

**NASEMSO Domestic Preparedness Annual Committee Minutes
Cleveland, Ohio
Tuesday, October 7, 2014**

Present

Richard Gibbons Acting Chair
Carmen Allen (KS)
Steve Murphy, AMR/AAA
Marilyn Rutz (SD)
Guy Dansie (UT)
Joe House (KS)
John Donahue(MD)
Dan Smiley (Ca)
Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse (CO)
Jack Fleeharty (IL)
Jason Rhodes (RI)

Also Present

Leslee Stein-Spencer, NASEMSO Staff
Ray Mollers, DHS/OHA
Drew Dawson, NHTSA
Jackie Kennedy, DHS

Richard Gibbons, Acting Chair of the Domestic Preparedness committee, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and self-introductions were made. Dick apologized for Joe Schmider but due to an Ebola patient in Texas, Joe had to cancel attending the annual meeting.

Approval of July meeting:

Approval was tabled to next conference call.

FICEMS Update and MUCC Triage:

Drew Dawson gave an update on FICEMS and MUCC triage. The MUCC triage implementation plans draft was circulated for comments and revisions to the plan are in the process of being completed. Once the plan is finalized it will be widely circulated. John Donahue reported that they are transitioning to the MUCC system by ordering triage tags with the color grey and telling folks that the grey color tag should be ignored for now. There was a discussion on how this transition for providers will occur to include cost and education. The implementation plan will include instruction all guidelines that are going to be an addendum to the Education Standards. Drew reported that the best person to discuss training and education and the implementation plan would be Gam. Since Gam is on the DP committee, we will make that an agenda item for the next conference call and ask Gam to update the group. It was also noted that many providers know nothing about MUCC and are not prepared to implement this triage system.

Drew then reported on what FICEMS and the preparedness working group were doing on Ebola. The Preparedness committee put together and circulated Guidelines for EMS and PSAP on dealing with Ebola. An updated version was sent out on Oct 1st along with a checklist for EMS. All of this information can be found on the CDC web site. On Monday, Joe Schmider, along with Drew and staff from CDC participated on a conference call in which there were approximately 1000 EMS providers on the call from Texas. There were many great questions asked and answered. Joe has set up an email in which the providers can submit questions, which they will respond to.

What seems to be an issue is how to get the message out to the grass root providers. Many do not read the information on web sites. There was discussion on the best way to get information out to providers to include: phone calls, webinars and face-to-face educational programs. A lesson learned from this experience is that there must be close collaboration between EMS, Hospitals and Public Health. PPE is the main focus of this outbreak and safety is paramount with very little room for error.

Action Item:

The MUCC Implementation Plan including education of providers will be added to the next DP Committee conference call.

Ask Joe Schmider to write up Lessons Learned and Best Practices from dealing with EBOLA and put this on the DP web site.

Credentialing update:

Kathy Robinson will be giving Joe's report on Credentialing on Thursday and Friday of the NASEMSO conference.

DHS-Boarder Issue Update:

Ray Mollers gave a status report and discussed how this is an on going issue. They are using medics to help screen some of the people who are coming over illegally. Ray will continue to keep are group updated on any forthcoming information

DP Preparedness Improvement Strategy:

Dick reviewed the draft document including how gaps were identified. He walked thru how the document was set up to include review of the top priority gaps that were identified and solutions to those gaps. The draft document is on the DP web site and once there is final approval by DHS, the document will be widely circulated. Ray reported that approval by DHS is forthcoming and that NASEMSO should hear soon.

Action Item:

The final Preparedness Strategy document will be posted and widely circulated. A rollout of the plan will be developed by NASEMSO with input from DHS and our response partners.

Model Intereststee Compact for EMS:

Dia gave an update on the compact. The compact was initiated to resolve an issue of EMS personal crossing state lines prior to a state disaster declaration and needing credentials/licenses for the receiving state. This compact resolves so many issues for EMS personnel and is an exciting initiative. All EMS State offices and EMS State medical directors have received this compact and the next step is to introduce legislation by states. Once 10 states have passed laws on this compact, it will be implemented. Steve Murphy from AMR stated that if any states needed assistance in introducing legislation, that AMR would be able to get legislation introduced for them. Jack Fleearty did identify that this compact disallows 13 states from participating.

Action Item:

Dia will continue to keep the group updated on states that successfully introduce legislation on implementing this compact.

National Ambulance Contract:

Steve Murphy reported that there have been no deployments this year. He stated that as part of the contract, AMR will provide paramedics to staff shelters including those shelters set up for people who need some medical attention.

Action Item:

Steve Murphy will continue to update the group

EMAC Model Budget:

John Donahue said that they have nothing new to report at this time. John did discuss what the eastern states have been doing to assist each other for impending hurricanes, storms, etc. They are working on many guidelines that will assist the eastern states in planning for such events. These initiatives include: identification of each states resources, mission ready packages and communications.

Action Item:

John will work on the EMAC budget. John will also keep the DP committee informed of the eastern states progress on these initiatives and share them as best practices.

New Business:

Strategic Plan 2015: Some ideas is to look at repeating the funding survey to include where states are with the MUCC system, the interstate compact and states

EMS Office relationship with FEMA's regional reps. In addition, the DP committee should look to see what providers are doing with triage and if they actually are using triage tags. This issue may be something that can be addressed when the MUCC system is rolled out.

There was also discussion of the time of the DP committee at the annual meeting. What time is best to get more members involved.

Action Item:

Leslee and Joe to identify additional goals and send out to DP committee.

Joe and Leslee to bring to Exec committee for approval the DP funding survey.

DP Committee Conference call:

The conference calls will begin in Jan and occur either on Tuesday or Weds every other month at 1300 hours CST

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Committee meeting concluded at 11 a.m.

Meeting record respectfully submitted by Program Advisor Leslee Stein-Spencer, R.N., M.S.

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