

Region III EMS Council

Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fulton, Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale Counties
Region 3 Office of Emergency Medical Services
2600 Skyland Drive – Upper Level
Atlanta, Georgia 30319
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Region III EMS Council Meeting
February 12, 2015
Douglas County Fire

Council Members Present	
Atkins, Benny	National EMS – Rockdale County
Burnett, Ricky	At Large – City of Roswell Fulton County
Elliott, Rich	Clayton County Fire
Hamby, Linda	Fulton County – Private Consumer
Harvey, M.D., John	At Large – Trauma Specialty
Johnson, Kevin	Newton Medical Center – Newton County
Loeffler, Sue	DeKalb EMA – DeKalb County
McKenna, M.D., Matthew	Fulton County
Miller, Spencer	Cobb County Fire
Moyers, Steve	Gwinnett County
Quinones, Pete	Metro Atlanta Ambulance – Cobb County
Ransom, Kim	Douglas County Fire
Simpson, Kenneth	Rural Metro Ambulance – Fulton County
Snyder, Casey	Gwinnett County Fire
Swanson, Greg	Gwinnett County EMA
Whitmire, Christopher	City of Marietta – Cobb County

Council Members Absent	
Blackwell, Pam	At Large – Emergency Preparedness Specialty
Compton, Bill	Grady EMS – Fulton County
Cowart, Keith	Hapeville Fire – Fulton County
Few, Larry	Fulton County Fire
Ford, M.D., Sandra	DeKalb Board of Health-DeKalb County
Merkison, Landry	Clayton County Fire
Redwood, M.D., Tommy	Cobb County
Shartar, Sam	DeKalb County

Guest:

Guest rosters are contained on file with the Region III Office of EMS

Ej Dailey, Program Director Region III Office of EMS
Ernie Doss, Deputy EMS Director - OEMS

2015 Region III EMS Council Meeting Schedule
February 12, 2015
May 14, 2015
August 13, 2015
November 12, 2015

Welcome – Call to Order

Dr. John Harvey

The February 12, 2015 Region III EMS Council was called to order by Dr. Harvey and thanked Douglas County for hosting the meeting.

Approval of November 13, 2014 Minutes

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes of November 13, 2014 by Pete Quinones and a second by Benny Atkins and approved by the council unanimously.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Pete Quinones

No Report – the Executive Committee did not meet.

Trauma Advisory

Dr. Jeff Nicholas

Dr. Nicholas advised that full funding of \$75,000 for the funding for the RTAC development has been received and will be facilitated and managed by CHOA. Billy Kunkle has been selected as the Region III RTAC Coordinator. An all stakeholders meeting for the RTAC will occur next week. Phase two of the deliverables will begin in the development of the regional assessment which should take about six to nine months with three months to write the formalized plan. The group will have monthly meetings with conference calls as needed.

Georgia Trauma Network

Pete Quinones

Pete provided the council with a copy of the last EMS Subcommittee on Trauma meeting minutes and the FY 2015 EMS Stakeholder Distribution of Trauma funds to EMS. Pete added that he had calls into both the House and Senate sides of the Health & Human Services Committee to make sure that the dollars had been allocated but has not been able to get an answer. A copy of the handout has been included at the end of these minutes.

Pre-Hospital Care

Jeff Moss

The committee meet and will begin putting together a needs assessment for the region to determine training issues and interest and determine if any training needs are not currently being met. The topic of diversion was discussed and it appears that the issue is more related to the southern area of the region. Jeff stated that he will be talking to Southern Regional Hospital and possibly Henry General Hospital for assistance. Jeff encouraged individuals to attend the meetings and to forward any ideas of interest to him.

Ej Dailey asked the members of the council to appoint someone from their agency to attend the PreHospital Care meetings regularly. It is very important to have their input on issues specific to their area and the region.

Communications

Dr. Art Yancey

No Report

Dr. Harvey discussed the concerns surrounding the 911 call in North Fulton where the 911 Center could not locate a patient before she drowned. His concern was the inability of 911 to get emergency services to the caller. Dr. Harvey charged the PreHospital Care Committee and possibly Communications to look any limitations across Region III in order to improve the system. Pete suggested a motion to have PreHospital conduct a study on the effectiveness of 911 calls via cell phones in Region III and report the findings back to the council. Steve Moyers made the second and the motion carried unanimously.

EMSAC

Benny Atkins

The last meeting was in Forsyth at GPSTC on November 18, 2014. EMSAC will be forming a Strategic Committee that will be chaired by Shane Garrison that will be looking to the future of EMS. Other areas discussed included Paramedicine, Medicaid funding, and mobile integrated health services. The EMS Management Conference will be held in March at Lake Lanier. EMS Day at the Capital will be held on February 26, 2015 which will present a perfect time to discuss funding with your legislators.

There is a Mental Health Bill being proposed that would give EMS the responsibility of the mental health patient instead of law enforcement. EMSAC was not in favor of the Bill and will be watching for it closely in the next session.

EMS-C

Rachel Barnhard

Region III EMS-C has been working on recommendations for pediatric equipment on ambulances. Additionally, EMS-C is partnering with the Metro Atlanta EMS Conference to be held at the EPI Center March 6-8 which will include several pediatric topics.

