Region I Emergency Medical Services Council Meeting
Sheridan County EMS, Hoxie, Kansas
December 18, 2013
19:00 hrs. CST

Kerry McCue, Region Chair, called the December 18, 2013 meeting of the Region I EMS Council to order at 19:00. Members and visitor were welcomed. Joe Hickert and David Stithem were offered Council member support.

The minutes of the October 16, 2013 were emailed and posted to the website. Jayne Holle moved for approval. Bob Kelly provided motion second. Motion passed.

The financial report was presented. The lost checks were discussed. Jayne Holle moved for approval of the financial report as distributed. Kim Dyster provided motion second. Motion passed.

Old Business:

KDHE preparedness funding – Kerry McCue informed the Region he had received a memorandum regarding a grant from KDHE in the amount of $11,000 per Region for participation in healthcare coalition meetings and meeting preparedness needs. Kerry McCue voiced his concern regarding the time and manpower required to participate. The memorandum outlines requirements for a needs assessment; projects to support needs, training through Kansas Train, and follow-up reports to show needs were met. The deadline for project completion is June 2014. Scott Reese reported the Healthcare Coalition is doing an assessment. Candy Bryant reported she has received questions from the Healthcare Coalition and wondered if the assessment being completed by the Coalition would meet grant requirements. Candy Bryant made a motion we table the decision until we visit with Tami Wood and obtain additional information. Kim Dyster provided seconded motion. Motion passed.

During discussion on the motion, Scott Reese offered to visit with Tami Wood. He will clarify if Coalition funding for EMS participation is lost if we turn down this grant. He will also seek her input regarding the local and regional assessment currently being completed by the Regional Healthcare Coalition, and if there will be exercises offered through the Coalition that would offer timely participation and qualify with grant completion requirements. The deadline to request the funding is March 31. At that time the needs/purchases must be identified. Scott will email information to the Council when it is compiled. Everyone should give consideration for what we could use the funding for. Kerry McCue will follow up with decision regarding the need for a special Council meeting. Jayne Holle, Michelle Helberg, Ken Tharman, Sharon Slate formed a committee to come up with ideas for expenditures. Please share your ideas with them.

Website project:
Scott Reese contacted Nex-Tech and they supplied him with names of three web developers. One name of the three was one that had also been given him by Deb Kaufman. Scott Reese will visit with each developer to see what services they provide and at what cost. He will report back to the Council. Each comes with an email feature that may be utilized.
New Business:

Board Refreshments: A check was lost in the mail. The 6 regions and the professional organizations have rotated refreshments. Kerry McCue will let Steve Sutton know the Region will continue to participate.

KRAF Grant Process is open. Gary Winter is our representative to the KRAF committee. He missed the first organization meeting. Please utilize the grant as an option for needed funding. Matching funds are encouraged. Be sure to print your application prior to submission.

Spinal Restrictions versus spinal immobilization: A position statement on the use of spinal restrictions has been drafted and approved by the KSBEAMS Medical Advisory Council. It was also approved to be published by the Board. Due to situations in the Board office and technical difficulties, KEMSA offered to publish it on their website and have done so. Please find at http://www.kemsa.org/sites/default/files/users/2/SpinalMotion_12.4.13.pdf Adoption of the position statement requires a change in protocol that must be approved by medical direction at the local level.

Committee Reports:

Trauma Committee: The Trauma Council has not met since our last Council meeting. Trauma scholarships are available. The deadline for submission of a completed application is January 10. Please submit the course budget as well. The funding may not be used for the same budget items as EIG funding. Jayne Holle, Gary Winter, and Deb Kaufman serve on the scholarship committee and will meet January 14 to review applications.

EDTF: Scott Reese and Gary Winter did not make the last meeting. The three projects; designated continuing competency, scenarios for exam sites, and the educator proposal continue to move forward. The subcommittee working on exam scenarios has slowed the process to evaluate current scenarios and review the 5 newly developed scenarios. The subcommittee considered the use of a common template when developing new scenarios. Curtis Shreckengaust has been hired in the KSBEAMS office. He is currently serving as the Chair of the EDTF. It has not been decided if he will remain in the position. It was thought he has done an excellent job of moving the EDTF forward.

The Educator proposal continues to move forward. An outline of possible needed regulations for implementation was drafted and presented to the entire EDTF for comment. The EDTF continues to move forward with a continued competency program. The National Registry is adjusting their format for certification renewal with an implementation date of 2016. For more information see https://www.nremt.org/nremt/downloads/Newsletter_2013.pdf They are proposing required education hour changes to: EMR – 16, EMT – 40, AEMT – 50, and Paramedic – 60. 50% of hours are nationally set education hours and materials, 25% driven by state or Region and 25% local level.

