



## Highway Incident and Transportation Systems (HITS) Committee Meeting

August 14, 2019

3:00 PM EDT

### Meeting Minutes

**Attending** – Steve McCoy (FL), David Harden (AZ), Dia Gainor (NASEMSO), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO), Dave Zaiman (Biospatial), Josh Walters (Biospatial), Charlie Vits (IMMI), Erica Kane (WI), Cory Hohs (Haas Alert), Billie Collier (MS), Scot Phelps (NJ), Gam Wijetunge (NHTSA)

**Welcome and Roll Call** – Steve McCoy, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:04 PM EDT.

**Review & Approval of June 12th Meeting Record** – Steve McCoy reviewed and summarized the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting record.

**NHTSA Update** - Dr. Jon Krohmer and Gam Wijetunge were not available for a report.

### **Project and Committee Updates**

TIM Executive Leaders Group – Dia Gainor reported that the TIM ELG is planning a National Summit of TIM Leaders on November 14-15 and will invite the HITS Chair and the NASEMSO President-Elect.

Road to Zero Coalition – Dia Gainor said the Road to Zero initiative has been hurt by the departure of Jeff Michael from NHTSA and Deb Hersman from the National Safety Council. She believes the momentum will pick up speed again.

Safe Transport of Children Committee - Mary Hedges reported that the Safe Transport of Children Committee was upgraded from an ad hoc to permanent committee of NASEMSO. They continue to meet every two months and recently published Version 2 of the Pediatric Transport Products for Ground Ambulances.

AVL Committee / Ambulance Standards Update – Dia said that NASEMSO is developing a map of which ambulance standards are applicable in which states, which will be posted soon.

Biospatial Update – Josh Walters recently attended/presented at the National Traffic Records Forum, noting those attending expressed interest in more involvement with EMS. He said Arkansas may be the next state to come on board with Biospatial and link crash data with EMS data. Biospatial has updated their dashboard to include a variety of new search methods for crashes, including injury severity scores (as determined by law enforcement). Mary asked if the law enforcement injury severity scores are consistent with EMS data. Josh said that law enforcement is very interested in learning the accuracy of their scoring, and that it can be teased out, but there are many elements in EMS and trauma data that relate to injury severity. Steve said he believes there will be a push to link the data from other sources (not just EMS). Josh agrees that he is hearing from other sources who are interested in the data.

**Special Presentation: EMS and the SHSP** – David Harden shared how the Arizona Bureau of EMS & Trauma was able to get a seat at the table and significantly integrate EMS into the state DOT's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). He was fortunate to be a member of the SHSP Executive Committee. As an example, one of the EMS countermeasures in the SHSP is to train the public to provide emergent care at

the scene of a crash with a focus on the rural areas where ambulance response times are long. Steve asked Dave for suggestions to promote this type of collaboration in other state EMS offices. Dave responded he speaks up frequently to get the attention of his highway safety colleagues and not let them forget that EMS is one of the four Es.

Steve noted that the recent assessment conducted by NASEMSO asked at least two questions about collaborating with highway safety partners. One question related to sharing data and the other inquired about funding partners (with DOT as an option). Steve would like to get the results of these two questions from the assessment. Dia said they are beginning to analyze the data now.

To learn about your state's SHSP, see <https://rspcb.safety.fhwa.dot.gov/shspsearch/statesearch.aspx>

**Developing the 2019-20 Work Plan** (draft 2019-20 Work Plan attached) – Steve McCoy reviewed the tasks in the draft workplan developed for 2019 -2020. Steve Asked David Harden if he would be willing to serve as the HITS Committee liaison to the Safe Transport of Children Committee, and he agreed. Steve commented that he is struggling to get EMS in his state more involved in the TIM Training. Also, there continues to be a problem with how EMS is counted as course participants since they are often counted as firefighters.

On a related matter, Dia updated the committee on the effort of national EMS organizations to convince the Bureau of Labor Statistics to separate EMS from firefighters and EMTs from paramedics. The Bureau agreed to separate EMTs and paramedics but not to separate non-EMS fire from EMS fire. They will continue to work for this change to ensure that EMS is accurately identified and counted.

**Collaboration between State Highway Safety Officials and State EMS Officials** – Erica Kane, the Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator in Wisconsin, said they recently partnered with the Office of Highway Safety on distracted driving training. The PEC coordinators at local EMS agencies are taking a train-the-trainer course so they can teach on the topic of distracted driving.

**Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 3:56 PM EDT.

**Next Meeting** – October 9<sup>th</sup>

*The meeting minutes were respectfully submitted by NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges.*