

**The Connecticut EMS Advisory Board  
Emergency Preparedness Committee  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 7, 2016  
New Britain EMS**

**Present:** William Ackley – Committee Chair, Judi Reynolds – DPH/OEMS, Michele Connelly – DPH/OEMS, Chris Stone – CSEMSI’s, Mark Franzese – Campion, Alex Morisano – NBEMS, Carmine Centrella – CREST, Greg Priest – UCONN, Gary Allyn – West Hartford FD,

**Call In:** Jonathan Best- DPH/OPHPR, Brian Baldwin – NC CMED, Bill Rochette – CSP, Shea Gregg MD – Bridgeport Hospital, Richard Kamin MD – DPH/OEMS, Joe Laucella – Trumbull EMS Sean Caffyn - UCONN (call in guest with Dr. Kamin)

**Go To Meeting:** Damian Rickard – American Ambulance, Art Groux – Suffield EMS,

**1.0 Call to order**

Chair Bill Ackley called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM at New Britain EMS Headquarters. Introductions were done and persons calling in were acknowledged. Bill Ackley suspended the agenda to allow Jon Best to give his report, Jon is unable to attend in person or remain on the call due to the statewide mass dispensing exercise preparation.

• **EMS Preparedness Update – Jonathan Best**

Jonathan Best spoke about the following:

- The Statewide Full Scale Mass Dispensing Exercise will begin on Monday April 11<sup>th</sup> and run through April 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who would like to participate or observe please contact him.
- The Public Health Emergency Plan and Hospital Preparedness Plan Grant was submitted on April 5<sup>th</sup>, there was 90% concurrence from the local health departments in the state. A 6% cut is anticipated.
- A meeting of the Legislative Public Health Advisory Committee will be held this afternoon.
- Governor Malloy has withdrawn the state of emergency for Ebola as of yesterday.
- A pilot training program for infection control was conducted, there were four people who had registered and did not attend. Those that did attend will now be the working group for finalizing the document. He is planning on rolling out the program at the CT EMS EXPO including an Ebola playbook that outlines local health provider issues, he is also planning to meet with the EMS-I’s
- Jon spoke about the Mass Fatality Regional Exercise that will be taking place October 24<sup>th</sup> through October 28<sup>th</sup>. Focus areas will be; scene management and evidence collection, morgue operations and family assistance. The physical exercise will be held at Camp Hartell and classroom session will be at the National Guard Readiness Center. He feels this is a unique opportunity for EMS providers to observe the type of support needed for these types of events.

**2.0 Approval of March 10, 2016 minutes**

The minutes of the March 10, 2016 meeting were distributed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mark Franzese, seconded by Carmine Centrella and approved unanimously.

**3.0 OEMS**

• **Update from the Medical Director/Dr. Kamin**

Dr. Kamin introduced Sean Caffyn who is on the call with him.

He reported that CEMSMAC will be meeting next week and working on completion of the state protocols.

Rich wanted to take the opportunity to note that Bill Ackley did a fantastic job presenting at the CT Trauma Conference, framing current initiatives in Connecticut. Bill stated that it was an honor for him to present with Dr. Jacobs and Dr. Kamin, and he feels they presented an excellent overview of the direction Connecticut is moving in. Dr. Gregg commented feedback on the presentation was very positive. The differences in Connecticut's system from others were discussed.

Dr. Kamin spoke about the new UCONN emergency department, tour information will go out through John Spencer.

- **Update from the Coordinators**

Michele Connelly gave an update on the CT EMS EXPO detailing the precons and educational sessions that are being offered.

- **Other**

Bill Ackley spoke about the mass trauma packs developed in Region 1, an introduction and training session was conducted at Westport EMS with 70 people in attendance. The introduction included a review of hemorrhage control and an overview of the multiple events the packs could be utilized for.

A TECC program will be offered in Region 1, with a goal of developing a group of instructors to teach in the region. Dr. Gregg questioned if the hospitals would be included in the offering. Bill answered once a core group of instructors is developed the course availability can be expanded to include the hospitals, university public safety groups and others. Dr. Gregg noted the importance of TECC training for hospitals and feels there may be a call for the training due to increased awareness after the CT Trauma Conference.

Extended discussion followed on the benefits and possible issues with TECC training programs, credentialing of instructors, levels of training and possible inclusion of some components in EMS initial and refresher certification courses. It was noted any changes to state certification curriculum would have to be done by OEMS. Rich Kamin talked about the need for consistency in these programs and had concerns about the credentialing of instructors. Greg Priest spoke the length of the NREMT TECC course, which is 16 hours. He feels it is important to have consistency across the state. Alex commented on the need for different levels of training to fit individual service's needs. Greg Priest feels that if the group is going to set response guidelines we should also include information on how to attain the necessary training. Inclusion of the State Education and Training Committee was discussed. Dr. Kamin will speak to State Education and Training about the groups initiative and suggested the group develop a well prescribed content possibly with the program the group actually would like utilized and set priorities tailored to responders needs with consistent training expectations. Bill and Rich will work together to work on the details and bring it back to the group for review prior to taking it to the State Education and Training Committee.

- **EMS Preparedness Guidelines**

Bill had given up to this meeting date for commentary on the "EMS Response to Active Assailants Incidents" document. Comments were received from Chief Oates, East Hartford, Fire Chief, who has agreed to assist with editing. It was presented at CEMSAB last month, Bill Ackley and Rich Kamin addressed concerns expressed at that meeting and after discussion the consensus of the group was positive. The edited document will be reviewed by the group and then it will be sent back to CEMSAB. Once the document has been approved by CEMSAB the group will develop a unified message for presenting it to other agencies. Greg spoke about the importance of presenting the document in draft form to all interested agencies. Rich Kamin suggested the dissemination of the document be done in a well thought out coordinated process. Final consensus was to send it back to CEMSAB, move forward as they prescribe and develop a coordinated message for dissemination.

Bill Ackley expressed his pride in working with the group on this document and it's exceptional content.

#### 4.0 Events/Exercises

- **Disaster Response to Pediatrics** – <https://www.teex439ct2016.ticketleap.com/>  
New Britain EMSA – April 12-13, 2016  
Trumbull Agri-Science – April 14-15, 2016
- **FDNY MSOC – Medical Special Operations Command Conference**  
April 29 – May 1, 2016
- **May 4, 2016**  
The New York City Interagency Communications Committee – Communications & Command Vehicle Rally – Interop – Suffolk County - Fire Academy Connecticut resources will be involved
- **CT EMS EXPO**  
Mohegan – June 1<sup>st</sup> through June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- **NY/NJ/CT Interstate EMS Interstate Task Force Meeting** – Stamford – June 16, 2016 – 11:00 to 13:30
- **Vernon** – FSE – October 16, 2106 – Active Shooter (planning stages)

#### 5.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Judi Reynolds

OEMS Region 2 Coordinator