NASEMSO Data Managers Council

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019 ● 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time

Call to Order / Call Roll / Approve Agenda

Meeting called to order at 2:34 eastern.

Roll Call

DMC Members
Felicia Alvarez (UT)
Charles Becvarik (NM)
Laurel Boyd (OR)
John Cramer (ID)
Donna Etheridge (MS)
Juan Esparza (FL)
Ridgely Ficks (MA)
Doug Fuller (NE)
Jay Ostby (WY)
Britnei Outland (TN)
Dipti Patel (GA)
Tom McGinnis (CA – Chair)
Brian Ritchie (AK)
Tim Seplaki (NJ)
Amber Viitanen (CO)
Anne Vossbrink (AZ)

Other NASEMSO
Rachael Alter (NASEMSO Staff)
Joe Ferrell (Biospatial)
Joshua Legler (Assoc. Member)
Sharon Steele (NE)

Others/Partners:
Eric Chaney (NHTSA OEMS)
Cathy Curley (PA)
Monet Iheanacho (NEMSIS TAC)
Clay Mann (NEMSIS TAC)
Hank Weinstock (MA)
Lisa Young (NEMSIS TAC)

Secretary's Report

March Meeting Minutes approved with Ridgley spelling correction (moved by Tim S.; second by Charles B.)
April Meeting Minutes approved with Ridgley spelling correction (moved by Charles B; second by Tim S.)
May Annual Meeting minutes approved (moved by Tim S.; secong by Charles B.)

Regional Reports:

- East: Chip Cooper (NH) – not present
- Great Lakes: Dan Lee (IL) – not present
- South: Drew Chandler (KY) – not present at time of report
- Western Plains: Jay Ostby (WY) – no updates
- West: Anne Vossbrink (AZ) – Wildland fire season has begun. West Region meeting will be in Portland, OR in October.

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Council Project & Committee Representative Reports *(as available)*:

- NASEMSO Community Paramedicine/Mobile Integrated Health Committee – Anne Vossbrink
  - Ambualnce company in Minnesota helping volunteer agencies collect money and using an obscure law to go after tax returns for unpaid bils
  - No call until July
- NASEMSO HITS Committee – Tim Seplaki
  - Nothing specific to data to report
- NASEMSO EMS Data Opioid Workgroup – Tim Seplaki
  - Has put together a proposal for Board approval asking to formalize an Opioid/SUD Task Force with the purpose to:
    - Address issues surrounding this epidemic; Provide a unified voice for the organization regarding "all things" related to the epidemic; Standardize data collection & analysis, address data issues, and promote data sharing across state boarders; Provide recommendations to the Association and its stakeholders; Provide a platform for multi-state grant initiatives regarding the epidemic
  - Reprensetation recommended:
    - State EMS Directors; State Data Managers; State Medical Directors; Education; NEMSIS; NASEMSO
  - NASEMSO has a great opportunity to take a more focused lead role in combating this, as well as other Substance Use Disorder (SUD) health epidemics, that EMS providers across the country are tasked with combating on the front lines every day
  - This did not make it on the June Board agenda, so more to come

Old Business

- None

New Business

- DMC Strategic Direction
  - Tom asked for the Council's thoughts on creating general goals for the Council. The Task Force that Tim mentioned could be a part of this. What can we achieve? Ideas:
  - Pulling/looking at data in similar ways across multiple states; identify topic areas where we could have nationwide consistency in what we're looking at and how we're doing it (Amber). Charles and Laurel supported this idea.
    - Supporing health equity & inclusion – think about from the data perpective. I.e., how well are race & ethnicity being populated? (Laurel)
    - Create Extended Definitions document for Version 3.5 – what does the Council see as potential problems; maybe can get ahead of the curve. Should be a dynamic document. (Jay)

- Focus on overall more data out – provides buy in when pitching ideas; need to show the value of EMS data by looking at shared projects; better dissemination. (Amber)
- How can we link data dissemination to policy initiatives; policy vs what is happening on the ground; look for areas where EMS should drive policy. (Laurel)
- Find novel ideas to increase data quality. Finding that after reports are produced, people are coming back and saying "I did that, I just didn't record it." National ideas on ways to push data quality. (Anne) Amber & Ridgely support.
    1. If able to show people how the data is used and available (value), they may be more incentivized to will help with quality
    2. Think about giving Bureau Chiefs and State Administration a standard report that they can look at what is going on – unifies them and provides the same information across the board, and will help facilitate national discussions
  - Tom will take these ideas to draft up concepts to send out in a few weeks to focus next month's discussion.
- NEMSIS/EMS Data "101" Document
  - Volunteers from the Annual Meeting will move this forward. Tom will start the communication with those that expressed interest, determine what is already out there, and look at next steps to move this forward.
  - Additional interest: Anne & Ridgely
  - Clay would appreciate that the TAC is involved (Julianne). TAC is putting together NEMSIS 101 Bootcamp so there will be documents that the group could start with.
- Opiate Funding Workgroup
  - Will be a part of Tim's recommendation

