



## Government Information Committee

May 19, 2015

### Meeting Record

#### **Attending:**

Jim DeTienne (MT)

Dale Adkerson (OK)

Joe Ferrell (IA)

Dia Gainor (NASEMSO)

Mary Hedges (NASEMSO)

Helen Huitt (AR)

Ritu Sahni (NAEMSP)

Rob Seesholtz (TN)

Peter Taillac (UT)

Keith Wages (GA)

**Welcome and Roll Call** – Jim DeTienne called the meeting to order at 3:06 PM EDT.

**Review and Approval of March 17th Meeting Record** – The March 17 minutes were adopted without changes.

**REPLICA Update** – Jim reported that the EMS compact bill passed in Colorado. Ritu Sahni said it received a courtesy hearing in Oregon and will be considered next year. He said some are concerned about the creation of a commission. Dia Gainor explained that the commission is required because there must be an administrative unit to govern the compact of states. The fiscal impact will be the cost of attending one meeting per year. IAFF is opposed to the legislation although they had a representative on the work group that created the model EMS compact legislation.

**DEA Issues / Collaboration with NAEMSP & ACEP** – Ritu Sahni reported that they have not seen any rule language from the DEA yet. He and others made visits on the Hill last month regarding the need to include EMS in the Controlled Substances Act. The bill they had hoped to attach language to is not moving so they will have to develop their own bill to create an EMS carve out in the Controlled Substances Act, just as other professions have done.

**NASEMSO Organization Liaison List Re-visit** – Jim DeTienne said he will circulate the liaison list for updated information and bring back a revised copy for the Committee. Dr. Taillac suggested that liaisons could be asked to report to the committee.

**NRHA Advocacy Document Re-visit** - Jim DeTienne asked if it would be helpful for him to draft a similar document for the committee. He will borrow language and ideas from the NHRA document and bring it back to the committee for review. Rob Seesholtz said he thought parts of the document could be valuable to the committee. Ritu said NAEMSP does not have a similar document but brings matters to the Board when asked to take a position on a matter, such as REPLICA. They have only been

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doing advocacy for a few months (other than their former role in Advocates for EMS). Joe Ferrell commented that he thinks NASEMSO will be called on more frequently to take a position on such matters and it would be helpful to have a policy in place.

**Periodic Government Liaison updates?** - Jim asked if it would be useful to have periodic updates from governmental relations staffers from other organizations. Rob Seesholtz suggested that an updated liaison list may be a source. Ritu said NAEMSP has a lobbyist and may consider some kind of partnership. Ritu said NASEMSO is good about sharing information. Dia suggested the possibility of rotating partners from the Joint National EMS Leadership Forum (JNEMSLF).

**State Legislative Roundtable** – Jim asked if anyone had legislative stories to share. Dr. Taillac said Utah is running into hospitals wanting to be level 1 or 2 trauma centers, similar to the problem Florida was having, and they are drafting guidelines. Rob Seesholtz said Tennessee is going through the same problem currently. They are developing guidance for trauma centers and are receiving some resistance from hospitals. ACS issued a position statement in January indicating that states need to take a needs-based approach to trauma system development. Ritu said the congenital adrenal hyperplasia advocates had a bill in Oregon and Washington that created controversy. There was a strange bill that came from a company that manufactures a machine for restaurants that dispense subcutaneous epinephrine. Joe Ferrell said that Iowa just blocked a bill involving telemedicine for Plan B. In Montana, an out of state air medical service tried to change the two year license requirement for an air medical agency to have a subscription plan. The legislature ended up passing a bill to study charges for air medical transports. Joe Ferrell commented they have been hearing concerns about the rising cost of epi-pens.

**Adjournment** – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:55 PM EDT.

**Next Meeting: July 21**

*Meeting record was respectfully prepared by Program Manager Mary Hedges*

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