



RETAC Council Meeting Minutes

Date: April 21, 2015

Location: Memorial Central Hospital
1400 E Boulder Street
CHMG Black Conference Room, 6th Floor, East Tower
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

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. Jim Reid moved to accept the agenda as presented. Jody Wallace seconded the motion. Motion passed.

II. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 20, 2015 MINUTES

Minutes were reviewed by those present. Carolle Anne Banville moved to accept the minutes as presented. Jim Reid seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

Kim presented documents reflecting the financial activity of the Regional office for January, February, and March 2015. Jim Reid moved to accept the financial report as presented. Sherilyn Skokan 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

Jody announced that the Penrose-St. Francis Trauma Symposium will be held May 8, 2015 at the Marriot in Colorado Springs.

Elizabeth Spradlin announced that the Memorial-UC Health Trauma Symposium will be held August 28-29, 2015.

John DeWitt announced that there will be an ICS 300 class on May 16-17, 2015 in Hugo at the Courthouse.



VI. REPORTS

A) Officers

No reports at this time.

B) Regional Coordinator

Kim Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator, informed the Council that most items would be covered during the regular agenda. Kim did take a few minutes to explain that he had needed to take some days off during the last quarter for family matters. He has been keeping Rob informed and thanked the Council for allowing him to have this time.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A) State Council Report

Kim provided copies of his written SEMTAC report. He discussed the issues which were prominent during the meetings. These included the Community Paramedic task force, the move to NEMSIS 3.0 in the data department, the discussions in the STAC regarding the free standing emergency rooms, and the task force created to consider additional funding for the RETACs. Tim Dienst spoke more in depth about the Community Paramedic task force. They are trying to identify functions for the personnel and are considering a new name: "Community Integrated Health Service".

The Council discussed the work of the RETAC Funding task force. Kim reminded the group that any increase in funding for the RETACs would automatically reduce funds available for the EMTS Provider grant. Kim also noted that the HUTF fund is currently receiving approximately \$200K per year more than expenses at the department. The task force will provide a report to SEMTAC during the July meeting.

B) Board of Health Rules

Kim indicated that he was unaware of any upcoming rules changes that would be before the Board of Health.

C) Legislative Update

Tim provided the update. He noted that the Affordable Care Act will have Medicare reimbursement at 30% of cost and will be tied to quality in 2016. He urged the group to be proactive about this issue as changes are coming fast.

At the federal level, Tim spoke about HR343 which would provide up to 300 hours at \$20/hour tax break for volunteers. He also spoke about HB748 which is the Ambulance Reform Act and the Senate EMS Field Bill.



Plains to Peaks

Emergency Medical & Trauma Service Region



Kim E. Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator, Box 303, Kit Carson, CO 80825
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At the state level, Tim spoke about HB 1015 which is the EMS compact bill between at least 10 states to allow for reciprocity of certifications. Tim informed the group that the bill which would have set Medicaid rates at 60% of Medicare was laid over as it was basically just a political act to get the state CMS group to provide information to the JBC. A second Medicaid bill has been introduced which will allow for more open review of rates and will include an EMS representative. The last bill Tim spoke about will reduce the penalty for assaulting a first responder and take away the mandatory sentencing aspect. EMSAC is now neutral on this bill after it was amended.

D) State Provider Grant

Kim informed the group that the FY15 grants were nearing completion in June. The FY16 SEMTAC hearings will be May 14-15 in Denver. The awards will be announced in late June.

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 June 3-4, 2015 in Durango.

F) Pediatric Issues

Carolle Anne Banville presented two documents to the Council. Memorial Hospital-UC Health has decided to drop the waiver from the CDPHE allowing them to move pediatric patients from the Memorial ER into the pediatric wing operated by Children's Hospital Colorado. This change effectively means that all pediatric trauma patients except those with single system injuries must be transferred to the Level I RPTC in Aurora. Dr. Paul Reckard, Dr. Stein Bronsky, and Kim added additional historical information about the waiver.

Dr. Bronsky was asked if there is any need to modify the RETAC Trauma Destination guidelines due to this change. Dr. Bronsky stated that pediatric trauma patients in El Paso County should still be taken to Memorial Hospital for stabilization. The possible exception could be patients originating on the north end of the County. No definition of the line was provided at this time. Discussion continued about patients in Teller County and those who might be picked up by helicopter from the scene. Severely injured pediatric trauma patients should be taken directly to Aurora. Limited discussion about a landing zone in Manitou Springs was heard and Dr. Bronsky assured the group that those patients should still be taken to Memorial Hospital by ground. There will be potential additional directives from the medical directors to further clarify any trauma patient destination questions.

