

1297 16th Road
Clay Center, KS 67432

Region 4 EMS Council, Inc.

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Region 4 EMS Council Meeting Agenda August 17, 2010 1000

Clay County Emergency Services Academy
703 2nd Street in Clay Center

Those attending include:

Pam Kemp, Clay County EMS / Region 4
Brandon Cochran, Bennington EMS
Dave Beam, Dickinson County EMS
John Hultgren, Dickinson County EMS
Shelly Maze, Ellsworth County EMS

Wendy Gronau, Lincoln County EMS
Ed Debesis, Mitchell County EMS
Patrick Eastes, Smith County EMS
James Buller, Concordia Fire/EMS
Juanita Arnold, Osborne County EMS

The meeting was **called to order** at 1000 by Dave Beam, Regional President.

STATE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM: This topic was moved to the beginning of the agenda to accommodate speakers present. Scott Eckberg and JL Ellis from the Adjutant General's Department Office of Emergency Communications were present to talk about the digital trunk radio system (800 mhz). One of the RHS projects is to provide the 800 radio for all licensed ambulance services in the region. A very detailed presentation about the system and the specific radios of the NC RHS project was presented. All are urged to work toward good participation at the local level when the training comes to local counties—there will be no way for local trainers to do this detailed of a presentation for their responders, the responders need to attend the training the state will put on in each county! Begin now to prepare your responders for this training. The Communications team will be coming to local counties to do training. The training will be set up through the local emergency manager in each county and will be delivered on the day and time that works best for the local groups. Our regional training will probably start in late September. Discussion was held about setting up local medical talk groups to facilitate using the system for daily use for medical communication. Talk to Vicki Shandy at KDOT about doing that. There is no cost to add local talk groups. Some of the discussion included the need for responders to use the 800 system on a regular – if not daily basis- to maintain their ability to use it correctly during larger incidents. This is a huge project! It will take much communication between local and regional agencies and partners to make it work well. Google KSSIEC to get the info from their website on the specific radio you want detail instruction for. We will try to either link it to the Region 4 website or get a copy of the PowerPoint presentation used today to put on the website. (I tried to google it and could not find it. Searching the Adjutant General's page I found http://kansastag.ks.gov/siec_default.asp the cheat sheet for the radio that is being distributed to regional EMS partners is http://kansastag.ks.gov/AdvHTML_doc_upload/XTL2500%20Series%20Cheat.pdf All of the cheat sheets and documents are on the first link I pasted above)

The group took a break for lunch at 1150 and resumed the meeting at 1205.

Approval of Minutes of April meeting – Gronau/Debesis MSA approve

Treasurer Report – The report was distributed showing a checking account balance of \$52,109.97 and a Grant funds savings account balance of \$37,769.16. The checking account balance reflects the balance of all other grants and payroll for FY2010 has not yet been withdrawn. KRAF grant balance is \$1892.54. Resource typing grant balance is \$14,524.85. MSA to approve the report Maze/Debesis.

Committee Reports

- **Data Collection** – Dave Beam reported -- user group meeting was held as scheduled in July. 5 were in attendance in person and several others attended by conference call. Members that attended think it was a good foundation, but the initial meeting was not as productive as had been hoped. There are new reporting features available. Report Writer 2 has been purchased and will be available. The **next meeting will be October 27 at 1000 at the Topeka Public Library and will be a webinar**, but for the October meeting it is recommended to attend in person because Image Trend personnel will be there. Some discussion of the benefit of service defined questions. They are unlimited and some discussion was held about those service defined questions that some are using. There may be other features coming with the updated version that will be coming out soon.
- **Educator Workgroup** –Wendy Gronau; VanBlaricon; Zadina – VanBlaricon and Zadina were absent from the meeting. Dave asked Wendy if she would be willing to serve permanently on that committee. She is willing, but they have been meeting by “go-to-meeting” calls and those cost long distance fees and last all day! If we reimburse her for the long distance charges it will not go back into budget, but into general. She will talk to Chad Pore, Chair of the EDTF to determine if they only held the go to meetings because of the need to get regulations done and are going back to on site meetings. If so, she will gladly serve. Discussion included the suggestion that we ask the EDTF to use a free or lower cost meeting format if they continue to do the electronic meeting options. It is very important that we have active and consistent representation by a knowledgeable instructor on this committee as these changes are discussed and made. Our region has voiced concern with the EDTF direction of education being required to go through colleges. Most of our counties have instructors offering classes independently.
- **Regional Homeland Security Council** – Pam Kemp; John Hultgren – radio project is the most pertinent for EMS. Some discussion of the project was held as well as discussion of the whole process and how funding is established, what is allowed for purchase. Any item purchased must be part of one of the selected projects that coordinate with the state’s investment justifications. The item must also be on the authorized equipment list and must serve the entire region, not just one jurisdiction. The regional focus is on all hazard planning and response and any project should meet that need. All response disciplines and all counties have representation on the RHS. If you have questions or concerns about what projects are underway or proposed, talk to the disciplinary representative or your county’s representative. The EMS representatives to the RHS are John Hultgren and Pam Kemp.
- **ARC/KRAF grant** /– Dave Beam - Will meet August 24 to revamp application process for next year. Dave wants to increase size of the narrative to let services document their needs better. The other thing he has heard issues about is the Fisher Scientific process and local vendors as well as the extra process and steps involved that make it more complicated. The form needs work and Pam asked that Dave suggest that they develop a new form for regional councils that is simple and does not include all the non-applicable information requests currently on the form.
- **Regional Trauma Council** – Patrick Eastes – The RTC met by teleconference in July and the main discussion was education that they had approved. Several PHTLS class topics were discussed as well as EMD issues. The RTC thinks both should be required in spite of the disciplines’ response to how difficult and unmanageable that would be for local jurisdictions. The next meeting is September 10. The RTC asked Patrick to get together a list of individuals interested in becoming PHTLS instructors to do the classes in each region. Several PHTLS instructors present in the meeting stated they would not be interested in taking on this responsibility due to the logistical nightmare of doing the classes as well as the low funding for the courses – current fees won’t pay instructor expenses and fees as well as overtime and backfill for students and also eats up a lot of the individual’s personal time as it is an intense course to

