

EMS Safety Ad-Hoc Committee Minutes

03/10/2020

0900-1000 (or 1100)

BETP

1001 Terminal Rd. Lansing, MI

<https://breeze.mdch.train.org/qatf/>

Join by phone

1-877-873-8017

Call ID 9922449

Attendees: Chris Lake, Emily Bergquist, Nicole Babb, Nate Potter, Jim Kalinowski (via phone), Damon Obiden (via phone), Mike Bentley, (via phone), Angela Madden (via phone), Kevin Wilkinson(via phone), Scott LaBonte (via phone).

1. Call to order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Chris Lake.

2. Old Business:

a. Safety Webinars –

- i. Emily's Trauma Webinar – 4/14/2020 @1800
- ii. May – Norm, HAZMAT safety?
- iii. June – Will be decided by Doodle poll.
- iv. Mi-TIME discussion

- 1. A webinar was not done in February. Emily selected a date in April for her to do one. Dr. Fales would like to do a webinar on COVID-19 and Infectious Disease in March. Emily talked about going to the Mi-TIME training. They won't separate the training into modules. Emily talked about ways this could be done. They have to pick 4 times and they want to them to be live. Emily asked for suggestions and the group discussed. Webinars may prove difficult. Emily will reach out to a contact at Grand Rapids Fire Department. Otherwise, we can advocate for the inperson training. A primer/introduction to the full course could be done if they were willing. Ideas for safety webinars should be sent to Emily. Terrie is doing a webinar tomorrow.

3. New Business:

a. COVID-19 Response and Safety

- i. Michigan still does not have any cases but testing is increasing. Providers being carriers has repercussions. This would increase the

staff shortage. They could also transmit to a patient. Emily said we are working on a PPE survey for the agencies. There isn't a solution to the N95 shortage, but they are trying to figure out where the worst areas in the state are. Preparedness and the SNS have caches. Protocols have been released and are being adopted by some MCAs. Emily suggested having people look at the protocols, even if their MCA hasn't adopted. There is a website that has been launched: www.michigan.gov/emscovid. A protocol will be coming out for tiered response and Emily explained it to the group. Emily is working with Dr. Fales on developing guidelines, that may be released in two phases. Two things at work are reducing exposures and conserving PPE. Limiting reuse of PPE is being discussed. A lot is going on behind the scenes. Emily discussed some known things about the virus and briefly discussed what the CHECC is doing. Emily asked if the group sees something they are not seeing. Kevin Wilkinson asked about removing students from the trucks. Emily said there is a meeting scheduled today to discuss this with Terrie. Chris Lake brought up quarantine recommendations for crew and discussed recent situations. He discussed issues with quarantine in the firehouse, as now everything is contaminated. A third of the fire department discussed are in quarantine. He said there are no best practices for quarantine. Emily said there are quarantine recommendations but nothing specific for EMS. The group discussed. Emily said EMS specific quarantine recommendations could be developed. Echo response was discussed. Kevin asked if a communication could go out to the nursing homes on what to expect from EMS. Emily will bring that up. Chris said PSAP guidelines were sent out from the CDC. He discussed not saying it is COVID-19 over the radio, as media outlets are listening. Emily spoke about the new director of the state 911 Commission and how helpful she has been. Emily said they are asking the PSAPs to be on the MI-HAN to facilitate communication more efficiently. Emily discussed the plan to be able to communicate with everyone necessary within an hour. Chris discussed employee issues with those placed under quarantine. Emily asked if there would be value in sending a communication out that says to please be thinking about plans for this. Sick time and people needing to stay home

when they are sick were discussed. Angela said she has been sending out information based on CDC and the CHECC, but nothing else. Kevin discussed what is happening at his agency. He also said urgent cares are over triaging for this. Emily presented a search biospatial created for this. A communication is being written for urgent care guidance. The group discussed. Nate asked about guidance on reusing PPE masks. Emily said it is 5 times. She said there is document regarding expired masks, and there is guidance on the breakdown of filters when they are touched. She also said they can be worn for 8 hours at a time, if they can tolerate it. She said you find information on the CDC website [here](#).

- b. Membership discussion
 - i. Emily explained this to the group.
4. Open discussion
- a. None.

Next Meeting Doodle Poll <https://www.doodle.com/poll/93bvw8x259ki6w4y>

References (for perspective) - Issue appendix –

1. Environmental
 - a. Severe Weather
 - b. Extreme temperatures
2. Hazardous substances
 - a. Chemical
 - b. Biological
3. Violence
 - a. Patient
 - b. Bystanders
 - c. Intentional versus unintentional
 - i. Cultural/Language Barriers
 - ii. Behavioral health/Mental Health
 - d. Crime scenes
4. Rescue
 - a. Motor-vehicle collisions
 - i. Extrication hazards
 - ii. Roadway operations
 - b. Special Situations
 - i. Fire Ground
 - ii. Technical Rescue
 - iii. Water Rescue
5. Vehicle Operation
6. In transport issues