on each of the four Biennial Plan goals.

Goal 1: Education.

The facility education committee met via email to consider options for educational outreach by the Level II facilities for the Level IV facilities. The development of consistent education efforts



Plains to Peaks

Emergency Medical & Trauma Service Region



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will continue. Kim did note that the first educational offering will be October 29th at Keefe Memorial Hospital and presented by Memorial-UCH staff.

The prehospital education committee met in person to discuss potential ALS educational needs and options. The Advanced Medical Life Support course was recommended as the first option for this fiscal year. Kim provided a flyer describing the AMLS course. Additional suggestions included TCCC and/or TEMS. The Difficult Airway Course was also noted as an option for future years.

Goal 2: Healthcare Finance Committee

Kim reviewed the need for this committee due to the changes in healthcare reimbursement required by the Affordable Care Act. Kim and Tim have been communicating with the facilities about their efforts to collaborate with Accountable Care Organizations. Kim and Tim have also been discussing methods to inform ground transport services about the need to collaborate with the ACO. A meeting of the committee volunteers is being planned to further discuss options and avenues to inform stakeholders.

Goal 3: Rules & Legislation Committee

Kim provided three handouts for the Councils review. Two documents describe federal and state legislative processes. The third handout is a PowerPoint developed by the state EMTS office regarding the rule development process within the EMTS system. Kim asked for suggestions regarding the best avenues to get information out to stakeholders. Kim and Tim will be working to develop an educational/informational program to better educate and involve local stakeholders in the rules and legislative processes.

Goal 4: RMD/CQI

Kim noted that this project was discussed earlier on the agenda.

D) EMS Field Bill

Tim provided information about the federal EMS Field Bill for consideration by the Council. He noted the benefits of moving Emergency Medical Services from the National Highway Transportation Department to Health and Human Services. Tim explained how stakeholders can easily send letters of support to legislators through an online option. Some benefits of the EMS Field Bill include: innovation and quality is rewarded through reimbursement, a federal grant program for EMS, new accountability standards, evidence based clinical care model development, and incentive payments.

E) Roundtable Discussion

Rob Handley: A fund raising effort to support Dave Repsher and his family is available. Dave was severely injured in the crash of a FFL helicopter in Frisco on July 3. Rob asked Kim to send the information to all stakeholders in the region.

Jody Wallace: The Penrose-St Francis Trauma Symposium is scheduled for May 6, 2016. PSF is helping with a TNCC at Lincoln Community Hospital in November. Rob noted that Jody is also retiring at the end of the year. He thanked her for the many years of service to the RETAC.



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Mark Morrison: Airlife has established a helicopter base at Lincoln Community Hospital on October 9, 2015.

No other additional comments from those present.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, Rob adjourned the meeting at 1455.

The next meeting of the Plains to Peaks RETAC will be January 19, 2016 in Lincoln County

Kim E Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator