

Region 6 EMS

Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2020

Today's meeting was called to order at 1300 hours. Secondary to the COVID-19 restraints the meeting is a conference call/SKYPE meeting.

Board members present: **K. Yoakum, D. Bruner, T. Modesitt, D. Cowan, C. Harrison, R. Reissig, R. Pace, M. Burnett, R. Long**

Absent members: **J. Wilhelms, R. Grimmett**

Guests: Brittney Nichols- EMSC, Jenifer Clatt- Elk County EMS, Michelle Wolf-Freeman Health, Sharlyn Splean- Freeman Stroke Coord, Doug Mogle- Cherokee Co. EMS Director, Randy McDaniel- CCC, Wendy Ohare- Kansas Trauma Coord, Robin Welch-Med-Trans

Agenda: The agenda was presented. A motion was heard for approval of the agenda by Mr. Cowan and a second by Mr. Bruner. Unanimous vote was heard.

Minutes of the January 2020 meeting were presented. A motion from Mr. Cowan to approve the minutes was heard with a second by Mr. Bruner. All voted in approval.

Financial Report: Mr. Bruner reported the balances for the Education account \$12,558.17 and the General funds \$21,829.80

Allied Business & Committee Reports:

KRAF Grant: Mr. Yoakum reported that the committee met on March 2, 2020 in Salina. There was a multitude of applications and a lot of request for funding projects. The committee made their recommendations to KSBEMS. In mid March with the current conditions and closures the projected funds were not as anticipated. There may be several projects that do not get funded. Also, the educational funding that comes from these funds may be reduced or not funded. This will be monitored and by May 31st it will be clearer as to how this will end up.

Homeland Security: Mr. Burnett related that this years disbursement will see funding of some of the ballistic vests and is expected within the next few weeks. Future disbursements will see larger funding of the project for more "kits".

Regional Trauma Council: The January meeting was fairly uneventful according to Ms. Harrison. The next meeting will be July 28th at a location to be announced.

EDTF: the committee has only met once since our last meeting and both Mr. Bruner and Mr. Yoakum missed it essentially.

MERGE: There is some conversation about joining the MERGe Group but first the Region Board would like to seek conversation about the benefits of such a relationship. Mr. Bruner feels there is some possibilities of positive benefits moving forward. The Board has asked Mr. Bruner to extend the invite to MERGe to either attend the next quarterly meeting or provide availability in the coming weeks to meet via Skype call.

EMS-C: Brittney Nichols introduced herself as the new EMS-C coordinator. The nation wide pediatric preparedness survey is complete and Kansas EMS providers demonstrated 86.3% participation/ The next steps involve collating the data, assembling results and then Brittney will communicate that out to the EMS community.

Kansas Air Medical Transport Society: Rod Pace is the Chair again and Tracey Cleary is the Vice-Chair. The group has two focuses for 2020. Completion of the Landing Zone – Safety- Utilization presentation and to focus on updating LZ Control’s website with information on every helipad and predetermined landing zone in Kansas.

BEMS update: Joe House repeated the report of previous information about funding for the KRAF Grant. He did report that the fund is not as bad as first thought and as of right now it seems the 21 projects may still be funded.

STEMI: Michelle Wolf reported that some transmitted 12 lead ECG’s are getting misdirected but feels the issue has been corrected. STEMI’s are down since the COVID issue came to light.

STROKE: Sharlyn Splean echoed that stroke cases are down. She has also heard of patients being hesitant about seeking medical care because of the current situation.

Sub-committee reports:

Finance: Previously reported balances. Dave is working with the City Treasurer to develop a budget.

Executive: A meeting of Rod, Dave, Kenny and Jim Wilhelms by phone conference was recently held. The following points were discussed.

1. Possibly postponing the elections until the July meeting to determine if we can have a face to face meeting.
2. COVID preparedness and materials procurement.
3. A Public Service announcement regarding readiness

CISM: Mr. Modesitt related that the team had its first mobilization last week secondary to an incident. He felt that the team was well received and the incident was successful. They have not met as a group secondary to the current restrictions but plan to soon.

QA-QI Project: Mr. Pace previously e-mailed some data that was gleaned by Director House from the NEMESIS data collection system in the area of STEMI, Stroke and Trauma. Some key points were highlighted and there seems to be sentiment to move forward with the project. Ideas are to potentially develop methods to gather better data so as to provide better avenues for improvement.

New Business: A motion was made by Mr. Yoakum to postpone the elections until the July meeting with a second by Mr. Reissig. All voted in favor of the motion and it was carried. Open seats exists from recent resignations along with 4 members for re-election (Mr. Wilhelms, Mr. Grimmitt, Mr. Modesitt and Mr. Burnett).

COVID: Several topics are on most administrations minds such as how is the situation impacting services as a whole? How are staffing levels among services? How are supplies among services? Is there a need for a tracking tool?

The last item with regards to COVID response has to do with public perception of the system. Mr. Pace related a very valid point that there probably are patients out there who are watching the current situation through the news and other sources and putting off their medical situation in fear that if they call 911 or go to a facility they will be negatively exposed to virus conditions.

In this climate this could lead to further complications of their situation to the point of permanent effects of their disease process or even in some cases death. Discussion among the group was that this is occurring in a great deal of situations. Suggestions were to engage our media partners in the discussion and development of a series of public service type of announcements or interviews to promote that EMS and Emergency facilities are going to great lengths to keep people safe and secure so that they receive effective and timely treatment.

A motion was heard from Mr. Long and a second by Mr. Yoakum with all in favor.

A motion to adjourn was heard from Mr. Bruner and a second by Mr. Cowan. All were in favor.

DRAFT