teach. Discussion again was held regarding trauma education being integrated into the initial courses of education and CE instead of this stand alone course that is expensive and difficult to deliver. Pam indicated that there is an ACT meeting next month and she will again try to make that point. Also discussed was the level 3 trauma center verification. Salina will be a level 3 trauma center. The state ACT is now looking at developing the level 4 trauma center criteria.

- **BEMS Update** – Kemp; Gronau; Beam; Hultgren – regulations are a huge issue. PAY ATTENTION to this issue, these regulations will affect every part of local EMS operations. Discussion of making the service director “available” to the board staff 24 hours per day. Much frustration is growing because the input given by providers has been ignored. One example is the unique identifier number put on each ambulance. Two years or more ago it was agreed upon to use the system the Region 3 had come up with for vehicle marking, several regions, including Region 4 used that model to do the vehicle marking project. The draft regulation is different than that system so most services will have to re-do their markings if the regulation passes. That is just one example of regulations that make no sense. Board members were given multiple versions of draft regulations making it difficult for the discussion to be held at the level of detail needed for these important decisions. Those who attend BEMS meetings regularly strongly encourage service directors and educators to read the draft regulations and take part in the regional discussions of how these regulation changes will affect local operations.
- **MERGe Update** – John Hultgren – John reported that MERGe participated in Operation Smokey Hill at Salina. Triaged and transported 27 or so people utilizing several ambulance services. SC Region has purchased the patient tracking equipment for MERGe and the hospitals in their region. MERGe used the system to track patients during this exercise and discovered several issues where machines were not talking to each other and other bugs that need to be worked out. That is why exercises are held! In addition to actual patients there was a box of 300 simulated tags that were managed. MERGe also participated in the Symphony on the Flint Hills and provided medical support for the event. Reports are that it went well. MERGe did the HCC field ops course with assistance during the event and some ICS training with the students prior to it. They have had 3 alerts but no responses – Wichita tornado on the ground that fizzled and also in Ellis County and for the Russell Grain elevator collapse.
- **Curricula Review Committee** – Shelly Maze – no meetings and no communication. Board staff has sent some check off sheet info. New check off sheets for testing have been developed. This committee is trying to figure out scope of practice check sheets.

Office Update

- Grant status and approval of Education fund expenditures – funding was received
- By-laws signatures – done

Old Business:

- **Vehicle Numbering Project** – Kemp Bennington isn’t done yet. MSA Gronau/ Maze to allow payment of Bennington expense if it is done in the next 30 days (Sept. 17). This project will then be complete and will not be on future agendas unless issues develop or the goofy regulation above passes and all the work must be re-done. It is expected that local agencies will continue to follow this system with newly purchased vehicles as those vehicles enter their fleets.
- **Website Update** – Dave Beam – Dave distributed instructions for entering calendar items onto the website. Dave also passed around the “hit” reports. Hits have come in from Iraq, Russia and some other interesting places. A reminder that we still need service pictures and information for local agencies. All of that should go directly to Dave.
- **Round Table Discussion** – This topic was tabled due to the length of the meeting and other pressing business that had to be discussed.
- **Transition TTT Course Update** – info from Friesen Group was reviewed
 - **Region 4 TTT planning**
 - **Location** – Pam reported pricing on the Bicentennial Center and the Rolling Hills Zoo. There is a hold until August 31 on the Bi-Center. To hold the zoo took a deposit and

Region 4 EMS Council, Inc.

