



## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

14 June 2016  
1000 hours  
EHSF Conference Room

### ATTENDANCE

**Present:**

Robert Bernini  
Melissa Etzweiler  
Donald Kilheffer  
Connie McGill  
Andrew Melius  
Darryl Mitchell  
Robert Pace  
Richard Pearson  
Steve Poffenberger  
Mike Tonkay

Chair  
Harrisburg Area Community College  
Eastern Lebanon County High School  
Blue Ridge Community & Technical College  
Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department  
Manheim Township Ambulance Association  
York Technical Institute  
PA College of Health Sciences  
HACC Paramedic / Holy Spirit EMS  
Harrisburg Area Community College

**Staff:**

Megan A. Ruby  
Ann Marie Christie

Director of System Operations  
Program Coordinator

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Bernini called the meeting to order at 1000 hours.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### BLS Blood Glucose Testing

Ms. Ruby announced the Department of Health, Bureau of EMS (BEMS) approved the use of glucometers by BLS providers. However, BLS providers must wait for the protocol, approval process, and education to be provided before implementing the use of glucometers.

Ms. McGill questioned if the BEMS will determine a type of glucometer. Ms. Ruby provided the EHSF does not know if they will select a specific type, and she suggested agencies should wait to make purchases until more information is provided.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ESO Solutions

Mr. Bernini questioned the committee members regarding training institute use of ESO to train candidates in patient care documentation. Currently only Harrisburg Area Community College and PA College of Health Sciences (PACHS) use ESO in their EMT program. Mr. Pearson mentioned the PACHS plans to begin using Fisdap in the fall to track candidates and offer patient care reporting opportunities rather than ESO. Mr. Poffenberger explained the difference with the function of Fisdap versus ESO for patient care reporting functions.

### Psychomotor Exam

Ms. Ruby announced changes to the BLS psychomotor exam process.

- Mr. Nolan resigned as the Exam Administrator. Any forms of communication in the past occurring between the training institute and Mr. Nolan should be directed to Ms. Ruby. Ms. Ruby announced it is not the intentions of EHSF to fill the Exam Administrator position at this time.
- Ms. Ruby announced the plan to transition from all-day, Saturday psychomotor exams to more frequent exams. The exams will cater to the candidates and training institutes based on when classes are typically held. The EHSF evaluation team will be able to offer a more efficient exam process by testing a smaller candidate size.
- Ms. Ruby provided if an exam is held during the evening on a weekday, the exam start time will be 1800 hours. Candidates should arrive by 1730 hours unless other arrangements are made between the training institute and the EHSF.
- Ms. Ruby stated the EHSF will schedule the practical date based on information within the class application and number of candidates completing a provider certification application during the first night of class. Within two weeks of the class opening, the EHSF will coordinate an exam date with the training institute.
- Ms. Ruby explained the responsibilities of the training institute with the new process will include:
  - o Securing the testing location with adequate rooms for skill stations
  - o Providing equipment
  - o Recruiting Patient Actors
    - The EHSF will provide continuing education to certified EMS providers assisting as patient actors.
- Ms. Ruby mentioned the EHSF will obtain certification photos of candidates the day of the psychomotor exam.

End of Class Presentation

Ms. Ruby reported with changing the psychomotor exam from Saturday to closer to the end date of the class on a weeknight, the EHSF is evaluating alternatives to the in-person end of class presentation. Ms. Ruby suggested a video uploaded on youtube or the EHSF website for candidates to watch.

Ms. Etzweiler suggested created multiple, short videos to cover the material in the current end of class presentation. The EHSF will consider creating the short videos to explain the following processes:

- NREMT Profile Creation
- NREMT Authorization to Test Process for Cognitive Exam
- Regional Council Role
- Psychomotor Exam Process
- Requirements to Renew EMS Certification

Field Preceptors

Mr. Poffenberger suggested the creation of a regional field preceptor recognition. Often EMS candidates from both BLS and ALS programs are paired with providers across various EMS agencies to complete skills and obtain patient contacts, and there are not clear guidelines to the role of a preceptor. The idea of this program would allow one EMS agency to verify criteria is met for a respective provider to precept an EMS candidate, and other EMS agencies could acknowledge the criteria was met from a different organization. The program would also provide consistency of information shared with EMS candidates in the field. A working group will evaluate the future process for recognition as a preceptor. Those interested should contact Ms. Ruby.

2017 NREMT Initial Certification Fees

Ms. Ruby announced the NREMT will increase their fees for testing effective January 2017, and she encouraged training institutes offering vouchers to candidates for testing to consider the increased cost with upcoming classes.

<b>NREMT Level</b>	<b>Current Fees</b>	<b>Fees Effective 01/01/2017</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>EMR</b>	\$65	\$75	\$10
<b>EMT</b>	\$70	\$80	\$10
<b>AEMT</b>	\$100	\$115	\$15
<b>Intermediate/99</b>	\$100	\$125	\$25
<b>Paramedic</b>	\$110	\$125	\$15

Learning Management System/Centrelearn

Ms. Ruby announced the BEMS hosted a conference call on Friday, 10 June 2016, explaining the upcoming changes associated with the online site to take continuing education. The BEMS found a new vendor to provide online continuing education to EMS providers within the region. The BEMS anticipate the new vendor's program will launch 01 October 2016. However, the current online continuing education vendor, LMS/Centrelearn, will not be available after 30 June 2016. The EHSF anticipates a variety of concerns and gaps for providers to meet certification requirements between July and October. The EHSF is awaiting the BEMS to provide a message to share with all providers. The following should be considered/is being discussed currently:

- Providers expiring 01 October 2016 will not be able to complete continuing education through LMS/Centrelearn. These providers are encouraged to find classroom setting

continuing education courses or complete continuing education requirements on LMS/Centrelearn prior to 30 June 2016.

- All providers should access their provider on LMS/Centrelearn to print/retain a record of their certificates and/or transcript of completed continuing education courses.
- EMS agencies using LMS/Centrelearn as an Intranet to provide required continuing education to their staff should find other means to provide the education and download their materials from the site before they are not accessible.
- New physicians seeking medical command will not be able to access the medical command physician course in LMS/Centrelearn from 01 July 2016 to 01 October 2016.
- New providers into the EMS system will not be able to access protocols or high performance CPR courses on LMS/Centrelearn.
- The EHSF is awaiting a response from the BEMS.
- The EHSF will evaluate increased reinstatements for the 01 October 2016 certification quarter.
- The EHSF will communicate with the county EMS council presidents to identify educational needs in their county.
- The EHSF will determine a method to provide announcements of upcoming continuing education to the providers within the region.
- The EHSF will share continuing education opportunities with EMS agency leadership through e-mails.
- The EHSF will use their Facebook page to provide announcements for continuing education.

#### EHSF Website Revisions

Ms. Ruby announced the EHSF is undergoing the process to find a new vendor for a new corporate website.

### **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

#### Training Institute Contact Information

Ms. Ruby asked training institutes to review the distribution list for the Education Committee and provide updated contact information.

#### PEHSC Education Task Force

Mr. Bernini provided no update was available for this committee.

#### 2016-2017 Meeting Dates

Ms. Ruby announced meeting for FY 2016-17: 13 September 2016, 13 December 2016, 14 March 2017, and 13 June 2017.

The next meeting is scheduled for 13 September 2016 at 1000 hours.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Bernini adjourned the meeting at 1115 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan A. Ruby, Director of System Operations