

**Statewide EMS Advisory Meeting
NM Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum, Las Cruces
November 12, 2009**

Call to order: 1:40pm

Committee Attendees:

Don McNutt, Chair, Region 2
Pete Bellows, NM EMT Association
Jim Stover, NM Ambulance Association
Virginia Sanchez, Consumer Advocate
James Williams, EMS Region 3
Chad Hamill, NM Fire Chiefs
Linda Warren, EMS for Children
Mick Leo, MD, ACEP
Becky Gutierrez, NM Firefighters Association
Mike Richards, MD, UNM

Absent:

Brian Caldwell, EMS Region 1
Charles Hosford, Emergency Services Council/SAR
Brent Hamilton, NMAMTAC
BJ Brunt -Palmer, NM Nurses Association
Ken Cochran, NM Hospital Association
Art Rios, NENA

Welcome & Introductions

Rule of Order, Don McNutt asked that a consent agenda be approved. Mike Richards moved that the consent agenda be accepted and Chad Hamill seconded the motion. Discussion ensued; James Williams stated that the Regional Offices and the EMS for Children would like to report at this meeting in person. Don McNutt also stated that the JOE, MDC and others would like to make a personal report. Pete Bellows stated that he did not believe that the Committee was using a consent agenda, with all the folks that wanted to speak in person. Kyle Thornton explained the consent agenda. Chad Hamill stated that he had a concern that the audience would not be able to see what was on the consent agenda, but that he felt it would make the meeting move faster. Jim Stover stated that if there was no further discussion we can move on and accept the agenda and approve it. The committee members approved the new consent agenda, unanimously.

BJ Palmer left Don McNutt her proxy and there was a quorum in attendance.

Marie Gutierrez of the Public Regulation Commission introduced their new Transportation Division Director Larry Lujan. Marie has completed her inspections for the year. She has 2 pending investigations for action. Larry Lujan addressed the group and stated that his office is open, and that he is happy to help with ambulance issues. Mr. Lujan thanked Marie for her dedication and service to the EMS Community.

Linda Warren stated that the EMS for Children Committee has been working on drug cards with pediatric drug dosages and pediatric protocol booklets; these will go to all the services in the state.

New SWAC members were introduced; Jim Stover for the NM Ambulance Association and Art Rios for the 911 group representative for DFA (NENA).

Region 1 EMS report: John Smithson gave the report. During the last three months, Region 1 has been visiting various counties to get them involved with upcoming legislation. NMSERVES has been enlisting volunteers for mass vaccination clinics. Region 1 continues to help co-sponsor trainings with Santa Fe Community College. They have also been working with 16 counties in educating them on the proposed EMS Legacy Act. They have had a positive response and the draft document is for review on their website.

Tim Zagorski stated that they have had an overall positive response using the NM Farm & Ranch Museum as a conference venue. Region 2 has been working on selling the EMS Legacy Act to services in their area with no negative feedback. Region 2's EMS staff is now down to a total of 4 people. Sandy Barley has been working with Liana on the application for Socorro General Hospital and is now on its way to obtain a Level IV trauma center designation. Region 2 is working through contract issues with the Bureau of Health Emergency Management.

Regarding this years Region 2 EMS Conference, the numbers are as follows:

156 registered for preconference

277 students registered for main conference

27 vendor spaces have been filled

The region has been using 4 staff members and 10 volunteers.

Tim Zagorski stated that the Ramada Palms has been a nice host hotel and they plan on keeping the museum as a venue for the next few years.

James Williams reported for EMS Region 3. Region 3 has been working on a host of issues from NMEMSTARS data input, the proposed EMS Legacy Act, EMS Fund Act application reviews, test site coordination, Megacall courses, ReTrac meetings, and the video loan program. Region 3 will have its 30 year celebration in Ruidoso, this spring.

Judy Rhodes gave the EMS Academy report. Dr. Mark Munk is the Academy's new director. They currently have 18 students in their current paramedic class and 22 in the KAFB Paramedic program. The Academy will also be conducting a Wilderness First Responder program.

Cy Stockhoff reported for the Joint Organization on Education (JOE). JOE has finished a Gap Analysis that compares NM with the Nation and found that New Mexico exceeds the national curriculum. The analysis found that the New Mexico EMT-Basic exceeds the national EMT and the New Mexico paramedic is in alignment with the national curriculum. It was found that out-of-state students know the basics of EMS better while the NM EMT knows a broader scope of practice.

The JOE is discussing topics such as Associate Degrees and crosswalks between Community Colleges and Universities. The JOE plans on putting information on the Bureau's website in the near future.

Cy Stockhoff reported for CNM. Cy stated that he had started the program approximately 6 years ago. They currently serve 2500 students annually with 30 courses per year. They have approximately 200 students annually at the BLS level.

The Paramedic courses for the past fall and spring semesters have shown a pass rate of 100% with the national average of 92%.

CNM has been adding staff and classes have been full. CNM has been requiring internships at the BLS level, but there is no place to place them.

