

---

**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES**  
**State Advisory Council on Emergency Medical Services**

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**CONFIDENTIAL PEER REVIEW**  
**MEETING DATE: June 23, 2020**

A meeting of the State Advisory Council on Emergency Medical Services was held on June 23, 2020 by <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/897177493> or One-touch: <tel:+18722403212,,897177493> or 1 (872) 240-3212  
Access Code: 897-177-493 with Dr. Lynthia Andrews presiding. A quorum was present.

**APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS:** Mark Alexander, Dr. Lynthia Andrews, Ben Chlapek, Dave Herman, Eric Latimer, Ruby Mehrer, Wally Patrick, Helen Sandkuhl, Sam Schneider, Dr. David K. Tan.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dr. Lynthia Andrews Chair; Mark Alexander, Ben Chlapek, Ruby Mehrer; Helen Sandkuhl, Dr. David Tan

**ABSENT:** Dave Herman, Eric Latimer, Wally Patrick; Sam Schneider.

**ATTENDEES:** Lori Beck, SLCH; Todd Besancenez, Mehlville Fire Jamie Blackwell, Cox Health; Dr. Christie Brock, Centerpoint (HCA) Independence; Patricia Casey, Cardinal Glennon; Larry Chasteen, North Scott AD; Carrie Chismarich, SSM DePaul; Chuck Doss, Boone Co Fire; Josh Dugal, Cardinal Glennon; Lori Freeman, SCCAD & NAEMT; Nicole Gamm, DHSS; Dr. David Gustafson, EMS Medical Director, Reg A Chair; Chris Herring, BEMS; Dr. Dee Hodge, SLCH/Wash U; Pam Jackson, SLH-KC; Dr. Melissa Kroll, Wash U; Debbie Leoni, SE Health; Bud Mantle, Mercy-SL; Chris Mattes, Mercy Spfld; Art Maxwell, NTA Amb; Tracy McDonald, HCA Midwest; Gina Pellerito, BJC; Travis Richards, Air Evac; Heather Scruton, CMH-KC; David Seastrom, CMH-KC; Dr. Karen Sectorsky, SLCH; Mariah Swinker, Lake Regional Hosp; Kyle Tapps, LFE; Tracy Wampler, Survival Flight

*Note: If you attended but are not reflected on the attendees list, please email [ruby@lifeflighteagle.org](mailto:ruby@lifeflighteagle.org) for correction.*

**DHSS Staff:** Sam Vance BEMS Chief; Katherine Crockett; Nicole Gamm, Chris Herring; George Miller

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:40 pm.

Topic	Discussion/Conclusion	Recommendation/Actions	Follow-up
<b>I. Review of Minutes</b>			
<b>A. Approval of Minutes May 26, 2000</b>	Dr. Andrews noted a late entry into the May 26, 2020 minutes indicating the letter to the Gov. asking him to veto the helmet law had been mailed and a response had been received. <b><i>Ben Chlapek moved to approve the May 26, 2020 minutes with the addition. Second by Helen Sandkuhl. Motion carried.</i></b>	Approved minutes will be posted on the BEMS website.	
<b>II. Subcommittee Reports</b>			
<b>Pediatrics Subcommittee Patricia Casey, Chair</b>	<p>Pediatric Subcommittee met by Skype this morning. Trish said most of the meeting was discussing one subject—ED volume for peds patients. All hospitals have seen increase in non-accidental trauma, child abuse, gunshots wounds etc. and struck by vehicles. Schools and camps closed so children at home a lot more or unsupervised. Discussion included how to get info on recognition of signs of neglect and abuse, including sexual abuse, distributed in communities since teachers and camp counsellors are not available to monitor.</p> <p>Overall, hospital volume is down 45% because of COVID. Messaging focusing on ‘come to hospital if need to’ without taking unnecessary chances.</p> <p>Answer to question from last month about Inflammatory Response thought to possibly be related to COVID: In-state and some out of state hospitals report they each have only had 3-4 cases total. Inflammatory Response not seen as a significant problem for resources in pediatric patients.</p> <p>Training is planned to get more info out to first responders to have high index of suspicion about abuse and neglect and transport to hospital if it is suspected.</p> <p>Dr. Andrews asked the Peds Committee to include training about increased awareness of the dangers of leaving kids inside cars, especially on hot days.</p>		

