

Region III EMS Council
May 14, 2015
Grady EMS Training Academy
Meeting Minutes

Welcome – Call to Order

Dr. John Harvey

Dr. Harvey welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 10:05 a.m.

Approval of February 12, 2015 Minutes

The meeting minutes of February 12, 2015 was approved by the council after a motion was made by Steve Moyers and a second by Ricky Burnette.

After a brief review and discussion of the council members representing DeKalb County, the council wanted to move to have the current members remain on the council. The council has no authority to appoint members; therefore the Region III office will obtain a new appointment letter from DeKalb County CEO prior to the August meeting.

Bernard Hicks did receive an appointment from Dr. Sandra Ford, MD, Health District Director for the DeKalb Board of Health.

With Kim Ransom retiring from Douglas County Fire/EMS, Commission Chair Tom Wortham submitted a letter appointing Sharon Davis from Douglas County Fire/EMS to represent Douglas County.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Dr. John Harvey

The committee has not met and does not have a report.

Trauma Advisory

Dr. Jeff Nicholas

Billy Kunkle has taken over as the Region 3 RTAC Coordinator and has held various meetings to gather information from the assessment that will help build the RTAC Plan. The next meeting date will be forwarded out and will most likely be held at the CHOA facility at 85 and North Druid Hills.

Georgia Trauma Network

Dr. John Harvey

Announced the current trauma funding for equipment is now available to 911 services. Dr. Harvey also discussed the ease and necessity of tourniquets in the field and the potential for anticoagulant therapy prehospital.

Dr. Nicholas added that all meetings are considered open meetings and should be publicized as such according to the Georgia Attorney General's office. It was also noted that the attendance by Region III services to the EMS subcommittee meetings was low in comparison to the rest of the state. Dr. Harvey encouraged all 911 services present to make every effort to attend the trauma and EMS subcommittee meetings.

Sam Shartar added that Region D purchased a large quantity of the trauma tourniquets but was unsure how they were distributed. Sue Loeffler added that Region D was going to ensure the tourniquets were going to be placed with all responding vehicles; whereas the trauma grant was only going to add them to the ambulances.

Pre-Hospital Care

Jeff Moss

The PHCC was tasked to review data regarding 911 dispatch centers after the event that had taken place in Alpharetta. A survey was developed and distributed to the 911 communication centers in Region III to determine the scope of the problem. The data requested was from the last quarter of

2014 (3 months) which averaged about 600,000 representing 13 centers in Region III. The percentage of calls that were being transferred was 62% and if all agencies reported the number would most likely be 80%. The percentage of calls that were being transferred to other agencies within the center was 13% or roughly 40,000 calls. The numbers do suggest the high potential of being lost among the transfers.

Jeff also attended a 911 conference and obtained information from two national dispatch organizations and felt assured that the FCC was on top of the subject. The particular incident in Alpharetta was caused by the inability for the software to be mapped over into other jurisdictions. The technology is there, it's getting the mapping correct. Jeff stated that all of it could be done between the industry, communication centers and the agencies but there is no oversight from the state to make this happen.

The committee did find that a 911 committee existed through GEMA but had not been active in several years. From this report Jeff concluded that two big issues came out of the work; 1- mapping had to occur within the industry and software, and 2 – the 911 committee should be re-activated to monitor with a director to oversee the progress.

Steve Moyers made the motion for the council to send a letter, through Dr. O'Neal to the appropriate authorities for the re-creation of someone to oversee the 911 system and re-activate the 911 committee. Dr. Harvey will work with Steve Moyers, Jeff Moss, Dr. Yancey and the region office through a conference call to draft a letter to Dr. O'Neal. With a second by Sue Loeffler, the motion passed unanimously.

Adult Non-Traumatic Cardiac Arrest

Michael Charles

Michael Charles gave an in-depth presentation of the outcome comparisons of 2012-14 data focusing on National, Region III, Fulton County and Grady EMS data. Michael has requested data from all services in Region III to assist in potentially identifying specific needs in a community.

Communications

Dr. Art Yancey

No Report

EMSAC

Benny Atkins

The last meeting of EMSAC was Tuesday, February 7th and copies of the meeting minutes were distributed to the council and are also included at the end of these minutes.

EMS-C

Ej Dailey

Norma Campbell was absent due to a family illness. The previous regional EMSC meeting was canceled for two reasons. The State Advisory committee is looking to reformat their structure in hopes to get more input from the other regions that are not currently participating in the meetings. Secondly, Ej will be working with Norma on the specific performance measures that are included in the EMSC grant. Members of the Region III EMSC subcommittee will have a better understanding of the activities to be done and the direction it needs to move in going forward.

Other Reports

Region III Awards Banquet 2015

Mike Jernigan

Mike gave an overview of the upcoming Region III EMS Awards Banquet at the Gwinnett Center on May 16th at 6:30.

Mission Lifeline data will be submitted to the regional office for the next council meeting. The next Mission Lifeline meeting is August 19th.

Emergency Preparedness

Pam Blackwell

Pam gave an overview of the current status of Ebola monitoring with about 120 patients in Atlanta that are low risk checking in with Public Health twice a day with their temperatures. All of the high risk patients have passed their 21 day mark and have been cleared.

Pam discussed three current grants. The Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant provides funding for 18 months which will allow for an Ebola specialist to be placed in each health district to work with the coalitions and regions on infectious disease issues. The Hospital Preparedness grant goes for 5 years and will be very coalition based and will contain verbiage pertaining to offsetting the cost to Tier 1 and Tier 2 hospitals, EMS transporting agencies and regional coalitions.

Additionally the Mass Fatality seminar will be held in Atlanta on May 20th. UASI has a new director, Greg Mason. He has met with many of the EMA directors and is reaching out to the EMS, Fire and Public Health community. A meeting has been scheduled for July 23 at GPSTC.

Region III EMS Office

Ej Dailey

The Region III CQI subcommittee is being re-organized and will be chaired and co-chaired by Rachel Barnhard and Tina Wright. Both Rachel and Tina are working with the state workgroup to identify data elements and develop training. Again, council members are asked to please assign someone from their agency to be specifically assigned to the subcommittees of the council – little work can be done if no one is there.

Presentation

TIME Task Force – How it Impacts Things
Across the State

Rory Howe

The Time Task Force is an organization led by GDOT to facilitate coordination, communication between multi-agencies, multi-discipline incident responders in an effort to clear traffic incidents quickly while promoting the safety of responders and the motoring public.

After discussion regarding the Georgia Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Responder Training Program, Jeff Moss agreed to survey the EMS and Fire services in the region to determine the interest and schedule training as appropriate.

With no other business for the council, the meeting was adjourned.