

Region VII Minutes
May 16, 2007
Orrville, Ohio

1. Meeting called to order at 10:12 am.
2. Those in attendance: Eileen F. Baker, J. Steed, Tony Lozcano, Laurie Weaver, Lori Josefczyk, Joe Bocka and Mike Zorko.
3. Minutes from March 21, 2006 were reviewed and approved.

4. House Bill 375

The Subcommittee to redistrict the RPAB has noted that the EMA functions under their own planning districts, which are distinct from the Homeland Security Regions. There are no plans to change the EMA districts. Therefore, the Subcommittee may make its redistricting decisions independent of these regions. The Subcommittee is expected to convene for less than a year.

5. Grants Committee Open Forum

Funding for grants is going fast. Last year, any EMS agency that reported received a minimum of \$3000 (\$1000 for non-transporting agencies). This year, the same process is in place, but the minimum grant is lower. For input into the grants process, you may attend the Ohio State EMS Committee meeting at 10am on the third Wednesday in October, 2007.

6. Chempack Educational Materials

An educational DVD has been made by the Homeland Security Committee. It is comprised of a Powerpoint presentation with video segments. Dr. Cunningham would like the presentation to be made available on the OHA website, for ED staff to access.

7. Pandemic Flu Planning: Tiers of Care Committee

This committee is a part of the Ohio Department of Health, designed to look at altered standards of care that would be in place during a Pandemic Flu epidemic. These standards are being developed quietly, so as not to upset the general public. Such altered standards of care would require a great deal of public education and explanation to gain public acceptance.

8. Additions to State of Ohio WMD Guidelines

Mark I kits will no longer be available. The Duodote (combined atropine and 2-PAM) is designed to replace this. The Duodote will not be in the Chempack, but will be included in the WMD Guidelines. The Duodote administers both medications at the same time. Adverse effects of 2-PAM can be seen in peds and geriatrics. (The draft document has warnings about

the effects of multiple doses of 2-PAM. Dr. Cunningham will send copies of the language to the RPAB Chairs for review.)

Hydroxocobalamin, for use in cyanide poisoning, uses the same dose for all ages and is OK in peds and pregnant women. RPAB 7 members noted the expense of the hydroxocobalamin kit and its infrequent use may make it less likely to be carried by EMS squads.

9. Ohio DNR

A committee has been formed to revise the Ohio DNR protocols. The committee wants to merge the DNR-CC with DNR-CC-Arrest. The DNR program gives immunity to EMS providers who give only comfort measures under the protocol. Dr. Cunningham is concerned that they wish to eliminate the DNR logo, which makes paperwork easily recognizable as a DNR document. She feels it aids in finding the DNR paperwork in the stack of documentation that often accompanies nursing home patients. Other questions have been raised (ie. What constitutes a “resuscitative IV”? What constitutes respiratory assistance?)

Dr. Zorko mentioned that some patients have been coming from nursing homes with “Full Code” written across the top of the DNR paperwork, indicating that the patient is not a DNR. This is a problem, since the intent of the DNR document is that the EMS provider need not be trained to determine the validity/legality of DNR documentation.

Dr. Bocka attended the DNR meeting in Columbus. He would like to see “do not intubate” orders as a part of the DNR document.

Those interested in commenting, should submit their concerns to Dr. Cunningham.

10. Officer Elections

Dr. Zorko has expressed his interest in serving as Vice Chair of the Region 7 RPAB. His term of office begins immediately.

11. Future meetings:

Wednesday, September 19, 2007 at 10 AM in Orrville, Ohio

Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 1 PM in Columbus, Ohio

12. Meeting adjourned at 10:43 AM.