	<p>Trish reported a concern about a lot of EMS becoming lax on PPE, especially with peds trauma patients. She reminded everyone that kids are often asymptomatic carriers.</p>		
<p><b>B. Trauma Subcommittee</b> <b>Dr. Christie Brock, Chair</b></p>	<p>Dr. Brock reported the Trauma Subcommittee had meeting this morning with Nicole Gamm attending. Talked about effects of the COVID pandemic on trauma patients.</p> <p>Also discussed the trauma regulations and the need for the vice chairs to review the regs.</p> <p>Nicole Gamm expressed concern about the \$700 million deficit state budget. It may result in Nicole being the only trauma person in the state office.</p> <p>Dr. Brock announced Dr. Doug Schuerer is Vice Chair for Reg 8 for the American College of Surgeons.</p> <p>The 15-mile rule in current trauma regulations was discussed. Legislative language was filed to eliminate the distance requirement between Level III and Level II or I trauma centers. A lawsuit may be pending on this issue.</p> <p>Because of the COVID pandemic, waivers for TCD surveys may be issued through December. However, consideration will be given case by case. At this point, next year’s schedule will stay the same. All of July 2020 surveys have been cancelled. If CME are expiring during these uncertain times, there is a possibility that the Physician Manager can approve certain in-person or on-line education to fulfill requirements.</p>		
<p><b>C. Legislative Subcommittee</b> <b>Mark Alexander</b></p>	<p>Mark Alexander reported the legislative year came to an end with most of the EMS initiatives wrapped into other bills, so we won’t know what passes and what doesn’t until the Governor either signs or vetoes the bill. The disadvantage for EMS issues is they may be riding with issues the Governor cannot support/approve.</p> <p>Mark discussed the state funding and budget cuts. He said the budget cuts will affect EMS. As a result, licensing fees for ambulance services, EMRAs, training entities,</p>		

	<p>paramedics and EMTs have generated discussion. An earlier effort about 2012 was rejected. The discussion included the importance of having licensing fees tied to EMS in Missouri.</p> <p>All 28 agencies that participated in the GEMT program were audited. Attorneys have been consulted. Regulations will be created to address concerns.</p>		
<p><b>D. Education Subcommittee</b> <b>Chuck Doss, Chair</b></p>	<p>Chuck Doss reported the Education Subcommittee met last Wednesday by conference call. Discussion centered around what happens if students can't get clinicals finished. It is estimated about 200 students will be affected. Chuck has been in contact with Sam Vance, BEMS Chief, to discuss the dilemma. Some solutions might include waiving the hour requirement or updating 19 CSR 30-40.331. Chuck asked the SAC for help in resolving this issue.</p> <p><b><i>Mark Alexander moved that the Bureau of EMS issue a waiver allowing the attestation of competence by the Training entity manager and Medical Director to serve in the place of the clinical hour requirements for the duration of the State of Emergency declared by the Governor. In addition, that BEMS immediately place the proposed updated licensing regulation 19 CRS 30-40.331 into process to file with the Secretary of State as an Emergency rule. Second by Dr. David Tan Motion passed.</i></b></p> <p>Sam Vance noted BEMS does not issue waivers per he but also noted that BEMS already accepts CoAEMSP and other competencies, so he indicated his willingness to explore options.</p> <p>Chuck Doss expressed appreciation for the help.</p>	<p>Participants encouraged to contact Chuck Doss <a href="mailto:cdoss@bcfdmo.com">cdoss@bcfdmo.com</a></p> <p>July 15 next meeting</p> <p>Mark will communicate with BEMS regarding the action by taken SAC.</p>	
<p><b>E. Air Ambulance Subcommittee</b> <b>Ruby Mehrer, Chair</b></p>	<p>Air Ambulance Subcommittee met this morning. The group spent time reconnecting. Discussion included unmarked wind towers being erected not only in NE near Kirksville but also now in the Carthage to Joplin corridor.</p>		

	<p>Construction has just begun in the SW part of the state and will continue over the next year.</p> <p>Helipad closure at St. Luke’s East in KC discussed. Helicopters should land a Lee’s Summit air port and complete the transport.</p> <p>Discussion regarding concerns about being able to notify MU when inbound. Problems will be identified, and solutions explored off line.</p> <p>COVID-19 will leave a lasting impact on air ambulance infectious disease protocols. Air Methods will be issuing GenTex Respirators to all crew members and pilots as standard equipment across the nation. They expect the respirators will be in place by September in MO.</p> <p>An increase of COVID positive patients is occurring in SW Missouri. The volume is manageable, and hospitals are providing resources as needed.</p> <p>CMH-KC will go live July 1<sup>st</sup> with ECHO transports.</p>		
<p><b>F. Emergency Management</b>  <b>Wally Patrick, Chair</b></p>	<p>Wally Patrick absent. Helen Sandkuhl reporting.</p> <p>Helen discussed problems that have to be dealt with including COVID-19 and civil unrest. First responders and emergency departments still need to be prepared to take care of all injuries and also possibly decontaminate some patients.</p> <p>Random shootings at police and ambulances going down the highway have been reported. Helen talked about a random shooting in the St. Louis area last night. First responders in logoed shirts or uniforms were eating at Applebee’s. Another customer went to his car and returned with a gun. He purposely shot the first responders multiple times. We must be acutely aware of those around us and their intentions.</p>		

