

## **EMS Section Business Meeting**

August 27, 2015

Atlanta, GA

In Attendance: Becker, Metro, McEvoy, Brown, Croom, Andersen, Ludwig, Davis

### **Introduction of Officers**

Chief Becker introduced the EMS Section Officers

### **IAFC Board of Directors Update**

IAFC 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Chief John Sinclair, introduced himself and provided an update on the IAFC Board's meeting at the beginning of the conference. Chief Sinclair also noted that he had been voted as Chair of the National EMS Advisory Committee and looking forward to his new role.

### **FirstNet Update**

Vicki Lee of the First Responders Network Authority provided the group an update on FirstNet's work to address EMS issues and ensure EMS application for FirstNet's work. Information and resources for fire departments will be posted on the FirstNet website. Ms. Lee also encouraged all attendees to identify the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) in their home state and make sure to stay on top of the latest news.

### **Candidates for IAFC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Position**

Chief Nate Trauernicht and Chief Gary Curmode introduced themselves as candidates for the IAFC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President position and requested support from the EMS Section.

### **NFPA 1917 Update**

Chief Gary Morris gave the group an overview of the NFPA 1917 standard for ground ambulances. Chief Morris also discussed the recent controversy regarding the CAAS' decision to create a competing standard. The second edition of NFPA 1917 is expected to be released by the end of this summer. The IAFC is continuing to support full adoption of NFPA 1917 by all relevant local, state, and federal jurisdictions.

### **NEMSMA Update**

Ms. Allison Bloom from the National EMS Management Association (NEMSMA) discussed NEMSMA's EMS officer credentialing project and their desire to establish a credentialing mechanism in the near future.

### **IAEMSC Update**

Chief Don Hiatt provided an updated from the International Association of EMS Chiefs. Chief Hiatt discussed the need for all EMS organizations to continue working together to address a myriad of health and safety threats to EMS providers and the general public. Chief Hiatt would like to continue working with the IAFC and EMS Section to ensure strong representation across the United States.

### **DHS Update**

Mr. Ray Mollers discussed a few EMS-related projects at DHS, including the continuation of their work to combat human trafficking and the creation of a tactical EMS criteria guide. DHS is also continuing to monitor legislation in Congress which would expedite their pilot program to distribute the anthrax vaccine to first responders on a voluntary basis. DHS is also working on creating an office to work on CBRN issues as they relate to EMS.

### **NHTSA Update**

Mr. Dave Bryson provided the group with an update on activities at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). NHTSA is finalizing minimal edits to the EMS Education Agenda and the EMS Agenda for the Future. The EMS Compass Initiative is also continuing to make strong progress, keep an eye out for more webinars from NHTSA on the topic. NHTSA is also preparing to release findings from their research on ground ambulance safety. Lastly, NHTSA is also continuing their work to address the issue of military EMTs attempting to transition to civilian EMS roles.

### **Emerging Diseases Committee Update**

Chief Mike McEvoy mentioned that the CDC has released new Ebola information which will be shared on the EMS Section's homepage. Additionally, there are new flu vaccines available so make sure to evaluate the options and see which would be best for your personnel.

### **PPACA Task Force Update**

Chief Mike Metro mentioned that the PPACA Task Force is continuing to evaluate the impact of the law on EMS systems. The Task Force is working on creating a handbook on EMS delivery system reform. Chief Metro asked everyone to keep an eye out for more information on this project and news from the Task Force.

### **Legislative Update**

Mr. Davis provided a report on a variety of legislative and regulatory items, including renewals of the Medicare Ambulance Add On payments as well as funding for the AFG grants in 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm Eastern