

Region 6 EMS

Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2017

Today's meeting, at the Cherryvale Community Center, was called to order at 1301 hours by Chairman Rod Pace.

Board members present:

K. Yoakum, R. Pace, D. Bruner, C. Harrison, C. Mattes, J. Reed, R. Grimmett, D. Hall, R. Long, M. Burnett, D. Cowan, T. Modesitt, J. Wilhelms

Absent members:

Guests: Jason White, Chief Tim Thyer

Agenda: The agenda was presented by Chairman Pace. A motion was heard for approval of the agenda by Mr. Modesitt and a second by Mr. Mattes. Unanimous vote was heard.

Minutes of the July 2017 meeting were presented at the meeting by Mr. Yoakum. A motion from Mr. Mattes to approve the minutes was heard with a second by Mr. Bruner. All voted in approval.

Financial Report: Mr. Bruner reported the current balances of the Region 6 accounts are: General Fund- \$53,440.81 and the Education Fund- 7,169.61.

Legislative Topics: Mr. Jason White presented an update on several State and Federal legislative issues and the status of them. One topic was the discovery that EMS technicians are not currently protected when reporting elder abuse. Mr. White also talked about Community Paramedicine and its limited status. Some states are trying it and seeing some re-imbursement for it.

PCG and KEMSA's work on the EMS Medicaid adjustment has stalled in the KDHE. It is uncertain if the influences and politics have halted this, or if there is a lack of interest within KDHE. There are still 3 different proposed models in front of them and there has been no action taken. Two of the models will not benefit the entire Kansas EMS community.

National level – CMS adjustments proposed for 2% increase to Urban classes; 4% to rural and 22% to super rural EMS agencies. This national bill needs support from the regions in Kansas.

KS BEMS update: Mr. House was unable to attend today. Mr. Pace provided a synopsis of a couple of topics. One issue getting a lot of attention within the last month is that of non-transporting medical services being subject to operational protocol, medical oversight and quality assurance. Also in conjunction with this is the issue of medical liability coverage. Several fire service first response agencies are concerned and are limiting their exposure by limiting responses. The group agreed this will be a difficult topic to "fix" and won't be quickly fixed. Labette Health recently took on this topic with their fellow responders and developed a set of First Response Protocol's for their fellow agencies. Mrs. Harrison made a motion to post Labette's model protocol on the Region website for other agencies to utilize in their programs with a disclaimer. Mr. Modesitt seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

DMSU: Mr. Yoakum related that he intends to conduct trainings in early 2018 on use of NIMS forms for the team as well as working on some “drills”.

KRAF Grant: Mr. Yoakum related that there was a recent e-mail discussion and review of the grant application forms and process. Very little changes were done in that process. The application period will open in early December and have a deadline of probably Jan. 03, 2018. Priorities again this year will be direct patient care and patient handling.

Homeland Security: Mr. Modesitt related that he had just come from the Homeland Security Task Force meeting this morning. Discussion there was about projects currently funded, future projects and allocation of funds between budget years. There was also discussion of the “4 Corners Symposium” to be held in Branson in November and also a Task Force 4 drill on October 26-27, 2017 near Pittsburg. A Task Force training is tentatively set for March 06, 2018 also near Parsons.

Regional Trauma Council: The SEK Regional Trauma Council is currently reviewing and updating the Trauma Plan. The Council has a consensus that a cap on funding for ATLS courses would be appropriate so as to devote more funding towards PHTLS training in the region. The Council is also considering an educational symposium.

Educator Development Task Force (EDTF): Mr. Yoakum related that this committee is currently working on criteria and education for Program Providers in lieu of the repeal of the Training Officer designations. Also noted was the revelation that the Kansas Board of EMS will assume testing responsibilities for EMT’s within the state as of July 01, 2018. Mr. Yoakum has worked with two other people to develop sample scenarios for the exam prior to this decision and submitted them to the committee just prior to the announcement.

MERGE: No report

KISS: Mr. Pace reported that this committee has been somewhat inactive recently. There is a meeting scheduled within a few weeks. Consideration will be given to expanding the ASLS program statewide. Another topic being discussed will be a Large Vessel Occlusion (LVO) education program in EMS statewide. This varies somewhat from a stroke in that appropriate interventions are necessary at a select number of hospitals generally requiring expedient transport.

EMS-C: Tracey Cleary was unable to attend today. Mrs. Harrison relayed her appreciation as well as Mrs. Cleary’s for the recent 100% participation during a survey of EMS services regarding pediatric care. There is also some encouragement that a possible grant program may be forthcoming with regards to pediatric care in Kansas in the form of education.

KEMSA-MEMSA Scholarships: Mr. Yoakum reported that he had no requests for the scholarship offering to the MEMSA conference in July at Branson. He also reported that the region sponsored 3 people (Jim Foresman, Brandon Howard and Kristena Jackson) at the KEMSA Last Blast of Summer educational conference with their motels and registration fees paid by the region. The approx cost to the region was \$1450.

New Business

Budget Planning: Mr. Burner advised that after the accountant was finished with the reports that he intended to call a meeting of the executive board to complete a budget plan.

Pediatric Conference: The Region, in conjunction with Childrens Mercy of Kansas City, is sponsoring a two day event in November at Downstream Casino. Discussion was heard about sponsoring a block of rooms for regional providers for the night between the two days. A motion from Mr. Modesitt to buy 10 rooms at double occupancy was heard. A second by Mr. Mattes and all voted in favor of the motion.

Guardians of the Heart: Mr. Pace related that planning has begun for this conference in February. He asked what the Board's pleasure was with regards to sponsoring the event. Discussion was quite favorable among the Board. Mr. Cowan made a motion to support the event with up to \$12,000. Mr. Modesitt seconded the motion and the measure was approved by all. A motion from Mr. Wilhelms to buy 10 rooms at double occupancy was heard. A second by Mr. Reed and all voted in favor of the motion.

In conjunction with this Mr. Bruner noted that our stock of table items for our vendor display was low and a purchase of new items would soon be needed. Mr. Modesitt made a motion to allot up to \$1500 to accomplish this. A second by Mr. Yoakum and a vote of approval was heard from all members.

ASLS Instructor course: In a previous e-mail vote the Board approved sending up to 5 people within the Region to the ASLS Instructor course being held in Hutchinson Kansas in November. Mr. Yoakum made solicitations for participation and was able to bring forth 4 names for consideration. Those were Josh Caveness of Independence EMS/Fire, Ranelle Rice also of IEMS/FD, Andrew Godsey of Crawford County EMS and Mr. Yoakum. Mrs. Harrison spoke that she might also be interested but would have to check. Mr. Reed noted that he would like to send Mr. Nathanael Day. With 6 names and 5 slots discussion was heard as to who the 5 recipients would be. Those approved were Mrs. Harrison, Mr. Yoakum, Mr. Godsey, Mr. Day and Ms. Rice.

Upcoming events include:

November 16-17th, 2017 at Downstream Casino: Pediatric Care Symposium

The next meeting date of the Region 6 EMS Board is January 16, 2018 at 1300 in Coffeyville Regional Medical Center.

A motion to adjourn was heard from Mr. Yoakum with a second by Mr. Modesitt. All voted in favor at 1545,