

**The Connecticut EMS Advisory Board
Emergency Preparedness Committee
MEETING MINUTES
November 3, 2016
New Britain EMS**

Present: William Ackley – Committee Chair, Judi Reynolds – DPH/OEMS, Alex Morisano – NBEMS, Carmine Centrella – CR-MMRS, Mark Franzese - Campion

Go To Meeting/

Call in : Jonathan Lillpopp – DPH/OEMS, Richard Kamin – DPH/OEMS, Joe Laucella – Trumbull, Brian Baldwin – NCCMED, Bill Rochette – CSP, Jon Best – OPHPR, Irene Smith - CEMSAB, Greg Allard – CEMSAB/American, Damian Rickard – American Ambulance, Brian Cournoyer – CHA, Frank Kiernan – SW Communications

1.0 Call to order

Chair Bill Ackley called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM at New Britain EMS Headquarters. Introductions were done and call ins were acknowledged.

2.0 Approval of minutes

The minutes of the October 6, 2016 minutes were distributed; a motion was made to approve the minutes by Carmine Centrella, seconded by Mark Franzese and approved unanimously.

3.0 Initiatives for discussion

- **OEMS**

Update from the Medical Director/Richard Kamin MD

Dr. Kamin reported:

- He reported progress with the protocol rollout noting the lack of empowerment to mandate them, working toward compliance as of January 1, 2017. CEMSAB has formed a protocol subcommittee with intent to establish a structured process to review and maintain the protocols.
- He reviewed the recent recall of the Naloxone atomizer, which was sent out to providers via Everbridge, he is reaching out to distributors to determine the scope of the issue, determine what percentage of the stock in state is affected and obtain an estimate on the time line for replacements. He spoke about possible alternatives. He reinforced airway management for opiate overdoses, which can be addressed by provider's skills in the absence of Naloxone.
- Rich commented that he attended the Mass Fatality Exercise and it was very successful, people were engaged and the speakers were very good. Jon Best will review it further in his report.

Jon Best asked if Rich knew the status of the Infectious Disease program that was given to State Education and Training for review, Rich does not but will email Michael Zacchera for an update and cc Jon Best. Jon Best noted the program is a CDC deliverable with a June 2017 deadline.

Question was asked about the status of the protocol test upload to CT Train, Dr. Kamin reported Dan White at DPH is the person who handles those requests and he was unable to meet the week of October 24th deadline due to other obligations but is actively working on it.

Bill Ackley asked about the status of the C- TECC slide decks, discussion followed. Bill Ackley attended the State Education and Training Committee and they are interested in being involved, a sub-committee was formed that includes Bill Ackley, Art Romano, Dr. Kamin and others to review the program. Bill would like to meet with Dr. Kamin to talk about moving forward with the program. Discussion followed on recently NAEMT certified instructors in Region 1 and planning for training opportunities. Dr. Kamin noted Connecticut does not recognize TECC and TCC certifications but courses can be run as appropriate, he recognizes there is good information

to share in the programs. Dr. Kamin has taught numerous similar courses and is willing to assist as needed. He feels it is important that when teaching non-sworn individuals there is reinforcement of the rules of sworn personnel and defining responsibilities and expectations. Shared understanding is important so everyone is working on the same page.

Judi Reynolds reported:

- Judi reported the new EMTR, EMRR and EMR tests are printed, Director Coler is holding them pending discussion and decision on how they will be delivered.
- Director Coler continues to work on having the Education Coordinator's position filled.

- **Update Preparedness/Jonathan Best**

- Jon Best reported the Mass Fatality Exercise had over 400 participants during the three days, good reviews were received from the FBI and CSP who appreciated the opportunity to work together. The Boston FBI office had sent representative to observe and would like to conduct a future training session using the train at Camp Hartell. He reported internal capabilities were developed in cooperation with other agencies including CSP, Corrections, Military, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner resulting in a higher level of confidence in handling this type of scenario. He gave an overview of the presentations. Lessons learned will be included in the written report. He acknowledged the assistance of DPH employees and volunteers who contributed greatly to the success of the exercise. Discussion followed.
- The field hospital was deployed to the Rock Revolution Concert and the Durham Fair. Each request is reviewed, he noted anything needed on weekends might have costs involved due to overtime concerns.

- **Trailer Sub-committee**

Bill Ackley asked Jon Best for an update on the trailers, Jon Best plans to have people conduct inspections as time allows, there are some replacement supplies that are being palletized to bring out during those inspections.

- **Active Assailant Progress Report**

Bill Ackley attended the State Education and Training meeting and presented an overview of the Active Assailants document, he will be working with Greg Allard and Dr. Kamin to bring it to other entities. He spoke about feedback and some additional information from Chief Allyn for integration into the document. Bill feels it is a better idea to stay with the current version and integrate other information gathered in the future rather than making continual changes. Dr. Kamin commented that although additional reference documents are important they should not necessarily be blended with the current document, there is a need to have a clear focus as a starting point. The additional documents could be used as reference for local planning. Carmine Centrella commented plans will be developed in each area to meet local needs. Bill noted multiple documents have been collected and suggested setting up a clearinghouse for them.

Carmine Centrella gave an overview of the Vernon FSE, which included having fire and EMS in a more forward position, the exercise went very well. Development of an operational document on warm zone integration of non-law enforcement resources and review of MCI operations were two of the focuses of the exercise. A reunification center was stood up at a separate location including behavioral health components. There was extended discussion on the multiple agencies involved. Carmine will be writing the after action reports. Dr. Kamin questioned if the action reports will include the planning process and lessons learned and be made available. Carmine said documents would be available, there will most likely be three versions; one for the general public, a detailed report for responders and possibly another for hospital preparedness. Discussion followed which included communication considerations.

- **Mass Gatherings**

Bill Ackley distributed multiple reference documents on mass gatherings, including the District of Columbia Department of Health, Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Administration "Special Events Health, Medical and Safety Planning Guide". He would like to move forward and form a work group to concentrate on this project. He acknowledged the work already done by Mark Franzese. Mark Franzese and Carmine Centrella

will participate on the subcommittee. Jono Lillpopp expressed interest-pending clearance from his supervisor. Bill commented Tom Wimler of Durham and Art Romano had also expressed interest. Bill noted West Hartford Fire and UCONN had expressed interest but are deciding who will participate. Discussion followed on whether mass casualty would be integrated into the committees work, review of existing regulations for all size events and how to move forward. Mark Franzese will serve as Chair. Bill also wants to include a CMED representative in the group, Brian Baldwin and Frank Kiernan agreed to assist.

4.0 Events/Exercises/Other

- **Rock Revolution – Damian Rickard gave an overview of the event and lessons learned, overall it went well. A small portion of the field hospital was utilized which was beneficial. Damian noted Charles Mullen of OPHPR was very helpful. He spoke about the staffing for the tent noting it was used as the center for all medical operations and patient care, one lesson learned was to have a separate area for check in and check out of personnel and logistics. Integration with Foxwoods public safety went very well. There were some communications issues but were resolved with the help of the Incident Management team.**
- **ACEP Conference – Dr. Kamin will distribute the minutes when he receives them, he gave an overview of attendees and topics discussed.**
- **Interstate Task Force – next quarterly meeting will be held in Newark NJ, on December 15th, information will be shared on the Hoboken response, anyone interested contact Bill Ackley.**

5.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:41AM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Judi Reynolds

OEMS Region 2 Coordinator