Kerry McCue was asked to write a letter of support to the EDTF. He wrote a letter that was generic and stated the Region supported evaluation of the current renewal system. Council members commented. Summary of individual comments are as follows. 40 hours of continuing education was too much to require of an EMT, with perhaps an increase if needed to a maximum of 30 hours would be acceptable. The paramedic requirements being only 20 hours
more (at 60) with the large expanse of responsibility and scope was not enough in comparison to the 40 hours National Registry wanted at the EMT level. Designation of categories of education was not currently opposed, depending on the final draft. Adopting national registry for the purpose of adopting a national registry standard was opposed without evaluation of applicability to Kansas attendants. Some recommendations to take back to the EDTF were to consider an evolution; that is, gradual change rather than burdening the EMT with an additional 12 hours in one cycle, and consider what Kansas needs/discontinuing the trend towards adoption of national registry.

Some members commented on the difficulty of getting volunteers to attend continuing education classes and others that instructors were not available for 28 hours and 40 hours would create an additional burden. They would want to see the required educational guidelines/courses prior to agreeing, depending on if it was locally applicable.

**Homeland Security Council:** The Council has not met since the last Region I EMS meeting. Kim Dyster volunteered to serve as the second Region I EMS representative to the Council.

**NW KS Healthcare Coalition:** Joe Hickert attended the last Coalition meeting. Scott Reese plans to attend and will send out an email with the meeting minutes. The next meeting is January 23, 2014. Deb Kaufman is the third member.

Kerry McCue showed the KSBEMS website and how to access the Board committee packets prior to the Board meeting.

**KSBEMS Report:**

**Education Committee:**
K.A.R. 109-15-2 was approved by roll call vote 12/17/2013. (Council had discussion regarding concerns with this regulation.)
A variance was approved to allow a paramedic student to obtain clinical field internship with a Type 2A service with the understanding a paramedic will always be present as preceptor.
14 regulations are open for TOII/trainer clean up based on educator proposal changes. The TOII will no longer be authorized as an educator level and those individuals will no longer have the authorization to teach EMR initial courses.
Staff will work on a review of the Kansas Educational Guidelines to specifically include any Medical Advisory Council/Board changes in medications.
There will no longer be an EMT bridge course.

**Planning & Operations:**
K.A.R. 109-2-7 continues along the approval process. The staffing committee will continue to meet. Kerry McCue sent out the current documents. There was long debate about what staffing should look like. Please review and forward your comments to Kerry McCue.
Request to open K.A.R. 109-2-8 to take requirements of a short board off the ambulance equipment list.

**Executive Committee:**
The legislative packet was discussed and voted to move forward as is. However, during the Board meeting, several changes were made. We need to obtain a clean copy. Application of the EKG leads was included in the EMR scope of practice; cardiac monitoring removed from EMT. Graduated sanctions are proposed. The fingerprinting language is also here.

Graduated sanctions and fingerprinting requirements were discussed by the Council. Justification and rational behind proposed changes were presented. Some mentioned individual comments were concerns regarding costs, loss of additional attendants, personal rights violation, the perceived “hassle” of all the additional requirements being placed on attendants but without increase in pay or funding. Several commented it is very easy to find other things to dedicate available time to, simple to obtain other positions, and leave EMS. The KRAF grant money was designated to assist rural/frontier services and would hate to see it used for additional requirements put on attendants. It was also asked if Kansas County Commission were aware of additional proposed requirements.

The Council was again reminded the KRAF grant cycle is open.

We will be thinking of Joe Hickert as he leaves for Houston and during his stay there. A card was circulated to be sent with him. He does not currently have a timeline for treatment. He asks that we assume no news is good news. He will try to send an update when he knows more.

Candy Bryant moved for adjournment. Jayne Holle provided motion second. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Kaufman, Secretary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Members And Guests Present:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karen Eskew, Decatur County</td>
<td>Kimberly Dyster, Rawlins County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerry McCue, Ellis County</td>
<td>Sharon Slate, Rooks County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Reese, Ellis County</td>
<td>Deb Kaufman, Sheridan County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Helberg, Graham County</td>
<td>Candy Bryant, Thomas County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letitia Keenan, Logan County</td>
<td>Kirk Rice, Wallace County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Kelly, Logan County</td>
<td>Gary Winter, Region I Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jayne Holle, Phillips County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Tharman, Phillips County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>