



## **RETAC Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** October 21, 2014

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

**Attendance:** See attached list

A quorum was present. Rob Handley, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:06 PM

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

Kim Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator, presented the proposed agenda. Dave Gwyn moved to accept the agenda as presented. Rachel Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **II. APPROVAL OF July 15, 2014 MINUTES**

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

### **III. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Kim presented documents reflecting the financial activity of the Regional office for July, August, and September 2014. Dave Gwyn moved to accept the financial report as presented. Candy Shoemaker 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.

### **IV. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence for the meeting.

### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

John DeWitt, Lincoln County OEM, announced that there will be a Youth Mental Health First Aid course on November 15<sup>th</sup> in Lincoln County. John further announced that he was able to secure gas pipeline safety training on December 6<sup>th</sup> to be held at the Jury Assembly Room in Hugo, CO.



## **VI. REPORTS**

### A) Officers

No reports at this time.

### B) Regional Coordinator

Kim Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator, indicated that most of his activities would be covered during the approved agenda so no additional report was necessary at this time.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### A) State Council Report

Kim provided copies of his written SEMTAC report. He discussed the two issues which were prominent during the meetings. These included the waiver for Memorial-UCH regarding pediatric neurosurgical coverage and the recent surge in free standing emergency rooms across the state. Kim also provided copies of the CDPHE EMTS Branch quarterly report and encouraged those in attendance to review the document for the most up to date information at the Branch.

Kim and Rob discussed a letter written by Chief Dan Noonan to the Public Policy & Finance committee and the SEMTAC. Chief Noonan is the chair of the SW RETAC. The letter requests a task force be formed to investigate the history of RETAC funding and to consider the options to increase base funding for all RETACs. Kim and Rob will keep the group informed as the topic moves forward.

Kim and Rob also updated the Council on the new online certification program hosted by the EMTS Branch called OATH.

### B) Board of Health Rules

Kim provided a document showing the current talking points regarding the recently approved Critical Care Endorsement for paramedics. Rachel Smith informed the group that two of the paramedics employed by Lincoln Community Hospital will be taking the education necessary to take the test to obtain the endorsement. She further indicated that Arapahoe Community College will be providing the education again in March 2015.



# Plains to Peaks

*Emergency Medical & Trauma Service Region*



**Kim E. Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator, Box 303, Kit Carson, CO 80825**  
**Phone: 719-344 5584 Fax: 719-344 5585 Cell: 719-342-5562**

## C) Legislative Update

No new items for discussion at this time.

## D) State Provider Grant

Kim provided a document showing all of the EMTS Provider Grant awards for FY15. He also reminded the group about the statewide consolidated grant written by the Plains to Peaks RETAC to support agencies requesting Physio Control equipment. Kim will continue to update the Council as the project moves forward.

Kim provided the pertinent dates regarding the upcoming FY16 EMTS Provider Grant which opens on December 15, 2014. Kim also noted that specific pediatric equipment was approved for the incentive funding option by the SEMTAC. This means that agencies or facilities purchasing approved pediatric equipment will only pay a 25% match rather than the usual 50%.

## 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.

## F) Pediatric Issues

Lynn had no update at this time.

## G) Drive Smart Colorado, CDOT Grant

Kim indicated that the FY14 Occupant Safety Grant through CDOT was completed in September and the contractor, Drive Smart Colorado, is already working under the approved FY15 Occupant Safety Grant.

## H) Regional CQI Committee

Kim provided an update on the work of the Regional committee. He spoke about a recent meeting he and Rob had with the Regional Co-Medical Directors. This meeting was to encourage the Regional Co-Medical Directors to take an active role on the CQI Committee and provide the leadership and direction necessary to move the project forward. Kim indicated that the most recent meeting held on October 16<sup>th</sup> was very productive and he is optimistic about the direction of the group with the new leadership.



## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A) CDPHE Infectious Agent Rules**

Kim provided the updated version of the board of health rule pertaining to preparations for a bioterrorist event, pandemic influenza, or an outbreak by a novel and highly fatal infectious agency or biological toxin. The new rules have different requirements for RETACs and Kim informed the Council he would be working to meet those requirements. Kim will keep the Council informed about the project.

### **B) Regional Spinal Splinting Project**

Kim and Rob updated the Council about the new protocols recently adopted regarding potentially injured patients and the spinal precautions necessary. Kim spoke about the recent project to purchase vacuum splints to support the new protocols. He indicated that nearly all agencies within the Region are moving forward and are currently receiving the education necessary to fully implement the new protocols.

Rob did ask the facilities to please show appropriate care for the vacuums splints when they come in with a patient as they are semi-disposable and can be damaged if not handled appropriately.

### **C) Technical Assistance to Eastern Counties**

Kim spoke about recent discussions with stakeholders regarding Mobile Integrated Healthcare and the potential options for working in a more collaborative fashion to support the delivery of emergency care across very large geographic areas. He indicated that he is continuing to meet with various experts to develop a proposal to present to all stakeholders.

### **D) Other**

Kim informed the group that the Ricoh Afficio copier purchased for the Regional office in 2001 has finally reached the end of its life. He provided quotes from five different vendors in the Colorado Springs area for review by the Council. Dave Gwyn made a motion to approve up to \$3000.00 to purchase a new copier. Lynn Andersen seconded the motion. Motion passed. Kim was tasked with researching the most appropriate and cost effective solution to the issue. Kim will update the Council at the next meeting.



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## E) Roundtable Discussion

John DeWitt mentioned that a tornado siren has been ordered for the Karval area using a grant. He also spoke about a concern raised after a crash within the County.

Lynn Andersen spoke about the new “Trauma Talks” program to encourage teens to drive safely.

Rachel Smith indicated that Lincoln Community Hospital has hired a new CEO, Kevin Stansbury. Rachel also informed the group about a Trauma Nurse Coordinator group which is now meeting every other month. Good attendance from several rural facilities.

Nicole Richards spoke about the Kit Carson County Healthcare Coalition meeting held October 20<sup>th</sup>. The topic was Ebola.

Breanna Lightle informed the group that the Akron based helicopter service, Medevac, will be hosting a training at the Burlington Community Center on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Dave Gwyn announced that Breanna Lightle has been officially hired as the director of the Kit Carson County Ambulance Service.

Rob Handley spoke about the National EMS Memorial Service and encouraged everyone to please save the date and try to attend the service the last weekend of June.

Kim Schallenberger informed the group about the recently announced statewide EMSAC awards. Several nominations from within the Region were successful.

Troy Cowden, Tri County FPD, BLS EMS Professional of the Year.

Illa Brown, UPRAD, ALS EMS Professional of the Year

Sue Kern, Cheyenne County, Francis Mildred Roth Women in EMS Award

Dr. Marilyn Gifford, Memorial-UCH, Dr. Robert Campbell Award for Distinguished Service

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further to discuss, Rob adjourned the meeting at 1420.

The next meeting of the Plains to Peaks RETAC will be January 20, 2015 in Lincoln County

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Kim E Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator