## COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING

### MINUTES

**DATE**
February 18, 2014

**TIME**
3:00 PM

**LOCATION**
ODPS – Division of EMS
1970 W. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43218

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**Committee Chairperson:** Deanna Harris  
**Committee Members:** Mary Ahlers, Karen Beavers, Pam Bradshaw, Holly Herron, Dr. David Keseg, Dr. Wendy Pomerantz, JD Postage, Joshua Tilton, Joe Toth, Mike White  
**ODPS-Division of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Staff:** Dr. Carol Cunningham, John Sands, Dawn Vondracek  
**ODPS Staff:** None  
**Guests:** Daniel Ellenberger, Eric Cortez  
**Absent Committee Members:** James Davis, Matthew Dick, Tom Duffee, Geoff Dutton, Ernest Hatmaker, Bruce Shade, Dr. Brian Springer, Dr. Paul Zeeb

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### AGENDA TOPICS

**TOPIC**
Welcome

**DISCUSSION** *(Chn. Harris)*
The meeting was called to order at 3:06 PM by Chairperson Deanna Harris.

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<th>ACTION ITEM(S)</th>
<th>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>DEADLINE</th>
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**TOPIC**
Meeting Minutes

**DISCUSSION** *(Chn. Harris)*
*ACTION:* A motion was made by Chn. Harris to approve the 12/17/13 draft meeting minutes with no changes. Ms. Bradshaw—First. Dr. Pomerantz—Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

**DISCUSSION** *(Chn Harris)*
At the May 2013 EMS Board meeting, this Committee motioned the Board to approve that the Community Paramedicine Committee and Resource Committee work together to create and ultimately release a request for proposals. The RFP would utilize priority V funding during the 2014 grant period for community paramedicine research projects.

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<td>Chn. Harris will discuss with the EMFTS Board regarding what projects may qualify under the RFP</td>
<td>Chn. Harris</td>
<td>December 17th Meeting</td>
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**TOPIC**
Old Business

**DISCUSSION** *(Chn. Harris)*
Community Paramedicine Ad Hoc Committee applications were reviewed and approved (subject to EMFTS Board approval) for: JD Postage (Violet Township and Nationwide Children’s Hospital), Joseph Toth (Parma Hospital), Daniel Ellenberger (University Hospitals of Cleveland, Troy Fire & Cuyahoga Community College) and Tom Duffee (Clark State Community College and Enon Mad-River Twp Fire & EMS)

*ACTION:* Motion was made to induct new members to the Community Paramedicine Committee. Those members are as follows: JD Postage, Joseph Toth, Daniel Ellenberger and Tom Duffee. James Davis – First. Pam Bradshaw – Second. All members were in favor. None opposed. None abstained. Motion was approved.

**DISCUSSION** *(Chn. Harris, Exec Dir Mel House and Andy Spencer)*
Chn. Harris stated the meeting purpose was to broadly define Ohio’s community paramedic and to discuss the legislative process of incorporating community paramedicine into the professional umbrella of EMS. Executive Director Mel House introduced Andy Spencer, DPS Legislative Liaison. Mr. Spencer described the opportunity to include new programs such as community paramedicine in the February 2014 Mid-biennium Budget Review (MBR). The process is to seek DPS approval, develop an implementation strategy, identify stakeholders and identify organization(s) to carry it through to legislation.
Chn. Harris led the ad hoc Committee discussion to conceptually define Ohio’s community paramedic as:

- **Experience**: Must have two years full-time paramedic experience before applying to a training program accredited by the EMFTS Board.
- **Endorsement**: Upon graduation from an accredited training program, will receive community paramedicine endorsement (not certification).
- **Community Paramedic Scope of Practice**: Remains unchanged from Paramedic, but could expand in future.
- **Specialty Continuing Education**: Community paramedic endorsement will require additional specialty continuing education as determined by the EMFTS Board.
- **Medical Oversight**: Provided by medical director with appropriate credentials as approved by the EMFTS Board.
- **Immunity**: Immunity protection regardless of location while performing community paramedic activities.
- **Practice Location**: Per needs assessment for individual community.
- **Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement**: Unchanged for medical directors, detailed under OAC 4765-3-05.
- **Types of Care**: Including but not limited to pre-hospital services, preventative care, social service referrals, chronic care support, treat and release, follow up care and maintenance.
- **Transport**: Disposition of patients per community paramedicine protocols and medical direction.

### DISCUSSION (Chn. Harris)

**TOPIC**

**New Business**

The Committee reviewed the 2013 accomplishments of the MIHC (previously known as Community Paramedicine) Ad Hoc Committee. As no changes were proposed, this document will be submitted as part of the EMFTS Committee Accomplishments Summary.

Chn. Harris updated the Committee on the communication piece drafted by legal on the status of community paramedicine in Ohio. Chn. Harris stated that comments received by Board and MIHC Committee members were incorporated into the draft, pending legal review and implementation. Clarification as to “community needs” was proposed to the draft document.

**ACTION**: Motion was made to clarify “community needs” in the draft document written by legal. Dr. Keseg – First. Ms. Ahlers – Second. All members were in favor. None opposed. None abstained. Motion was approved.

Chn. Harris discussed House Bill 809 “The Field EMS Bill” and asked Committee members to share their knowledge. Mr. Tilton stated that there is a proposal within the Field EMS Bill where EMS would transfer from the federal DOT to under HHS, which would provide EMS and grant funding opportunities that are currently lacking at the state and federal level.

EMS on the Hill Day in Washington, DC, is March 25, 2014. Mary Ahlers will be attending. Deanna will get the Board’s opinion if an Ohio contingent should be sent.

Chn. Harris shared her presentation on Ohio’s Progress toward community paramedicine given at the University of Cincinnati Residency Course on Community Paramedicine. The community’s perception is that Ohio isn’t supportive of MIHC. Chn. Harris stressed that an association or group must champion MIHC for it to get carried through to legislation.
**DISCUSSION**  
*Chn. Harris and Dr. Cunningham*

Dr. Cunningham shared the first draft of the MIHC White Paper. The paper’s purpose is to justify the legislative change needed to incorporate Mobile Integrated Healthcare into Ohio EMS law. The Committee was asked to send suggestions or comments to Dr. Cunningham.

**DISCUSSION**  
*Chn. Harris*

Mr. Postage suggested that the Committee develop guidelines on completing a community needs assessment. Dr. Cunningham stressed that MIHC isn't ours to build and not the assigned mission of the Community Paramedicine Ad Hoc Committee. OHA or ODH should be contacted. Again, a champion must be identified to carry the legislation through.

Chn. Harris suggested we develop a “resource packet” on MIHC issues and that documents related to this topic be forwarded to her.

The stakeholder list was reviewed, and it was suggested that “clients” (including patients) and consumer advocacy groups be added to the stakeholder list.

**DISCUSSION**  
*Chn. Harris*

The meeting was adjourned.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Travel reimbursement forms
- MIHC (Community Paramedicine) Ad Hoc Committee – 2013 Accomplishments
- Ohio Community Paramedicine Integrated Mobile Healthcare – PowerPoint presentation

**NEXT MEETING**

- The March 18, 2014, meeting was CANCELLED.
- The next scheduled meeting is April 15, 2014.