



McLean County Area EMS System

705 North East Street
Bloomington, IL 61701

Phone: (309) 827-4348
Fax: (309) 827-2017

Affiliate Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2011

There were 21 people in attendance with 6 agencies represented.

Thank you to Normal Fire Department for hosting the meeting. Assistant Chief Doug Barnett showed a short video on The "Silent Killer" and explained how they are now have Carbon Monoxide (CO) monitors in all of their rigs and take them in with them on all EMS calls. The monitor is a way to give better care and to protect you as well. These portable CO detectors clip on an EMS jump-bag and cost \$150 each. This may be a wise investment for all EMS agencies within the MCAEMS System to consider as they alarm when the CO levels are high within the environment.

QA/QI:

- No big issues with Code Red have been reported. They are preparing a new update that will allow the uploading of data from Zoll & Physio-Control monitors. If you have any member that leaves or is removed from the department, **DO NOT** remove the person from Code Red. You should mark them inactive so you do not lose all their calls within the database. For this reason, please do not share an username and password. Reminder that if there are any issues with Code Red electronic patient care report system, please call the 24/7 support phone number (800-683-9454) at the time of issue discovery.
- All Firehouse reports have been uploaded to the state. Some records have errors and may need to be corrected before submission.
- We have received validation approval for Code Red and will begin uploading all past records to the IDPH database.
- New Quality Indicators have been selected for 2011. No more than 10 minutes should be spent on scene for any major trauma. If you are there more than 10 minutes make sure to document in the narrative why.
- ResQPod's need to be utilized on all cardiac arrest. Please remember to document their utilization.
- EZ IO use should be documented in the narrative. All attempts should be documented also.

New Business:

- We are diligently working on the policy/procedure/protocol manuals. Region 2 has a committee working on standardizing the protocols for Region 2. McLean County Area EMS System will be able to continue our current protocols by adding to the Region 2 standardized protocols.



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Committee Reports:

- *Communications* – State of Illinois is still working on switching over to the narrowband. All agencies should make sure they are evaluating their radios if they have ability to switch to narrowband and if they are not capable then budget for new radios for this switch. Stay in touch with your county EMA about the coordination of this switch that is going to be in 2012.
- *Strategic Plan* – there are two National Associations that have released a policy paper looking into a program for community Paramedics to go out in the community to provide wellness checks and monitor citizens with chronic medical conditions in order to reduce acute emergencies.
- *Education* – all EMS System classes are listed on the MCAEMS System website. The EMS System is working on the accreditation process through CoAEMSP.
- *Hospital relations* - Mark Doty from Leroy wanted everyone to know that they received a letter from OSF stating they were no longer going to do the 90 day trade out for meds. He also stated there has been an increase in prices. Greg Scott stated the system does not care where you buy your meds with the exception of controlled substances. All controlled substances are to be purchased through the hospital pharmacies.
- *Equipment* - not looking at any new equipment at this time
- *Hospital Preparedness* - the Hospital Emergency Preparedness Coordinators are continuing to meet regarding an alternative treatment site policy for when Medical control says the system is overwhelmed during Mass Casualty Incidents that would allow EMS to transport “Walking Wounded” patients to walk-in acute care clinic locations.

National Training Opportunity

- The United States Fire Administration’s National Fire Academy is conducting a pilot class for a newly developed “Leadership Strategies for Community Risk Reduction” course. This class will be held June 26-July 1, 2011 at the national Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, MD. The federal government will pay your travel and tuition for these types of courses. Visit the USFA National Fire Academy website if interested.

Advocates for EMS Update

- The NFPA 450 – Guide for Emergency Medical Services and Systems is up for revision and will be reviewed by the NFPA Technical Committee to determine if any changes should be made.
- The Medicare and Medicaid Extenders Act of 2010 had a provision to extend the increased Medicare rates for ambulance services, including the super rural areas, through December 31, 2011. The estimated cost of the provision is \$100 million over ten years.



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- The Field EMS Quality Innovation and Cost Effectiveness Improvement Act (H.R. 6528) was introduced in the last session of Congress but didn't get passed. There is an active movement to have this legislation reintroduced and may be tacked onto the Pandemic All Hazards Preparedness Act that is up for review in 2011. This legislation is very positive and has many different components for grant funds from local EMS provider level up through the State EMS offices. A summary of the legislation components was handed out at the Affiliate meeting.

IDPH Update

- House Bill 5183 was signed by Governor Quinn into Public Act 096-1469. This has provisions to create standards for Critical Care Transport ambulances; institute fees for any testing, initial license application, license renewal, duplicate licenses, and increased late fees; provides for the removal of an EMT license for an individual with a Class X, Class 1, or Class 2 felony conviction; and creates a new ambulance license category for reserve ambulances.
- House Bill 5430 was signed by Governor Quinn into Public Act 096-1149. This allows an individual that has their EMT license expire between the current 60 days and 36 months to request to challenge the State of Illinois EMT licensure examination.
- Senate Bill 3637 was signed by Governor Quinn into Public Act 096-1109. This allows a VA hospital to request participation in an EMS System.

EMS Region 2 Update

- A meeting was held with State Representative Don Moffitt and IDPH in mid-January related to the crisis within Rural EMS and the struggles often encountered by these rural agencies. The Region 2 Rural EMS Recruitment/Retention Committee has made several proposals for administrative rule and legislation that would be designed to bring relief to rural EMS agencies. The McLean County Area EMS System is very involved in these discussions and will continue to share updates with the members.

Grant Updates

- Information was shared about the FY 2010 Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Grant program. The deadline for submission is February 04, 2011. Remember that grant requests may include community education as well as health and safety equipment for responders.
- The Heartsaver AED grant is available with a deadline for submission by February 14, 2011. This grant is designed for AED programs that would impact your entire community or district.

General Information Updates

- Emerging abuse drug being seen that are marketed as "Bath Salts" or "Plant Food." The Illinois Poison Control Center has received reports of 5 patients in Illinois who have snorted these products and presented with clinical signs that included tachycardia, agitation, anxiety, and hallucinations. Information was previously distributed through the MCAEMS System list-serve.



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- A report from the Children's Memorial Research Center showed that EMS Region 2 had one of the highest numbers of unintentional poisoning of children within the State of Illinois. Please remember to include poison prevention awareness information during your department open houses or safety fairs.
- The recall information was discussed related to the lubricant packets within the King Airway kits. Information was previously distributed through the MCAEMS System list-serve about how to handle these kits.
- A memo was reviewed from OSF Life Flight related to the assignment of an on-scene responder to be the "tail rotor guard" to prevent individuals from approaching the tail rotor and aircraft while on scene.
- An email was reviewed from Bloomington FD about establishing an auto-dispatch for any rural echo level call. If you would like to work with Bloomington FD on this matter please contact their administration to discuss.

Agency Updates

No updates at this time.

Next meeting will be on April 27, 2011 at 1800. The meeting sponsor will be KARL STORZ with the location of the meeting to be announced at a later date.