	We are continuing to look and share best practices regarding practice during the pandemic.		
<b>G. TCD Helen Sandkuhl</b>	No updates since the consultants' report in May.		
<b>H. MIH Community Paramedics Dr. Melissa Kroll</b>	<p>This committee usually meets by phone on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays. Dr. Kroll said two big projects were discussed at the last meeting:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Advanced Paramedic role that would involve extra training. Dr. Josh Stilley is steering this effort.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">COVID perception and COVID adaptation is being examined. Dr. Kroll said we may want to keep some of the adaptations, like telehealth, to augment what is working.</p> <p>Increased communication and better information are important to a successful integrated health program. There are still challenges in getting information back from hospitals, so they have current information on the patients they are interacting with.</p>	Contact Dr. Kroll at <a href="mailto:mkroll@wustl.edu">mkroll@wustl.edu</a> with questions or comments.	
<b>III. Regional Subcommittee Reports</b>			
<b>A. Northwest</b>	Art Maxwell: No meeting in June.	Next meeting scheduled for July 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, in Cameron.	
<b>B. Central</b>	No report		
<b>C. Southwest</b>	<p>Bob Patterson had to leave before this report. Jami Blackwell said there was no meeting for the SW Region since the last SAC meeting.</p> <p>No Mutual Aid meeting either.</p>	Next meeting in approximately one month, July 24 <sup>th</sup> .	

<b>D. Southeast</b>	Debbie Leoni introduced Larry Chasteen, North Scott County. She said Larry would know all EMS happenings in SE Region.		
<b>E. East Central</b>	No report		
<b>F. Region A/West Central</b>	<p>Dr. Gustafson said there has been no meeting since last SAC meeting.</p> <p>He noted that EMS services he works with had increased volume May and June runs but it was down in March and April. The number of trauma patients increased during the pandemic.</p> <p>Asthmatic employees wanted to work without a mask due to difficulty breathing with it in place. Dr. Gus said he could not sanction that in good conscience. EMS must take care of protecting their own health.</p>	Next meeting is July 6, virtual	
<b>G. Regional EMS Medical Directors Dr. Sabina Braithwaite</b>	No meeting. Dr. Braithwaite on vacation.		
<b>BEMS Sam Vance, Chief</b>	<p>Mr. Vance reporting: Gov Parson last week lifted statewide restrictions but said Cities etc. can invoke their own rules. Executive order #2012 has been extended so the state of emergency stays in effect until Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. The delay may affect TCD efforts.</p> <p>Mr. Vance reminded everyone that COVID restrictions are being lifted but the virus is still out there. It is becoming more prevalent in more rural parts of the state. BEMS still recommend wearing PPE and evaluate pts for PPE needs. June 30 Battelle drop off stations are no longer available. N95 needing decontamination are to be sent by Fed Ex to</p>		

	<p>Jeff City.</p> <p>License management system went live yesterday morning at 8 am. No longer accepting paper renewal apps. There were a couple of glitches but are working on to resolve. Must submit renewal request no less than 30 days before the license expires.</p> <p>In July will resume inspections of training entities and EMS agencies. Process will be different. Limiting any # of people in beginning or end of survey. Video conferencing will be used. Inspectors will wear masks and use hand sanitizer and maintain 6 feet social distancing when possible.</p> <p>EMS Compact  Full commission met June 16. Donnie Woodward resigned from NREMT.  National data base with NEMSIS will be in Image Trend. The system will go live in Virginia and Colo then Texas and Kansas. Data collected will only available to compact states.  There is a \$2500 maintenance fee for data base storage etc.</p>		
		<b>Recommendation/Actions</b>	
<b>Center for Patient Safety Shelby Cox</b>	No report.		
<b>Old Business</b>	<p>Dr. Tan said NAEMSP has had lots of COVID web conferences. The next one is Fri afternoon on how to use COVID data. Event is free to all, don't have to be a member.</p> <p>Annual NAEMSP conf: not sure if will be hybrid or virtual.</p> <p>The group was reminded that the state TCD follow up meeting is pending to address the Havron Consulting report.</p>		



	<p>Budget cuts are expected in every area of the state budget, including EMS.</p> <p>Sam Vance informed the group that Dean Linneman has been out of the office the past several weeks and has just started working again, part time from home. Sam indicated there may be a TCD meeting in July.</p>		
<b>New Business &amp; Announcements</b>	None.		
<b>Next Meeting</b>	Next meeting is scheduled for August 25, 2020, planned to be in person in Jefferson City. <b>No meeting in July.</b>	An agenda will be sent prior to the next meeting.	
<b>Adjourned</b>	Meeting adjourned approximately 1:40 pm		

*Lynthia Andrews Bowman DO, MHA, FACEP*

Date Approved: September 22, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Lynthia Andrews, SAC Chair

*Summary respectfully prepared by Ruby Mehrer*