



The NASEMSO Health and Medical Preparedness Council

Meeting Record

2:00 p.m.-3 p.m. CST

July 22, 2020

Attending: Joe Schmider, Chair, Jay Taylor, Secretary Linda Angarola, Mark Lockhart, Randy Linthicum, Dr. Carol Cunningham, Rob Wagoner, Tim Chizmar, Carol Jorgensen, Robert Ehrlich, from NASEMSO, Leslee Stein-Spencer, Dia Gainor Kevin McGinnis and Kathy Robinson

Call to order/Roll Call:

Joe Schmider; Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 CST.

NASEMSO Assessment:

Kevin McGinnis gave an overview of the results of the 2020 National Assessment that was sent to state EMS Offices in 2018-2019. He highlighted the Domestic Preparedness responses (attached is Kevin's presentation)

NASEMSO Headquarter Update:

Dia Gainor highlighted NASEMSO's projects. They include the following: Cooperative Agreement Projects underway on behalf of US DOT include the development of an evidence-based guideline for pain management. This will be an 18-month project utilizing a technical expert panel following a rigorous process, replicating the successful naloxone EBG project we previously completed. Similar to naloxone, the EBG will be published in a peer-reviewed journal.

The other NHTSA cooperative agreement focuses on the EMS workforce and the methods that states can use to evaluate the number of EMS personnel, which is straightforward, but also more elusive but important measurements such as turnover and attrition, reasons for choosing not to renew licenses, and other workforce related considerations. This project will last for three years.

Two additional projects include new partners using subcontracts to engage with NASEMSO will be

- ASTHO on post opioid overdose innovations in EMS systems;
NASEMSO will be assisting ASTHO by identifying CP-MIH programs

that are working on practices such as transport to alternate destinations.

- NACCHO to find EMS agencies doing senior falls prevention and post-falls interventions or home visits.

Educating ASTHO and NACCHO members about EMS is an important by product of this work.

Finally, work on fatigue in EMS continues. Voluntary enrollment of EMS personnel in the experimental study is well underway, and the creation of a biomathematical model that will yield an mobile application for EMS personnel. This web-based application will help EMS workers to assess their risk for fatigue is under development and should be publicly available in early 2022.

COVID 19 Update:

Joe led the discussion on COVID 19. He informed the group that we have not been conducting HPMC calls due to COVID 19 and wanting to be respectful of everyone's time and how busy everyone is. Joe informed the group of the working committee that Dia, Leslee and himself serve on that is hosted by NHTSA. Many documents have been produced by this working group and are posted both on NASEMSO and NHTSA's (EMS.gov) web site. The working group is also in the process of hosting a Webinar on Mental Health Issues effecting First Responders. The webinar will be conducted in August and we will inform the council of the date. Dr. Cunningham asked if there has been discussion on opening of schools and if the Peds council has had any discussions? Dr. Cunningham was asking if guidance has come out on how to keep everyone safe in light of COVID 19 in a school environment.

NASEMSO should consider developing a paper on recognition and awareness.

Lessons Learned/AAR: Joe asked the group to look at documenting and forwarding to Leslee lessons learned and best practices in the response to COVID 19 as we look at developing an AAR. Some of the lessons learned include:

- Lack of understanding of what EMS is at many state and federal levels?
- EMS is not prepared on reparatory protection-Consider developing a program on Respiratory Protection.

Discussion on Annual Meeting Webinar:

Kathy Robinson gave an update on the annual meeting which will be a webinar. The meeting will be the week of October 12th with the evening of the 12th being a social event and then Tues-Thursday will conduct two 1-hour sessions a day.

It was decided that the HMPC will conduct a meeting during that week.

Elections:

Joe announced to the group that nominations for election of Officers for Chair, Chair Elect and Secretary need to occur. Joe is willing to be Chair for one more year and Jay is willing to stay as secretary. Need to elect a Chair elect and need volunteers to act as regional representatives. Anyone interested should submit their name to Joe and Leslee. Elections will then be done via email.

Next Medical and Health Preparedness call:

Week of October 12th during annual meeting.