



W.A.C.E.M.S.
Western Arizona Council of Emergency Medical Services
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WACEMS Regular Meeting Minutes, November 19, 2009, Yuma, Arizona

PRESENT

Bill Johnston –President/Kingman Fire
 Paul DeAnda – Somerton/Cocopah Fire
 Russ Paronto – Lake Mohave Ranchos FD
 John Valentine – River Medical
 Mike Caswell – River Medical
 Chad Conlin – Buckskin Fire

Sue Kern – KRMC
 Edgardo Silva – San Luis Fire
 Ed Armijo – BEMSTS
 Heather Miller – PMI
 Jeffrey Dreyer – Boundtree
 Al Masse – Tri-Valley Ambulance

Rod Reed - ED
 Kevin Barlow – Colorado City
 Noreen Adlin – BEMSTS
 Brad Shelton – River Medical
 Shawn Lawless – MCC/GSFD

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 1005 by President Bill Johnston.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from regular meeting of September 9, 2009 were presented. Motion made by Al Masse to accept the minutes as written. Vote was unanimous to approve.

REPORTS

- a. President’s report. President Bill Johnston briefly spoke about the reduced budget and stated that we will visit that topic later in the meeting. Bill next reported on the November 12th statewide Disaster Preparedness Committee meeting, statewide statistics on H1N1 shared, and information on the PREP act was shared. Bill reported that WACEMS members attended the Regional EMS (REMS) retreat in Prescott, REMS is a consortium of mostly Maricopa County EMS agencies, including public and private. This was a very long meeting, and dealt with many issues and concerns of REMS with upcoming (2013) mandates concerning the accreditation of EMS training agencies, and initial EMS certification testing. There was much discussion at the REMS meeting, including thoughts on actual costs of accreditation, and how this will affect us in the future. The REMS group proposes to work with the state EMS agency to create a “second track” to certification for those who don’t want to be nationally registered and/or don’t receive their training from a nationally accredited training agency.
- b. Executive Director’s report. Rod Reed reported on activities including: REMS meeting, EMS Council meeting, annual taxes, corporation commission report, and state budget meetings. Rod next reported on budget issues and actions taken by the WACEMS Executive Committee. Regional council funding from the state was cut by \$102,813 for this fiscal year. Reduce the Executive Director contract by 25%, eliminate reimbursements for WACEMS travel, cancel the balance of the Provider Assistance program for this fiscal year, and stop refresher program reimbursements per individual (effective after this meeting). Funds remaining in Education/Equipment will be used sparingly to partially fund regional classes, and for any valid hardship requests. WACEMS will continue to look to other sources for funding as they become

available. Rod was directed to write a letter to all regional agencies informing them of the budget changes, a copy is available here www.wacems.org/Forms/BudgetLetter.pdf Rod also reported that there were returned backboards for regional agencies outside.

- c. Treasurer's report. Rod Reed presented the WACEMS Profit and Loss, and Ledger reports for the period July 1, 2009 through November 18, 2009. Rod explained that only the first column of the Profit and Loss was accurate, as the rest of the report did not yet reflect the budget reductions. July through October financial reports have been submitted to the state, and funding was received for July through September. Copies of all reports were available.
- d. ADHS report. Ed Armijo also reported on the budget. The current regional budget amounts are based on a statutorily required 8% of the EMS appropriation. Should the appropriation be reduced next year, the WACEMS budget would possibly be further reduced. Ed also reported that many meetings have been canceled or shortened due to the continuing moratorium on rule changes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & ACTION ITEMS

- a. Education/Equipment Committee. Sue Kern reported that the committee had received requests totaling \$2840. Including 6 BLS refreshers and 2 ALS refreshers, and \$590 to partially fund a 12 lead class in the Yuma area. Sue Kern made a motion that these requests be approved, vote was unanimous to approve. Sue further explained the changes to reimbursements as detailed earlier, and encouraged agencies to look for ways to use reduced WACEMS funds to assist with classes, such as paying for instructors, co-op teaching, or paying for a percentage of the total class cost.
- b. EMS for Children. Sue Kern and Rod Reed reported that they tried to participate in the last meeting via telephone. Unfortunately the wrong phone number/code was given in the e-mail from the state and they were unable to get through.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. 0910 Provider Assistance. This item was canceled, no funds available.
- b. Appleseed Project. Rod Reed reported that he attended this workshop in Tucson, and gave a brief verbal report on the meeting.
- c. Needs Assessment. An EMS transport needs assessment from the City of Yuma was presented at the September meeting. The city was looking to have the needs assessment adopted by WACEMS to specifically address the needs of the City of Yuma, and not the region as a whole. There was considerable discussion, with the resolution that the needs assessment be included with the minutes for that meeting so members can familiarize themselves with it prior to any action at today's meeting. John Valentine made a motion that WACEMS adopt the EMS transport needs assessment from the City of Yuma for the area of the City of Yuma. Vote was unanimous to approve.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. 2010 Meeting Schedule. Rod Reed presented a draft schedule for 2010 meetings. There was considerable discussion, including reducing the number of meetings. This item was continued to the Executive Committee meeting to be discussed and brought forward at the January meeting.
- b. State Committee Memberships. Bill Johnston reported that Jerry Stein holds positions on the EMS Council, the Education Committee, and the Rules Committee. As Jerry is no longer an active member of WACEMS, the council needs to look for replacements for Jerry on these committees. After discussion, John Valentine made a motion that a letter be sent to the state explaining the situation, and recommending Javier Hernandez replace Jerry Stein on the EMS

Council (Layperson), Shawn Lawless replace Jerry on the Education Committee, and Chester Key replace Jerry on the Rules Committee. Vote was unanimous to approve.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Announce next WACEMS Executive Board meeting, date, time and location. Currently scheduled for December 10, 2009 at 1:00 pm via phone conference.
- b. Announce next WACEMS regular meeting, date, time and location. Currently scheduled for January 14, 2009 at 10:00 am, in Lake Havasu City. The meeting date was changed to January 13, 2009 so as not to conflict with the Arizona Ambulance meetings on January 14. There was discussion on changing the location, no decision was made and will revisit at Executive Committee meeting next month.