

## EMS Advisory Committee Minutes

September 17, 2014

Attending: Chris Bell, Mike Leyden, Jess Freire, John Vose, Dan Wolfson, Seth Lasker, Kate Soons, Steve Jeffrey, Drew Hazelton, Mark Considine, Pat Malone, Erin Ingebretsen, Randy Terk

### Minutes of May 14, 2014

- Approved without changes.

### EMS Plans for towns

- Steve Jeffrey circulated a draft recommendation after the last meeting. Alternative position statements or comments were welcomed; none received. Quick discussion held to review the rationale/reasons listed as part of the EMSAC's recommendation.
- The draft, as well as updated SIREN data, will be included in the report to the legislature due by January 2015.

### Rulemaking

- Proposed changes will be showcased at the October 2014 EMS conference and in the newsletter using a multi-page handout. . Among the items being changed:
  - Military member, or spouse of military member, returning from deployment.
  - Minimum standards for credentialing
  - Federal Rule conflict (FAA rule vs. EMS rule)
  - Disciplinary vs. ADA (American Disabilities Act) wording
  - Clean up old "certification" language
- Proposed changes will be sent out, put onto the website and also presented at the conference. Once the formal process begins, the timing becomes more rigid. It is hoped that the rule changes will be submitted into the formal process 2 weeks after the conference, so that new rules will take effect in Feb/March of 2015.
- Revision of the VT EMS Course student manual is currently underway along with the legal review by VDH staff.
- Background check discussion:
  - All licensed personnel were run through VCIC in 2011. Subsequently, VCIC (Vermont Criminal Information Center) checks are performed on all initial as well as renewing personnel.
  - Chris explained about a new interstate compact aimed at providing a means for recognizing licensed personnel during disasters. The compact is funded in part by

Homeland Security and is within approximately 5 years of signing. Part of the compact is an agreement to use biometric checks (fingerprint, etc.) which can be costly.

- Currently staff is also looking at who should do background checks and when, the obligations to report convictions, OIG suspensions, and other issues. It was noted that hospitals have to check their staff against the excluded providers list every 30 days.

### **IFT Scope/CCP Programs Update**

- Still in progress; nearing completion. Potential funding options are still under discussion.

### **EMS Training**

- Conference room block closes on 9/29; registration closes 10/3. Currently 270 enrolled.
- Family-friendly dinner and slide show 10/18.
- Rules session is 10/18 from 2:45-3:45. Provisions can be made for someone not attending the rest of the conference.
- Holding 2 evaluator training sessions, after which training will roll out to the districts and services. Exams themselves will not change, but some scenarios may. The office is working with the Registry to clarify language to patients, evaluators and models.

### **CentreLearn**

- Changes were implemented on Monday. A video was sent to all training officers to share with providers.
- Lots of new groups being formed. Feel free to utilize them.
- IC Bridge course will be held at the conference as well as a location to be determined in northern VT this winter. A full IC course will also be held this winter.

### **Personnel Data Base**

- A new data base will replace the current GLSuite data base. RFP went out and bidding is now closed; bids are being evaluated. The new system will have more features, including web interface and lots of connectivity between SIREN, CentreLearn, etc.

### **SIREN**

- The change from ICD-9 to 10 has been pushed to late 2015. ImageTrend will be releasing their new product in the spring of 2015, with go live around June 2015.
- Working to finalize data dictionary.
- ImageTrend will be at the EMS conference on Saturday and Sunday with Elite demos. Elite appears more like FieldBridge than the current version.
- Vermont is about to export SIREN data to NEMSIS.

### **Falls Prevention Program**

- The Department has received a 2-year grant centered on fall prevention in the elderly. EMS providers will visit sites and ask participating clients questions using clinical vignettes. This is the first EMS evidence-based program of its kind.
- More work to be done to figure out scope, reimbursement, training, etc.

### **2015 EMS Conference**

- 1.5 week event in 2015 in conjunction with Emergency Management. Details are still developing.

### **Open Discussion**

- Question about ambulance inspections and the new equipment list.
  - The new list is aligning with the current scope and protocols, and eliminating some conflicts (such as naloxone). There is flexibility, but it is an anchored list, using the incorporations by reference from the rules as well as protocol requirements. Guidance will be forthcoming early next year. Requesting a site visit is also an option.
- Can ImageTrend provide CAD? Chris said he is working with the E911 Board as they make system upgrades. Mark Considine said he continues to ask about Spillman CAD integration at every opportunity and to discuss unique identifiers with ImageTrend.
  - Steve Jeffrey will seek reasoning and implications behind the relocation of the E911 Board to either Public Safety or DII.
  - The EMS Advisory Committee is welcome to submit an opinion letter on the relocation to the Commissioner for forwarding, but it was noted that not all agencies represented by the EMSAC may share the same opinions.
- QA/QI feature issues in SIREN: In development. ImageTrend is pushing to have issues fixed by EMS Conference.
- Dr. Chen: Dr. Chen has been appointed Acting Secretary to AHS. It is believed he will return to VDH December 2014. Tracy Dolan is Acting Commissioner for VDH.

### **Next Meeting**

- Discussion of next steps for the group
  - Quarterly annual meetings are preferred—September, December, March and June were suggested.
  - Second Wednesdays appear ideal.
  - EMS staff will work to schedule meetings.