Pam did not make that commitment. After much discussion of the best options, Pam was directed to make arrangements with the Zoo if it is still available.

- **Supplies and copies needed etc.**- Board staff investigated the possibility of the state printing office printing them instead of a regular printer. There was confusion about what the state printing system would provide so a call was made to Steve Sutton for clarification. The state printing office will collate and drill the holes. We would need to provide binders and dividers if we wanted them. Copies will be about \$70 per each set. After much discussion of the most affordable options it was decided to go with the state printing office doing the printing, collating and drilling with the Region researching pricing on binders and divider sets. The bundled packets will be given to students at registration to assemble. It was decided to set the registration price at \$150 for day one and \$200 for both days. Only certified EMS educators will be allowed to attend and participants in day 2 must attend day 1. Not all educators need to attend this training. Only the course coordinators for the transition project for local ambulance services should attend. It was decided that our regional education grant will pay for up to 2 educators per service Debesis / Gronau MSA. Pam will develop the registration form and send it to the executive committee for approval as soon as possible so it can be distributed.
- **Stemi Summit Update** – no work done yet. The medical director that was trying to get the project going is not getting help or support from other medical directors or specialists so it has stalled out.
- **Testing** – Wendy reports that they ran into a problem with Cloud County setting up a test site with Region 2 to happen in Junction City which is not in Region 4. Terry and Wendy will be at the site to be trained as site coordinators. There was much concern that Region 2 is counting this as one of the region 4 test sites. It is reported that the Region 2 representative has stated that she will count this site as one of the Region 4 sites because Cloud County is in Region 4. Protest will be made if this is counted as one of our test sites per the Region 2 contract. Barton County has agreed to allow us to utilize the equipment from their JC satellite site and a portion of the test fees will go toward equipment usage for our sites. Wendy has asked the Region 2 representative numerous times if there is a minimum number of students that have to be present for the site to occur and has not gotten an answer. The original RFP did not have a minimum number, but the point was made that the contract has been violated with other issues too and fees were raised.

New Business:

- **Update on meeting with regional presidents on Educator Document** – Dave reported that the meeting with the regional presidents and one other person from each region was held. They met in Topeka before BEMS meetings. Dave stated it was a productive meeting and they will take the educator document and will present it to regions again to review and make comment. **They have added line numbers and request that feedback reference the line and detail your concern and suggestion for solution.** Those comments will all go to Dave who will organize them and send them back to the regional group and will present it back to the BEMS by the December meeting. All regions were present except Region 2 due to resignation of their chair. They will be doing elections this week and will then be brought up to speed so that all regions are included. **Dave will send the document to Pam to send out. Please get reply back to Dave within a couple of weeks after you receive it. It will also be on the website.**
- **RHS EMS Radio project** – moved to first of the agenda
- **KEMSIS User Group Meeting** – report was given under committee assignments.
- **EMS-C** – will host an ITV lecture in October and wants to know if there is an interest in being a broadcast site somewhere in the region. Smith County has ITV capability at their hospital. Other discussion was held about this and whether or not our region wanted to host a site. Sarah House indicates that she can

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have up to 5 sites. Discussion indicated no real interest to do this, but there may be interest in having access to the archived materials after the event.

- **Service Director Workshop** – John Hultgren indicated that the Administrator’s Society has expressed interest in doing another Service Director / Service Leadership Workshop. John asks if there is a need or interest to do this within the region. There were several agencies interested. John is now the chair of the Administrator’s Society and would like to do the workshop again this year. It will likely occur in the first of the year. Be thinking of people to send to the event. It is not limited to Service Directors, but to anyone within the service who aspires to leadership within the EMS service. Discussion was held about how to change the name to make it clear that it is for all service leadership and supervisors, not just for directors. Another topic of interest may be a field training officer “EMS Mentor” type of project. Much discussion was held about how to start a field training type of mentorship that services could use. More will be coming on that topic.
- Wendy presented an invitation to an Educational evening with Lincoln County Emergency Services on ResQGard and ResQPod with Kent Anselmi and Tim Zeller who are the vendors that are selling that information. That will be held on September 7, 2010 at Lincoln County EMS at 1800 hrs. Call Wendy for more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 3: 55 PM MSA Debasis/ Maze.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Kemp, Region 4 Coordinator

Please be sure to notify the Region 4 office of your correct e-mail address! Help us “GO GREEN!” eliminate paper by accepting meeting notices etc via e-mail!

Remaining 2010 meeting dates:

October 12	Osborne
December 14	Smith Center