

Region 6 EMS

Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2022

Today's meeting was called to order at 1300 hours by Chair Rod Pace.

Board members present: **K. Yoakum, R. Long, R. Reissig, , D. Cowan, D. Bruner, J. Clatt, R. Grimmett, S. Robertson, M. Burnett**

Absent members: **C. Harrison, T. Modesitt, J. Wilhelms**

Guests: Michelle Wolf-Freeman Health, Rita Stiles-Mercy, C. Mattes- Mercy, C. Cavendar-Woodson Co. EMS Director, C. Pore-KSBEMS, Kelly King-Freeman Health, S. Gregory-Cherryvale EMS, Brandon Beck-MERGE Chairman

Agenda: The agenda was presented. A motion was heard for approval of the agenda by Mr. Long and a second by Mr. Reissig. Unanimous vote was heard.

Minutes of the July 2022 meeting were presented by e-mail prior to the meeting. A motion from Mrs. Clatt to approve the minutes was heard with a second by Mr. Reissig. All voted in approval.

Financial Report: Mr. Bruner reported the balances for the Education account \$28,554.32 and the General funds \$31,946.22.

Old Business:

Education and staffing: Mr. Cowan reported that Independence Community College brought back Ms. Manning to teach an EMT course as well as a I/C course. LCC and CCEMS are conducting EMT courses as is FSCC. Chanute is sending 2 people to the ICC educator course. Mr. Yoakum, reported reaching out to Cowley County Community College Chair Chris Cannon seeking potential interest in a satellite paramedic program but nothing further has been accomplished. He also contacted Coffeyville Community College Department Chair Brenda Pursley by e-mail seeking their programs status and was advised they were awaiting word from KSBEMS.

Mr. Yoakum submitted that perhaps the Region should consider a form of scholarship to promote paramedic students education. One suggestion was a "stipend" for transportation to classes. Mr. Cowan expressed a meeting of the Executive Board to further discuss this issue.

With regards to staffing, it seems some entities are "cooperatively" utilizing staff to shore up schedules to continue the most efficient service to their communities.

Allied Business:

KRAF: Mr. Yoakum expressed that there is typically a review meeting in October/November to review the process and make any needed changes but that has not been scheduled to his knowledge yet. Typically applications open in early December and end the first working day of January. He encouraged services to begin considering their projects. He also expressed that he is promoting BLS equipment and small services being priority.

Homeland Security: No report

Regional Trauma Council: No report

EDTF: No meetings since the last meeting

MERGE: Brandon Beck, Emporia Fire Chief and MERGe Chair joined us to discuss the advantages of returning to the MERGe group and renewing our membership. Historically, previous and a few current Region members were concerned that we were not seeing any value in being a member. Team membership only consist of one person from Region 6 right now. Chief Beck asserted that the MERGe team is interested in growing their membership throughout the state. He cited that COVID drastically inhibited training and drills but now they are seeing a increase with services participating in tabletop drills and other training sessions. With resources and staffing shrinking it is more likely that this team will be needed more frequently. It is hoped that renewal of our partnership would stimulate interest. Also the benefits of resources in the form of personnel and equipment along with management resources might be a benefit for the region, especially the smaller services in the western part of the Region. The issue will topic of further discussion.

EMS-C: No update

KSBEMS: Mr. Pore reported that the BEMS is considering initiation of a statewide AED registry. It is in its very preliminary phases of consideration. He also stated the Board of EMS is monitoring other states in the development of a universal “standard of care guidelines” across the country. Once developed they will evaluate the efficacy for its development or adoption in Kansas. Lastly he related that the NEMSIS 3.5 buildout is being beta tested for release with a deadline of January of 2024. Fredonia is currently the only “direct entry” service in the region using this system.

Regional STEMI: Michelle Wolfe, Freeman STEMI Coordinator reported that there were no fallouts for Kansas services recently! She reported the addition of a new interventional cardiologist at there facility. Rita Stiles, Mercy STEMI Coordinator reports that Mercy is now a level 2 facility as they are down a cardiothoracic surgeon.

Stroke Initiative: Ms. Stiles, Mercy Stroke Coordinator reports that there are several new nurses in the ER so EMS may encounter some questions which might seem routine. They also ask that if bringing in a possible Stroke patient that EMS weigh the patient as you enter the ER. This is crucial in the appropriate dosing of patients.

CISM: No report

New Business: Mr. Bruner solicited interest in recognizing Mr. Rod Pace for his tenure and contributions throughout the years. Mr. Yoakum made motion of expenditure of up to \$150 for Mr. Bruner’s use to procure this. A second was heard from Mr. Grimmett. All voted in favor.

Community comments: Mr. Mattes spoke of the upcoming trauma conference at Mercy Springfield and he might have some sponsorships available if people are interested.

Service reports were heard with customary topics.

A motion of adjournment was heard from Mr. Bruner and a second by Mr. Yoakum. All were in favor at 15:15.