



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

09 June 2015
1000 hours
EHSF Conference Room

ATTENDANCE

Present:	Robert Bernini John Brindle Eric Burkholder Anthony Deaven Mark Gyenes Steve Henry Andrew Melius Steve Poffenberger Bob Stakem Mike Tonkay Don Weigel	Chair Community Life Team Eastern Lebanon County High School First Aid & Safety Patrol York Technical Institute – Lancaster York Technical Institute – Lancaster Fayetteville Training Institute Holy Spirit EMS Harrisburg Area Community College Harrisburg Area Community College Blue Ridge Community & Technical College
Staff:	Megan A. Hollinger Ann Marie Christie Katelyn M. Galer	Director of System Operations Program Coordinator Program Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bernini called the meeting to order at 1000 hours.

OLD BUSINESS

Rosters for Psychomotor Exam

Ms. Christie reminded the training institutes the requirement to submit rosters of eligible candidates to test at least two weeks before the psychomotor exam. The number of candidates testing is vital to ensure adequate evaluation team staffing. Ms. Hollinger explained with the upcoming budget decrease, EHSF must ensure we are meeting the needs of the students and running the psychomotor exams as efficiently as possible.

PA Scope of Practice

Ms. Hollinger reported to date EHSF has not received a response from the Bureau of EMS (BEMS) from the letter sent by the Medical Advisory Committee about delaying the change involving ventilators in the PA EMS Scope of Practice until July 2016. However, it is expected the ALS protocols will permit use of ventilators.

PA EMS Protocols

Ms. Hollinger announced the BLS protocols were released and the training is available. The ALS protocols have recently been released. The effective date of the ALS protocols has been postponed to 01 September 2015. Mr. Bernini reported the critical care transport protocols are also available.

NEW BUSINESS

2016 Evaluation Schedule

Ms. Hollinger announced tentative dates and locations for psychomotor exams in 2016. Those present discussed testing needs and some adjustments. Ms. Hollinger will update the schedule and redistribute to committee members.

New EMS Registry

Ms. Hollinger reported the BEMS is working to update the EMS Registry and are seeking interested training institutes as field testers. Ms. Hollinger will provide additional information as received from the BEMS.

Provider Retention

Ms. Hollinger announced the last reregistration cycle displayed about 40% of certified providers did not meet certification requirements for reregistration. In addition to reregistration, approximately 600 EMS candidates attempted the psychomotor exam in 2014. However, approximately 250 of these candidates received state certification.

Child Abuse Reporting and Background Checks

Ms. Hollinger reported the requirement for criminal history and child abuse clearance background checks is not a requirement for EMS provider certification but becomes a requirement to actively practice with an EMS agency. When EMS candidates complete field time for patient contacts, they will need to provide these reports to the EMS agency where field time is completed. Ms. Hollinger questioned the standard practice of training institutes requiring

these reports for admission into the EMS program. While some training institutes do not require these background clearances, HACC provided they require the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), FBI, and child abuse clearances as part of their application process for the EMT level and higher. Blue Ridge Community and Technical College completes a national background check through a third party corporation on all EMS candidates.

Discussion pursued regarding whether Maryland residents taking a Pennsylvania EMS training program need the PSP report when they do not reside in Pennsylvania. Another question involved whether the child abuse clearance displays offenses in other states or only a history in Pennsylvania.

Ms. Hollinger provided some additional highlights pertaining to the new legislation:

1. EMS providers are mandatory reports.
2. EMS providers are not required to take the training at this time.
3. EMS providers will be required to obtain criminal history and child abuse clearances.
 - a. Volunteer providers living in Pennsylvania for more than ten years are required to have a Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) criminal history and child abuse clearance.
 - b. Volunteer providers living in Pennsylvania for less than ten years are required to have a PSP criminal history, child abuse, and FBI clearance.
 - c. Paid providers are required to have a PSP criminal history, child abuse, and FBI clearance regardless of their length of residency in the Commonwealth.

Criminal History Submissions

Ms. Hollinger stated the EHSF will be reevaluating how criminal history information is obtained for new EMS candidates. There has been an increase of candidates with positive criminal history who do not provide the appropriate paperwork on time. If the paperwork is not provided and processed with a letter from the BEMS providing certification eligibility, the EMS candidate is not permitted to attempt the psychomotor exam. The EHSF has also experienced candidates being told they are not eligible to test, but still attend the psychomotor exam resulting in being sent home upon arrival.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

EHSF Personnel Assignments

Ms. Hollinger announced Matthew Sterndale is no longer employed with the EHSF. Anything previously sent to Matt's attention can be sent to Megan until his position is filled.

NREMT Psychomotor Testing Options

Ms. Hollinger provided the EHSF evaluation team has 28 new members ready to participate in the psychomotor exams. In the future, there is consideration to hosting two exams on the same day to decrease the number of students and length of day at each site.

Ms. Hollinger also reported Director Gibbons stated in the future training institutes will not be permitted to facilitate the psychomotor exam of their own students.

PEHSC Education Task Force

Mr. Deaven reported the PEHSC Education Task Force plans to provide information about the training institutes testing their own students to the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council's board of directors. The committee is also creating a data form to assist training institutes to better maintain statistics. Last, the committee is evaluating the approval process for continuing education courses. The EMS Registry often permits approval of expired courses along with some other flaws within the system. The committee is looking at a process similar to Ohio.

End of Class Presentation

Ms. Hollinger asked members present for feedback to the new end of class presentation. At this time, members feel the presentation meets the needs of the students.

Meeting Dates FY 2015-2016

Ms. Hollinger provided the tentative meeting dates for Fiscal Year 2015-2016:
15 September 2015, 08 December 2015, 08 March 2016, and 14 June 2016

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 15 September 2015 at 1000 hours.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bernini adjourned the meeting at 1050 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan A. Hollinger
Director of System Operations