

Connecticut Emergency Medical Services Primary Service Area Task Force
Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 23, 2013 at 2:30PM
Connecticut Department of Public Health
OCHA Hearing Room, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford

Task Force Committee Members Present:

Charles Babson, Raphael Barishansky, Bruce Baxter, Joseph Danao, Paul Fitzgerald, Mary-Ellen Harper, David Lowell, Charlee Tufts, Seth Roberts, Thomas Ronalter, Gary Wiemokly

Guests in Attendance:

Greg Allard, James Brown, William Campion, James Cournoyer, Michael Demicco, David Desjardins, Jill Kentfield, Elizabeth Keyes, Gary O'Connor, Jason Perillo, Ken Przybysz, Judith Reynolds, Ted Schroll, Brian Sullivan

1.0 Call to Order

Co-Chair Barishansky called the meeting to order at 2:34PM.

A. Introduction/Roll Call of Members

The Task Force members introduced themselves and their affiliations.

B. Introduction of Audience

The members of the audience introduced themselves and their affiliations.

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

A Motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2013 meeting, (Baxter/Danao). Motion passed with Babson and Wiemokly abstaining.

D. Public Comment

Gary O'Connor commented on AMR's previous report, stating the General Assembly did a great job creating a model PSA system, providing accountability for both the services and municipalities, allowing for PSA's, EMS Plans and dispute resolution with DPH as the arbitrator. The problem that has been identified is the statutes were not well known and regulations were not enforced. AMR's report contained a number of recommendations including, outreach and education, development of a solid local EMS plans, sufficient personnel to handle disputes and assistance with EMS plan development and enforcement. He asked for an open discussion allowing the public opportunity to participate, Co-Chair Barishansky stated those opportunities are available.

Co-Chair Barishansky read into the record an email received from Christopher Tracey, dated December 09, 2013, subject; Support of Proposed PSA Task Force Recommendations. There were no comments or discussion.

2.0 Old Business

None.

3.0 New Business

A. DRAFT Task Force Final Report/Metro Dade reference document – (presented by Co-Chair Harper and Co-Chair Barishansky)

Co-Chair Harper reviewed the documents distributed, commenting on merging them and using it as a framework for the final report. There was discussion on the time line for the final draft. Gary O'Connor commented on the language in the drafts as being subjective and the need for the task force report to be more neutral. David Lowell stated he feels the structure flows but some of the language could be perceived as inflammatory. He noted he voted against the original document and still sees areas of concern that need to be addressed.

David Lowell distributed two documents for review, Amendments to Draft Report – December 23rd and A Statewide Renewed Emphasis on Local EMS Plans (undated). There was a brief discussion.

There was discussion on possible workshops to work on the Task Force final report, with the following dates agreed on pending room availability: January 2nd – 1:30PM, January 7th - 1:30PM. The January 13th meeting has been moved to January 22nd – 2:30PM.

A draft with changes discussed today will be distributed prior to the first workshop.

- B. Recommendation regarding reclassification of ambulance services – (presented by Baxter)
Bruce Baxter withdrew this agenda item.

- C. Recommendation regarding budgeting funds to underwrite costs of a consultant to study EMS system costs and developing model plans with associated cost detail for the regionalization of community based EMS services – (presented by Baxter)
Bruce Baxter withdrew this agenda item.

4.0 Adjournment

A Motion to adjourn was made at 3:18PM (Lowell/Tufts) approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Judi Reynolds
DPH/OEMS
Region 2 Coordinator