John Smithson and Cy Stockhoff spoke regarding the lottery scholarships and EMT-Basic internship limitations. Pete Bellows stated that this issue should be discussed in depth at the next meeting.

Dr. Kennedy stated that he would take any questions from the group. There were no questions.

Pete Bellows moved to approve the consent agenda items. Chad Hamill seconded the motion. There was discussion to include the minutes as approved on the agenda. The motion was amended and the vote was taken. The consent agenda items was approved unanimously.

New Business:

Kyle Thornton discussed the current state of the EMS Budget. Kyle stated that Mike Landen, ERD was unable to provide more information regarding cuts to the Fiscal Year 10 budget; however the cuts may include the Trauma Fund, EMS Fund Act and the Regional contracts. We do not know how much cutting is anticipated.

The DOH is looking at regional cuts, and Trauma MOA. The Governor is looking at a furloughs statewide for state personnel. Regarding the Statewide Advisory travel reimbursements, these cuts may affect members.

Kyle Thornton opened the floor up to question and answers regarding the regarding the electronic staff reports. Pete Bellows questioned the regional role for EMS providers regarding dispensing sites of H1N1 vaccinations in coordination with the Bureau of Health Emergency Management. Kyle responded that BHEM and Public Health have been in contact with the Regions.

Pete Bellows asked about the "fund act rollover" and had asked for input from the Fund Act subcommittee regarding the carryover. Kyle stated that we received approximately \$175,000 during the initial phase. We have also received new guidance from the Division; no further carryover requests will be approved at this time. Decisions are on hold.

The January legislative session will affect the following Fund Act year; everyone should anticipate EMS Fund Act to take a hit.

Pete Bellows asked where the EMS Service Certification Rules will be promulgated. Charles Schroeder replied that the Office of General Council has submitted them to Records and Archives and will be scheduling them for a Public Hearing. Pete Bellows asked when the final draft is received; will the Bureau make the draft public by putting it on the website? Kyle stated that we would make the "final" draft rules public.

Dr. Richard's asked if the Governor's discretionary authority include the Fund Act. The Fund Act is General Fund money. Kyle stated that the Funds could not be used to pay salaries; however these funds can be pulled back from the services even if they were already distributed.

There were no more questions on the staff reports.

Mateo DeVargas presented on a start-up application for Lindrith Llaves Fire Department. They currently have 13 first responders and five EMT-Basics who have completed training on their own. There are 38 members of the fire department and will have a transport capable medical rescue to be moved to them from Lybrook. Lindrith is located in Rio Arriba County and is approximately 30 miles from Cuba; the closest hospital is Espanola Valley, approximately 1.5 hours away.

Pete Bellows moved to approve start up funds of \$1500 for Lindrith Llaves, seconded by Linda Warren. There was no discussion and the motion was approved unanimously.

There was a call for public comment; none.

Roll Call input from Committee members:
Jim Stover - none

Linda Warren, EMS for Children report: When should the EMSC report be submitted for inclusion in the written reporting structure? Kyle responded at least 3 weeks prior to the following SWAC meeting.

John Smithson asked, what happened to the spare Fund Act funds? Kyle responded that the funds are still there and that the Division will be deciding as to whether or not to turn the money back to the Legislature. Chad Hamill asked who makes the decision to take the money. The Bureau has input as part of the discussion. The Division (ERD) is mostly federal funded; the largest chunk of General Fund money is through the Trauma and EMS funds.

Jim Stover asked if regional reports are submitted within a consent agenda does that meet the requirements as they are written into the regional contracts. Kyle did not see why they would not.

The Fund Act subcommittee timeline; special project applications are due November 6 and we have received some extension requests to November 23. Ann Martinez will compile the information into a spreadsheet; copies will be reviewed with the regions that are due in mid-December. The subcommittee will meet after the January meeting, between January through March (early April). Pete Bellows wants meet to review James' thoughts and ideas after this meeting.

Dr. Leo stated that the House Memorial 20 recommendations have been made and there was a lot of energy and time was taken in those meetings. How do these recommendations have any impact? The EMS viability group used the information in HM20, as the base in their presentations. The House Memorial 20 has been distributed to legislators two years in a row. It is still a good support document.

The Fund Act subcommittee members are as follows:

James Williams
Charles Hosford
Pete Bellows
Don McNutt
Brian Caldwell

Peggy Hesch asked for the group to meet and provide feedback on House Joint Memorial 51. We will hold a brief discussion after this meeting.

Pete Bellows requested that the group bring ideas regarding John's (Smithson) discussion of lottery stipends for obtaining field experience. We need to explore the issue and get more information. Dr. Richards suggested that the training institutions explore issuing credit hours for field experience. John Smithson stated that the training institutions are reluctant to grant credit hours. *Kyle stated that he would look into obtaining more information or where this issue should be addressed.* Linda asked about the stipend program through the EMS Academy, Kyle stated that it was still there, but they have only received one application.

January 19, 2010 will be the beginning of the legislative session. The EMS day and meeting day will be on Thursday, January 28, 2010. The location of the next meeting will be announced.

Chad Hamill moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:10pm, Linda Warren seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.