



## HITS Committee Meeting

April 13, 2016

2:00 PM EDT

### Meeting Record

**Attending** – Donnie Woodyard, Chair, (LA), Dia Gainor (NASEMSO) Mary Hedges (NASEMSO), David Harden (AZ), Gary Brown (VA), Scott Winston (VA), Michael Berg (VA), Mark Miller (AK), Julie Rabeau (AK), Sue Morris (OH), Steve Tafoya (NV), Stephen Wilson (AL), Susan McHenry (NHTSA), Special Guests: Mark Kehrli (FHWA), Kelly Hardy (AASHTO)

**Welcome and Roll Call** –Donnie Woodyard, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM EDT, and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Review & Approval of February 10 Meeting Record** – Donnie asked everyone to review the meeting record and submit any changes they might have to him.

**Special Guest: Mark Kehrli, Director of Transportation Operations, FHWA, TIM Program** – The Traffic Incident Management (TIM) program is designed to train those responding to the scene of traffic incidents on clearing the scene safely and quickly to prevent secondary crashes as well as injuries or fatalities to those on the scene. Since launching the TIM program four years ago, their goal has been to train 1,000,000 people nationwide. Mark acknowledged that Donnie Woodyard has been very helpful as a member of the TIM Executive Leadership Group in bringing EMS issues to TIM leadership. Dia Gainor stressed the importance of involving state EMS offices and thanked Mark Kehrli and the Federal Highway Administration for their efforts to promote the involvement of EMS in the TIM training.

**Toward Zero Deaths National Strategy: Next Steps**– Kelly Hardy, American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials (AASHTO), explained that AASHTO is working on the Toward Zero Deaths National Strategy. EMS is one of the eight key strategies in the document. They are looking for champions to help promote the vision. Presently, they are working on broadening the steering committee to build a larger stakeholder committee. She demonstrated how stakeholders can post and share resources on the TZD National Strategy website. David Harden suggested including a link to NIOSH (which investigates traffic incident fatalities) to the TZD website. He offered to follow up with Kelly.

**National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) [Examples of TRB NCHRP Reports](#)** – Mary Hedges shared the availability of existing EMS-related TRB reports which are posted on the HITS webpage. She explained that every year the NCHRP selects among a group of research ideas that have been submitted and funds a limited number of research proposals. She urged committee members to identify EMS-related research topics.

### **Project and Committee Updates**

- **TIM Executive Leadership Group** – Donnie Woodyard deferred this report in light of Mark Kehrli's earlier presentation.

- Safe Transport of Children (STC) Committee - Sue Morris, the HITS representative on the STC committee, said she participated in the most recent meeting of the STC Committee by webinar but was not able to attend in person. She appreciated the presentations from Dr. Marilyn Bull and others. Mary Hedges added that the Safe Transport of Children Committee held its first in-person meeting in Bethesda last week at the NASEMSO Spring Meeting. Three presenters shared their perspective on what has been done to promote the safe transport of children in ambulances, as well as but what still needs to be done to ensure there are safe mechanisms for securing children in ambulances.

### **Collaboration between State Highway Safety Officials and State EMS Officials**

Ohio's Experience – Sue Morris shared the following activities that her state office.

- Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (TRCC) involvement - They helped redesign the Ohio Traffic Crash Report (OH-1). While it mirrored MMUCC, the Division of EMS took extreme interest in the field where the agency that transported the patient is documented. In previous versions of the OH-1, that field was an open text field that frequently answered with "Medic 1" or "Rescue 154". They requested that the field document the name of the agency and offered their EMS code list to enable linking the crash report to the corresponding record within the EMS Incident Reporting System (EMSIRS).
- Linking EMS data with crash data –The EMS office obtained NHTSA funding to purchase a customizable-off-the-shelf database. This database will create linkage across the patient care continuum from prehospital to acute care to rehabilitative care. Ohio has over 13 million records in the three databases and has increased staff in order to analyze the data. With the potential of linking, Ohio may be able to look at outcome data. Combine that with the potential of linking the OH-1, they would then be able to correlate crash data with severity scores giving a better idea of severity of injury in motor vehicle crashes. Additionally, they looked at ambulance crashes as reported on the Ohio Traffic Crash Report (OH-1). This enabled them to look at traffic conditions, road conditions, driver fault, driver distraction and multiple other fields. This opened dialog into emergency vehicle operator courses that are available.
- Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) - EMS in Ohio is represented on the Strategic Highway Safety Plan as a member of the Steering Committee and the Executive Committee.
- Traffic Records Assessment – Ohio underwent the Traffic Records Assessment between November 2014 and February 2015. The 123 questions in the EMS/Injury Surveillance section were interesting. While Ohio scored well in Description and Contents, Applicable Guidelines, Data Dictionaries and Procedure/Process Flow, the scores in Interfaces and Data Quality Control Programs showed a need for improvement.
- Traffic Incident Management (TIM) training – When the Ohio EMS division announced the TIM training through its listserv, the response was so great that registration had to be automated.

**National Summit on Transportation in Rural America, September 7-9, Denver** – Donnie reminded meeting attendees that information is available for the National Summit on Transportation in Rural America at [Rural Safety Center](#).

**Adjourn** -- Donnie shared that he was leaving his current position as the State EMS director in Louisiana at the end of the month. He added that he looks forward to working with members in another capacity, which he will announce soon. The meeting adjourned at 3:09 PM EDT. The next meeting will be **June 8**.

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