G) Drive Smart Colorado, CDOT Grant

Kim noted that the FY16 grant application has been submitted to CDOT. If awarded, this grant would be for a three year term.



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H) Regional CQI Committee

Kim asked Jeremiah Ahrens to update the Council on the Regional CQI Committee. Jeremiah noted that participation by both hospital systems has been great. He has been tasked with working on the statewide data task force which is facilitating the state move from NEMSIS 2.1 to 3.0. This move should help with data quality and quantity. The task force will complete their work and report to the SEMTAC in October. Jeremiah spoke about a project involving not only the Plains to Peaks RETAC but also the Southern and Southeast RETACs. This project will be to develop pre-hospital protocols from the ground up and then ultimately make them available on a smart phone app. This is projected to be complete by January 2016. He also spoke about a “dashboard” being developed to interface between the hospital ER and the incoming ambulance. More to come on this project. Kim thanked Jeremiah for his work with the committee over the past year or so.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A) Conference and Awards Program

Kim reminded the Council about the upcoming 14th Annual Plains to Peaks EMS/Trauma Conference to be held in Hugo. The venue has been changed for this year to the Lincoln County fairgrounds as the Limon High School is under construction. Preparations for the conference are going well. Kim announced the winners of the 2015 Regional Awards to be presented on Saturday, April 25th.

Volunteer EMT	Nicole Richards	Kit Carson County Ambulance
Career EMT	Nicole Heckman	American Medical Response
Paramedic	Chad Bauer	Ute Pass Regional Ambulance
EMS Educator	Brian Sanfilippo	American Medical Response
Dispatcher	Melissa Harmsen	City of Fountain
ER Nurse	Nena Williams	St Francis Medical Center
EMS Administrator	Chief Carl Tatum	Hanover FPD

B) CRHC Grant Opportunity

The Colorado Rural Health Center approached the Plains to Peaks RETAC with a potential federal grant opportunity. This grant would help to fund an enhanced EMS/Hospital program in the three frontier counties of the RETAC. Rob, Rachel Smith, and Kim will work closely with the CRHC to develop and write the grant. Awards will not be announced until later in 2015. Kim will keep the Council informed with any updates.

C) NEMSMS

Rob informed the group that the National EMS Memorial Service would be in Colorado for one more year before moving back to Virginia. He expressed his great disappointment with this move but indicated that he understood why the change was happening. The support from within the state of Colorado just didn't materialize as expected and the NEMSMS group decided to move the service back to the eastern part of the United States. Rob strongly encouraged all agencies to support this final year for the service to be in Colorado. The date for the service is June 27, 2015.



D) 2015 Regional Biennial Plan

A discussion was held regarding proposed goals for the 2015 Regional Biennial Plan. Numerous ideas were submitted and discussed. The Council was encouraged to consider new or updated goals and to submit them to Kim as soon as possible. The final document is due to the state office by June 30, 2015. Kim will work closely with the Executive Council to finalize the document.

E) FY16 Budget

Kim and Rob presented a draft budget for the FY16 year. Kim explained the line items and answered any questions. Tim made a motion to provide a 3% raise to the Regional Coordinator. Elizabeth Spradlin seconded the motion. Motion carried. Tim made a motion to move \$1133 from each of the County Designated accounts into operations to balance the FY16 budget. Elizabeth seconded the motion. An individual poll of the Council members present was taken. At that time, it was noted that some of the Council members on the phone had dropped off so there was no longer a quorum. Those present decided to have the Executive Council poll the full membership using email and report back with the results.

If the results of the online poll are affirmative to approve the budget and the commitment of county funds to operations, Rob will update the Council at the next meeting. If the results of the online poll are in the negative, the Executive Council will consider convening another meeting to approve a budget prior to the end of the fiscal year.

F) National Rural EMS Conference

Kim and Rob spoke about the upcoming conference to be held on May 5-6, 2015 in Cheyenne, Wyoming. They will provide an update at the next meeting.

G) Roundtable Discussion

Cristi Romans: KCCMH is ready for their upcoming trauma review. She also thanked the RETAC for the recent TNC conference as they prepared for their review.

Tim Dienst: Community Paramedic program moving forward. Tim will be in Washington D.C. for the EMS on the Hill.

No other additional comments from those present.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, Rob adjourned the meeting at 1517.

The next meeting of the Plains to Peaks RETAC will be July 21, 2015 in Teller County

Kim E Schallenberger, Regional Coordinator