

**Provider Health and Safety Committee Meeting**  
**February 5, 2016**  
**Marriott 10077 Brook Road Glen Allen, VA 23059**  
*Draft Meeting Notes*

| <b>Members Present:</b> | <b>OEMS Staff:</b> | <b>Guests:</b>           | <b>Absent:</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Daniel Wildman, Chair   | Connie Green       | Dr. George Lindbeck, VDH | Steve Elliott  |
| Dennis Page             | Karen Owens        | Damien Coy, ODEMSA       | Brian Hricik   |
| Jack Sullivan           |                    |                          | Wayne Myers    |
| Bryan McRay             |                    |                          |                |
|                         |                    |                          |                |

| <b>Topic/Subject</b>               | <b>Discussion</b>   | <b>Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person</b>  |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Call to order:</b>              | N/A – Due to lack of quorum   |   |
| <b>Approval of Meeting Minutes</b> | Meeting minutes from the previous meeting were not approved, due to lack of quorum.   |   |
| <b>Introductions of Members:</b>   | All members of the committee introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.   |   |
| <b>Committee Chair Report</b>      | No report from Committee Chair.   |   |
| <b>Public Comments</b>             | Dr. George Lindbeck introduced himself.   |   |
| <b>Old Business</b>                | <p>The meeting was informational only due to lack of quorum.</p> <p><b>EMS Provider Fatigue</b><br/>           Dr. George Lindbeck spoke about the topic of EMS Fatigue. He gave an overview of the new NHTSA funded NASEMSO project on EMS Fatigue that he will be participating in. He discussed the inaugural meeting held February 2, 2016 in D.C. The purpose of the project is to come up with evidence based guidelines for fatigue management in EMS. The hope is to generate tools for agency leadership to use to help manage staff schedules, activities and policies. Dr. Lindbeck will serve on the panel to review evidence and make recommendations using the GRADE methodology. The process will be a multi-year effort.</p> <p>Connie reported out on the Symposium survey. There was a 7.5% return that, while statistically insignificant, indicates that a further look into the topic of EMS fatigue is warranted. The majority of respondents indicated that they had experienced fatigue on the job and approximately a third indicated that they had witnessed a negative impact from fatigue in the field.</p> <p>Dr. Lindbeck suggested that guidelines rather than mandates would be best. It was suggested that when an agency is licensed they should have a fatigue policy. The state will not dictate content; just that it has to exist. This sets the groundwork for additional education as the knowledge base increases. This is a big cultural change. The impact on volunteers vs. large metropolitan agencies was discussed. Length of shift, back to back shifts, labor law issues and call volume were also discussed. Karen noted that staff could create a website that has</p> | <p><b>Staff will continue to work with committee members to collect and organize information for presentation on the website.</b></p> |

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|               | <p>information and links to studies and signs and symptoms to look for individual providers. Dr. Lindbeck will also put in a class for Symposium on this topic. The Committee agreed that Educating and increasing awareness at provider level is a primary goal. The safety panel presentation for Symposium as an additional forum was discussed as well.</p> <p><b>Safety Bulletins</b><br/>The committee agreed that the safety bulletins should continue to be developed and disseminated as scheduled. Staff will send out the list and ask for volunteers for the open topics.</p> <p>Currently assigned topics list:<br/>February – Heart Health (Karen)<br/>March – CISM (Regional CISM Coordinators)<br/>April –<br/>May –</p> <p>Still Open Topics:<br/>Shift work<br/>Workplace violence<br/>Cardiology<br/>Provider Fatigue</p> <p><b>CISM/Mental Health</b><br/>Karen Owens gave and accreditation process update. Staff shared that there is a new application from Lord Fairfax that meets the requirements. Accredited teams include Rappahannock, Western and Lord Fairfax will be the third accredited team. The Committee agreed that staff should let them know of any new accreditations. A recertification checklist has been developed as well. Connie Green gave a brief overview of the CISM coordinators meeting at Symposium and Damien Coy noted that there is a need to educate the providers and agency leadership on current trends and information. Karen Owens gave a brief overview of the history of CISM at OEMS. The Committee agreed to focus on a global mental health approach, providing tools while the Regions have provider mental health programs and to keep that education process as a goal. Wayne Perry is Jim Chandler’s recommendation to be on the committee – staff will check on that. Suicide prevention, CISM, PTSD, and peer support all roll up into the topic of mental health. It was noted that there is voluntary reporting for providers in Virginia and that there is often recognition after the fact of a problem (ex. Suicide). Tools are needed to help providers identify when to seek help. He Committee agreed that this topic needs attention even if it’s not popular.</p> <p><b>EMS Safety Officer</b><br/>Jack provided an outline and he got no feedback and it requesting active participation to continue. His symposium class was well attended. Officer training will be a separate high level class with a small safety component. The committee would like to hold a working meeting that is open to the public, to develop the safety officer curriculum based on the infection control officer example. The concept is to develop policy that requires</p> | <p><b>Staff will work with committee members on their assigned topics and on collecting and data and feedback.</b></p> <p><b>Staff will follow up on Regional Councils representative who can speak to the mental health component as well.</b></p> <p><b>Staff will continue to work with Jack to set up the coordination of the working meetings.</b></p> |

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|---------------------------------|--|---|
|                                 | having a safety officer. The committee will work on what training the safety officer should have. Staff will work on the meeting invitation and a targeted audience list for the August meeting and a follow-up session will be held at Symposium. Karen mentioned the possibility of a zoom survey to providers if more input is needed.  |   |
| <b>New Business</b>             | <p>Karen Owens spoke about the upcoming Provider safety EMSAT. She will be working with Bryan McRay and Jack to put together a culture of safety EMSAT for this spring. The Committee was supportive of this recommendation.</p> <p>VDH is requiring that all individuals receiving any form of payment from the state, be it as a vendor of goods or services or as a meeting attendee requiring travel reimbursement, be registered in the state procurement system, eVa. Please fill out the appropriate paperwork before you leave today. Thank you.</p> |   |
| <b>Schedule Future Meetings</b> | The future meeting dates were set as:<br>May 6, 2016<br>August 5, 2016   |   |
| <b>Next Scheduled Meeting:</b>  | May 6, 2016  |   |
| <b>Adjournment:</b>             | N/A – Due to lack of quorum  |   |

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