



HITS Committee Meeting

December 11, 2013

3:00 PM EST

Meeting Record

Attending:

Keith Wages, Chair
Kat Altenhofen (IA)
Jay Bradshaw (ME)
Robert Cooney (PA)

Carol Cunningham (OH)
Mary Hedges (NASEMSO)
Patrick Irwin (NV)
Susan McHenry (NHTSA)

Sue Morris (OH)
Julie Rabeau (AK)
Paul Sharpe (VA)

Welcome and Roll Call – Keith Wages, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM, and welcomed all.

2014 HITS Strategic Plan – Keith referred to the 2014 Strategic Plan, which was distributed with the meeting agenda. He emphasized the four key goals of the Committee, noting they were tied to the Cooperative Agreement NASEMSO has with NHTSA. He presented the HITS Strategic Plan to the Board at its Strategic Planning meeting yesterday. The four key goals are:

- 1) Promote collaboration between state EMS officials and state highway safety officials through a variety of activities, including education, exposure to opportunities for partnership and continued emphasis on the importance of building alliances.
- 2) Develop and promote collaborative relationships with national highway safety-related organizations and federal partners.
- 3) Continue the development and rollout of the EMS Incident Response Readiness Assessment (EIRRA) and Model Inventory of Emergency Care Elements (MIECE).
- 4) Assess and promote effective state EMS office involvement with state Traffic Records Coordination Committees and support data linkage efforts between both entities.

Traffic Records Coordination Committee (TRCC) and Data Linkage Survey Results – Paul Sharpe, Chair, Data Managers Council, reported on the summary results of the TRCC and Data Linkage Survey that the Data Managers recently completed. He noted that he has seen great progress in the cooperative relationships of the data managers and TRCCs in the various states. Forty seven states reported having a TRCC and 45 of the 47 reported having a seat on their state's TRCC. In most cases, the EMS data manager is the state EMS office's member of the TRCC. Paul explained the data linkage question, which asked if states' data records are linked to crash records. Six states responded that they electronically link their crash records database to the EMS database. More states manually link the data records, and several more states plan to electronically link within the next year. Major barriers to data linkage included limitations on staff time, funding limitations, software limitations, and lack of knowledge/technical ability. Susan McHenry pointed out that NHTSA OEMS was able to get language inserted into the former 408 funding regulations and it is also included in the new 405 requirements, although the language is not as strong. However, the relationships have been developed and there

should not be problems with NEMSIS continued emphasis and value to members of the TRCCs. She added that “serious injury” is a priority for USDOT and should promote an even greater emphasis on EMS data.

Federal Partner Update – Susan McHenry, NHTSA Office of EMS, reported that NEMSAC and FICEMS met last week. They made good progress with the strategic plan. A *Health Affairs* briefing on *The Future of Emergency Medicine: Challenges and Opportunities* was held last week, and many of the NEMSAC members were able to attend. Susan said she will forward the links. Carol Cunningham said she has a copy she will forward. To view the table of contents, [click here](#).

Project and Committee Updates

- A. Model Rules for Ambulance Vehicle Design Project (Keith Wages, Dennis Blair) – Keith asked Jay Bradshaw if he would report on the progress of NFPA 1917, Ambulance Standards, as it is closely related to the work of the AVL Project. Jay, who is member of the NFPA 1917 Technical Committee, explained that in response to comments from the EMS community, the NFPA re-opened the standards revision process. Jay said that the way in which these standards are being developed has created cause for concern among NASEMSO members, particularly the lack of attention to scientific evidence to support the standards.
- B. NCHRP 20-24(37)K, Measuring Performance Among State DOTs: Sharing Good Practices -- Serious Crash Injury (Dia) COMPLETED. [See Report Here](#)
- C. NCHRP 20-05, Models for Effective Emergency Medical Services Response to Motor Vehicle Crashes in Rural Areas (Dean Cole, Jim DeTienne, Dia Gainor) COMPLETED [See Report Here](#)
- D. NCHRP 17-57, Development of an Improved Metric for Serious Traffic Crash Injuries (Dia)
- E. NCHRP 20-07, Developing a Framework for Emergency Responder/Roadside Worker Struck-by/Near-miss Database (Mary Hedges) COMPLETED [See Report Here](#)

Keith noted that Dia was unable to join today’s call, as she is currently in the Model Interstate Compact for EMS Licensure Meeting. Mary said that three of the NCHRP projects have been completed and she urged everyone to review the reports from the links provided above. Brief descriptions of the projects with links to the full reports are posted on the HITS webpage.

Federal/State Partner Interaction (Examples of State EMS partnering with Hwy/Transp) – Keith invited members to share their experiences with partnering with their respective state highway safety offices. There were no comments offered.

2014 HITS Committee Meeting Schedule – Keith reminded everyone that the 2014 meeting schedule will generally follow the regular HITS Committee designated time on the 2nd Wednesday of even-numbered months. HITS meetings will be February 12, April 9, June 11, August 13, October 7 (at Annual Meeting), and December 10.

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 PM.

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