CHOA as has asked me to mention that patient care reports are not being left with the patient when delivered to the emergency department. CHOA still has Field Triage Guides available for field personnel.

The next regional EMS-C meeting will be on March 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. EMS-C is requesting representation from each of the 911 providers. The regional meetings fall on the second Tuesday of each odd month with locations to be determined. The next state EMS-C Advisory Council meeting will be March 5, 2015 at the EPI Center at 2:00 p.m.

Other Reports

Region III Awards Banquet 2015

Mike Jernigan

Eastside Medical Center will be hosting the Region III EMS Awards Banquet on Saturday, May 16th at the Gwinnett Center. Save the date notices and nomination packets will be coming out within the next week or so. The CARES Awards will also be included as previous years.

All Hazards Council – Area 7

Spencer Miller

Spencer discussed the upcoming tabletop exercise which will include a multi-discipline response from the region on March 13, 2015 at the Georgia Tech Campus. All disciplines are encouraged to attend and participate. The flyer and information about the event was sent out prior to the council meeting via email.

Emergency Preparedness

Pam Blackwell

Pam was participating in a training session in the Cobb EOC. Although a specific report had not been submitted, she provided the following through Dr. Harvey. Public Health is still monitoring persons of interest but there are no new cases of Ebola in the US. The CDC has published many guidelines for prehospital responders and medical facilities. For the most current guidelines visit www.cdc.gov.

There are active cases of measles with one in Region III at a CHOA facility.

Region III EMS Office

Ej Dailey

Ej mentioned that if hospital staff would contact her directly with identifying information about the service/medic, then she can advocate for the patient and the hospital. A few instances in the past were resolved by a teaching moment but if she does not know when it occurs there is very little she can do. In the past 12 months, no hospital has reported any specific problems with paperwork.

Ej introduced Ernie Doss, Deputy EMS Director and asked for his information input to the council. Mr. Doss briefly discussed the Infectious Disease Team Network (IDTN). The IDTN is similar to the Grady-Emory system but with 18 teams across the state. This network is not seen as just an Ebola team but a team capable of handling any type of infectious disease. Training is also being developed to push out to currently licensed personnel, as well as, students and instructors.

The EMS Classroom has been taken off line and OEMS is working with GPSTC to use their learning management system (LMS) to house EMS training. The new Naloxone training will be housed in the GPSTC LMS for all persons, even the general public to access at no charge.

All licensed agencies in the state are required to upload or enter their patient care data into the Georgia EMS Information System (GEMSIS). Currently, there are 1.3 million records residing in the repository. The GEMSIS workgroup will pull data elements of interest to the trauma groups, stroke groups, EMS-C, Ambulance service, Fire Departments and so on.

Doctors O'Neal and Fitzgerald are very proud of regions 3, 4, 7 and 10 for having finalized the agreement to proceed with the development of regional RTAC's.

Sue Loeffler asked Mr. Doss about the availability of the Public Health radio/tracking system linking to current patient care reports to eliminate duplicate documentation. The patient tracking and radios issued from Public Health-Emergency Preparedness came from a project that was piloted in EMS Region 9-Coastal Georgia. The system was never designed to replace the day-to-day communication or documentation of patient care data but to be used to track patients and events during a disaster. The tracking system will populate GEMSIS but not the various software systems being used in the state. There are currently no plans for the state to pay for an additional application for each vendor. The radio/tracking system is free to ambulance services that wish to use it. However, the local hospital(s) must also have a console/computer that is web based in order to see what is being done in the field and/or data being uploaded.

Presentations:

STEMI-Cardiovascular Center

Patrick Green, Executive Director

Mr. Green gave an overview of the STEMI center from initiative to implementation. With impressive door-to-balloon times, Mr. Green encouraged EMS to be very aggressive in contacting the hospital prior to arrival to set the appropriate teams in motion. The care team works to pull next day data and follow up with EMS to provide feedback to field personnel.

Mission Lifeline

Mike Jernigan

The structure of the committees has been redone. The EMS Subcommittee is working to get feedback to the providers. The next meeting is February 14, 2015 at AHA. EMS is encouraged to attend the meetings and can really be the driving force of the EMS Subcommittee. The meetings provide a wealth of information for sharing between all partners.

A Look at Data: Adult Non-Traumatic Cardiac Arrest

Michael Charles

Michael Charles, Program Director for Better Outcomes Enterprises presented a report of Adult Non-Traumatic Cardiac Arrest for 2013. The report discussed and presented was based on direct data from the CARES program for national and regional data and Fulton County for local data. The report has been included at the end of the minutes.

All data is de-identified coming from the CARES program. An agency must approve CARES program staff to run the report and submit the report to Michael. At the end of the presentation and further discussion, the motion was made to include this report as a charge to the PreHospital Care Committee to locate and determine any gaps that would improve outcomes of cardiac arrest in

Region III. The motion passed and Michael agreed to provide the manpower to put the reports together for the committee.

New Business – Announcements

Dr. Nicholas advised those present that the TCC in Forsyth was closing.

Ernie Doss added that OEMS was seeking advice on the best way to communicate to field personnel. Although, a great deal of emails are sent out OEMS is interested in other social media outlets. Any suggestions should be sent directly to Mr. Doss.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00