

Affiliate Meeting Minutes September 22, 2010

There were 14 people in attendance with 8 agencies represented.

Thank you to Michael Orr from the Elliott Donnelly Group for hosting the meeting. Michael provided dinner from Avanti's and set up several displays of equipment and tents for decontamination demonstrations. Michael also brought along other representative to help with the demonstrations. Scott Helms is the contact for our area.

Old Business:

- Reminder about the McLean County Disaster exercise scheduled for September 25, 2010 at the Central Illinois Regional Airport. There is a need for EMS providers to assist with the exercise (don't need your EMS vehicle to participate) which will provide CEU as well as excellent opportunity to practice ICS and Mass Casualty Care principles. Contact the EMS office if you are interested in participating as an EMS provider. Also, if you know of individuals that would be interested in serving as victims during the exercise, have them contact Bob Clark at McLean County EMA.
- 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.

New Business:

- We are diligently working on the policy/procedure/protocol manuals. There are a few new protocols in the works now. The policy manual will need to be submitted to IDPH for review so this will be some time before completed. It is the goal to distribute a new copy of the updated protocol manual to each agency in the future.

QA/QI:

- Becky is working with Code Red and IDPH's data program vendor for the validation process so that all records can be transmitted to the state. This process is a lengthy one and any identified technical issues must be corrected before all records in the database can be submitted.
- At this time there are no outstanding issues with Code Red
- There have been five (5) IOR reports dealing with elder abuse in the past month. Becky sent out the hotline numbers in an email this week to remind all EMS providers.

Committee Reports:

Communications – a handout of the State of Illinois narrowband plan was available and was sent out to all agencies.

Strategic Plan – nothing new at this time; please review on the MCAEMS System website for ways your agencies can participate.

Education - classes are listed on the website. EMT-I class to start Oct. 18th at this time class is full. Planning on an I-P class to follow this course and looking at a B-P class after the first of the year.

Hospital relations - Jan Berlin was present and wanted to pass on a message of appreciation and requesting that any concerns be relayed right away so their management can investigate.

Equipment - not looking at any new equipment at this time

Hospital Preparedness - the Coordinators are continuing to meet regarding an alternative treatment facility policy for when Medical control says the system is overwhelmed during Mass Casualty Incidents and transport "Walking Wounded" patients to walk-in acute care clinic locations.

Advocates for EMS Update

Congress is back in session for a short time due to election year. Healthcare Reform law has a huge emphasis on prevention and chronic illness management as well as prevention of readmissions to hospitals following discharge. These areas may have a future impact on EMS providers. Advocates for EMS are working on final draft of "Field EMS" legislation at the federal level.

IDPH Update

Public Act 96-1469 – standards for Critical Care Transport (new designation); EMT examination/licensure/licensure renewal fees - fees are not set at this time. Will also allow the state the ability to remove or deny an EMS license for a Class X, Class 1 or Class 2 felony convictions; creates a new classification of ambulance - reserve ambulance.

Public Act 96-1149 amended the EMS Act to allow an individual with a lapsed EMT license that has expired less than 36 months can request reinstatement by successfully passing state exam.

Public Act 96-1009 allows a VA Hospital to participate in an EMS System.

Agency Updates

No updates at this time.

Discussion was held on whether to continue with every other month Affiliate meetings or spread them out further. The EMS office shares all information via email to all agencies. Some agency representatives stated that information does not get passed along to them through their chiefs so they like coming to find out what is going on. Discussion also held on location. The EMS office is not able to hold the meetings because of limited space. Jan Berlin said we could have meetings there but parking is limited now due to construction. Chief Humer said he would also be willing to host the meetings at his headquarters. Decision was made to continue to monitor attendance and interest in the Affiliate meetings.

Next meeting will be held at Normal Fire Department Headquarters, 1300 E. College, Normal

January 26, 2011 due to holidays.