



Highway Incident and Transportation Systems (HITS) Committee Meeting

June 12, 2019

3:00 PM EDT

Meeting Record

Attending – Steve McCoy (FL), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO), Tom McGinnis (CA), Dave Zaiman (Biospatial), Josh Walters (Biospatial), Joe Ferrell (Biospatial), Stephen Wilson (AL), David Harden (AZ), Shari Graham (MT), Dr. Ken Williams (RI), Cory Hohs (HAAS Alert), Dr. Carol Cunningham (OH), Chris Jessup (IMMI), Jim DeTienne (MT), Billie Collier (MS)

Welcome and Roll Call – Steve McCoy, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM EDT.

Review & Approval of May 15th Meeting Record – Steve McCoy reviewed the May Meeting record. It was accepted as submitted.

NHTSA Update - Dr. Jon Krohmer or Gam Wijetunge were not able to join the call to provide an update.

Drive Like Scott – Dr. Ken Williams

Dr. Williams wrote the article about safe ambulance driving on the anniversary of Scott's death and submitted it to JEMS. Scott Francis was an excellent ambulance driver in addition to a skilled critical care paramedic. Dr. Williams wanted to emphasize that safe driving is as important as good medical care. Dave Harden suggested this could be developed into an infographic. Steve added that NHTSA definitely has safe driving of the ambulance as a priority. Cory Hohs (HAAS Alert) said they have quite a bit of information accumulated on crash statistics, especially costs, which he offered to share with the group. He also recalled an interesting presentation on the impact of dimming the lights, as opposed to flashing lights, which he saw at the TRB Joint Subcommittee for Emergency Response meeting. The JEMS article is available at:

https://www.jems.com/articles/2019/06/drive-like-scott-important-reasons-to-embrace-excellent-ambulance-driving.html?cmpid=&utm_source=enl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=now&utm_content=2019-06-04&eid=317229801&bid=2459486

Developing the 2019-20 Work Plan – Steve McCoy reviewed the 2018 workplan, noting how the workplan guides the direction of the committee. He asked committee members for action items that could be added to the 2019-20 workplan. Dave Harden said his state is working on their state's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) and has been able to include EMS in the counter measures of the SHSP as its own separate section. Dave suggested creating an assessment and entering the information on a matrix which includes each state. Steve suggested possibly surveying states to acquire this information, provided it was not already collected by the recent assessment NASEMSO completed. Steve shared the resource created by FHWA a few years ago, the EMS and Highway Safety Connection, available at <https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/shsp/ems/connection/>. He suggested that we follow up with the individual from FHWA who presented to HITS a couple years back to determine how to further promote collaboration.

Regarding Task 2, Steve referred to Dia's role in representing NASEMSO at national highway safety meetings. Task 3 focuses on promoting linkage of EMS data with crash records. Tom McGinnis, the

Data Managers Council (DMC) Chair, said there has been some progress in linking the two data sets. He believes that this is a natural area of interest for the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee. Steve added the easiest way to link crash and EMS data is through the Biospatial platform, which is what they have done in Florida. Joe Ferrell said now that Biospatial has the trauma and EMS data, the next logical step is to link crash records. Presently, Florida is the only state where they are linking crash data with EMS, but they are working with four other states now on doing the same. Josh Walters added that Biospatial is a tool for linking without sharing any identities. He sees the challenge as making both EMS and highway safety comfortable with sharing each other's data. They can build in protections in their dashboards so that the owners of the data can limit who has access.

The intent of Task 4, according to Mary, was for HITS to collaborate with the Pediatric Emergency Care Council and the Safe Transport of Children Committee to promote the development of standards for equipment used to transport children by ambulance. This has been an ongoing effort and NASEMSO has recently developed a comprehensive proposal they hope to get funded. It would be a 5-year project once funding is obtained. Dave Harden reported that Arizona has a premiere ambulance agency recognition program, and they recently added a requirement that the agency adopt a pediatric safe transport policy to be recognized as a premiere agency. Steve suggested Dave present this to the STC Committee. Mary said it would be helpful to have a HITS liaison to the STC Committee.

Task 5 focuses on the promotion of EMS involvement in the Traffic Incident Management training. Dave Harden displayed a table top display and infographic he created to promote TIM training. He will be presenting this to the Arizona TIM Coalition. Dave agreed to allow HITS to share the document as a model for other states.

Collaboration between State Highway Safety Officials and State EMS Officials – Due to time limitations, this standing agenda item was deferred until the next meeting.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 4:03 PM EDT

Next Meeting – August 14th

The meeting record was respectfully prepared by NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges.