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**NASEMSO / NOSORH Joint Committee on Rural Emergency Care**  
*A coalition of NASEMSO and NOSORH EMS committees - formed to engage each association on topics relevant to rural and frontier emergency care*

**Minutes, February 4, 2010**

Present: NASEMSO: Jim DeTienne, Susan Perkins, Norajean Miles Harrell, Doug Kupas

NOSORH: Matt Womble, Ron Seedorf, Crystal Barth, Joyce Hospodar, John Barnas, Chip Cooper, Vance Eggers, Robert Jex, Stephanie Hansen (staff).

Guests: Gary Wingrove (NRHA, NEMSMA, ...), Megan Alavi (ORHP), Kate Leeson (Holland & Knight),

Subject	Discussion
Advocates for EMS update	<p>Kate Leeson from Harold &amp; Knight, a public policy issue law firm which provides leadership for Advocates for EMS, provided an update on health reform as it relates to EMS. Lisa Tofil, also with Holland &amp; Knight, is the lead for Advocates for EMS group, but was unable to join us today. They are in the process of determining next steps of Advocates for EMS. One of the things that they are proposing is the development in an overarching message bill. The message bill will serve as a tent for a broad range of EMS legislation.</p> <p>NASEMSO is a member of Advocates for EMS, but NOSORH is not.</p>
2010 Workplan	<p>Looked at survey results (14 respondents). Jim will send the raw data results to the group after the call. It appears that based on the survey, we need to do all of these things this year which probably isn't feasible. Still need to choose the things that have to happen this year, also recognize that some of the items are part of the 3-5 year strategic plan. People need to self-identify as champions of specific items or they may be dropped off. Gary wants the NRHA EMS Issue Group to be assigned a task. Some of the items others are already working on...will keep these on our radar, but don't need to tackle or assign work groups for them.</p> <p>Matt would like to add the following to the workplan: EMS left out of HITECH/ARRA funding. Matt proposes that we write letters to Regional Extension Centers to make sure that EMS is included in the distribution of the funding. Matt offered to draft the letter and, as suggested, an educational component. REC awards have started which makes this a time sensitive issue. Goal: Product in 30-45 days. Vote: Approved Matt taking the lead on this project. Bob Jex and Norajean offered to help.</p> <p>Jim will send a revised version of the workplan to the group and add detail to the budget. Budget: Will see what funding NOSORH and NASEMSO can provide, and then look for grant funding from other sources/grant, if needed.</p>
Gary Wingrove	<p>Gary had to leave the call early, but sent the following information - Chris Tilden, Matt Womble, Lisa and I met with Conrad's staff last week on the 35 mile rule and Community Paramedic. They weren't hopeful for either in the health reform debate, and of course it looks like that's off anyway. They are educated on both issues now. The rural caucus bill from last year is still alive and 35 mile rule is in it. Conrad's staff was receptive to working on both. Also met with some appropriations staff about the Farm Bill provision. No</p>



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	<p>commitments yet, but they were open. There is one thing we're going to need eventually and we don't need a lot of it, but we need some. We could use some stories, maybe 10 of them (one from each of 10 states would be good) about what providers would do with funding if it was available. "We want to be part of the STEMI system, but we can't afford a 12 lead EKG machine." "We can't afford to replace our 15 year old ambulance and it's falling apart." "We couldn't access federal funding to get in to the new state radio system and we can't afford the radio equipment." That sort of thing, but with real services and real names.</p>
JCREC Strategic Planning Document	<p>Kevin is still working on this and will have a product in the near future. Jim will send out as soon as it is available.</p>
Google Group Test	<p>Google Groups appears to be working for the major of the group. Working out individual problems.</p>
Rural Trauma Symposium Planning Committee	<p>Planning committee represented by Ron Seedorf, Susan Perkins, Doug Kupas. First conference call is on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Send ideas for topics, speakers to these individuals before the 18th.</p>
August IRPC / Trauma Symposium / Learning Session	<p>Both organizations need to provide education/information to all members to promote these events.</p> <p>Meetings being held August 8-13, 2010</p> <p>Question: Should JCREC have a learning session during in conjunction with the other meeting? Consensus that we need to meet face-to-face and that we should take advantage of this opportunity. Decided that to go ahead with planning. Need to get agendas from both organizations to find a time. Volunteers to help plan the learning session: Chip Cooper (chair), Norajeane, and Stephanie volunteered. Jim will send out a message to the group looking for additional volunteers.</p>
Next Meeting	<p>March 4, 2010 at 3:00 ET</p>