Partner Reports

NHTSA Office of EMS
- Data Use Agreements: Eric thinks that there could be some updates made here; working with Clay and looking at other DUAs for language and formatting. (e.g., some are version specific, expiration dates included). More to come on updates to these.
- Cloud Transfer – DOT contracted with Amazon and AWS to become the Federal Data Center for DOT; anything hosted outside of DOT will need to move to the federally approved AWS Cloud Services. NEMSIS is high on that list for moving. Implications for the users of NEMSIS – NHTSA will advise once the tranfer is outlined.
- RFI will be going out on NEMSIS. Contract with University of Utah expires in 2020. RFI is drafted and is working through the clearance process. Eric will let this group know as soon as it's ready for release. RFP is being drafted which will need to be modified due to the transfer to the AWS data center.
- ET3 – NHTSA has met several times with different components/groups within the ET3 process; big interest in using NEMSIS data for various parts of this project. Looking at national provider ID number; working with both TAC and NREMT (NREMT already looking into this for REPLICA). No changes

will be required at the state level. Can CNMI & NREMT work together to create a number schema for this? This is in the early stages, but needs to move quickly due to REPLICA needs.

NEMSIS TAC

- Annual Meeting: Scheduled for August 12 & 13. Agenda is online – check in for updates. Bootcamp is Sunday afternoon. Day 1 Breakout sessions will have 2: one for vendors & one for data managers (agendas for each session TBD). Hoping by seaparing there will be valuable conversations. OEMS would also like to speak to the data managers candidly. Check site for updates; invitation letter included online.
- Candidate Release: Julianne (NEMSIS Data Promotion Officer) will be rolling out materials that relate to the candidate release. Includes: news release, PPT, and a flyer.
- Timelines. During the SLC meeting there was discussion on v3.3.4 closing which is causing frustration in some states (as they are working to get agencies from v3.3.4 to v3.4). OEMS is strongly considering extending the timeline for v3.4, but not extending v3.3.4. Would still need discussion on how to manage future versions. Potential extensions could be either March 2021 or beginning of 2022.
    - o Charles wondered about v3.5 technical issues extending it too far out. Clay indicated that they have overcome the technical difficulties to keep it open and have a valid and reliable process for v3.5.
    - o Have the vendors been brought into the loop? Have had preliminary discussions with a few, but will be part of next Wednesday's Implementation meeting discussion.
    - o Will keep the Council aware of any decisions made.
- 2018 Data Collection. Closing the 2018 data collection so TAC can clean and prepare the public release dataset; includes 25 million activations. For v3 TAC hopes that the data remains concurrent (considering web services and data flowing automatically). Hopeful that at the end of 2019 they can build that dataset in February 2020. Some data still trickling in for 2017 and 2018 – but hope that states can all be concurrent with data collection. If you are a state that can't, consider just moving to focus on 2019.
- Retesting & Compliance Schedule:
    - o Overall discussion on trying to help vendors improve implementation process or coding that is causing errors in data submitssion. TAC has been wrestling with how to help vendors with ths. TAC can be the enforcer as issues come up. This has been tough – as only option has been to revoke compliance, which can have backlash to states who mandate products. Still an option, but want to provide additional steps to encourage compliance.
        - ▪ #1 Develop a table on the compliance page that lists bugs that have been reported; will indicate how quicly the company responded to the bug and whether it is resolved. Will also show who is up to date.
        - ▪ #2 Keep track of how often each of the vendors have representation on the implementation calls and the fall meeting. There is a lot of training and decisions that happen during that call – so important to know who is not attending (products tend to fall behind if they aren't participating).

- o Looking at a re-testing schedule for current v3.4 products. Right now it's voluntary. TAC will institute a required (at least) 2-year recertifcation process. Will be an enhanced testing process to help with validity and reliability. Will tie in the new ideas with v3.5 roll-out (so this process is compliant). Will implement on Jan 1, 2020. Software companies can request re-testing up until Jan 1.
  - What is the difference between compliance and other bugs? Suggest any bug associated with the Standard should be reported.
  - Additional resources as they relate to IT project management could be helpful. (service-level agreement language, foundational building blocks/foundational IT management) could help us improve data quality. This is on the TACs radar.
  - o Testing process for vendors for custom elements? TAC hasn't dug into that yet, and Clay will follow up with Juan to get clarity on concerns.
- Revised National Schematron File. On the last v3 Implementation Call – announced the roll-out of an updated national Schematron file to fix some rules that weren't working very well. Made those revisions and rolled out the new version based on the idea that we've tested all the software to do plug and play Schematron files. What TAC didn't consider was what is written in the National Rules have depencies with the State Rules. Tom agreed to a presentation during the July meeting to provide the group with background on how Schematron works and go over the revisions. The revisions were put into the v3.5. revision process schedule – so they were all reviewed last year; went through the voting process.
- NEMSIS Performance Measure Project (Josh)
  DASHBOARD – [Performance Measures Dashboard](#)
  USER GUIDE – [Performance Measures Dashboard User Guide](#)
  - o Went live a few weeks ago; Josh demonstrated how to implement in your state.
  - o 3 measures from EMS Compass currently implemented; will roll out 8 more
  - o Implemented measures are listed on the webpage
  - o Will be able to evaluate based on different parameters
  - o Should encourage software devleopers to use and incorporate this product to build visualizations for data.
  - o If you'd like to integrate this into your state system, Josh will be reviewing those steps during next Wednesday's meeting.
  - o If you need additional information/training, please contact Josh.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at 2:30 PM eastern.

Meeting ended at 4:02 eastern.
Notes respectfully submitted by Rachael Alter, NASEMSO Staff