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SOUTHWEST REGION EMS COMMITTEE
Cox Medical Center South
3801 S. National Ave.
Springfield, MO

May 16, 2025
1200

Members Present

Jami Blackwell
Susan Crum
Mark Alexander
Dr. Tom Lewis
David Hoover
John Archer

Guests

Dr. Jacob Spain
Brian Rohlman
DJ Satterfield
Kyle Meadows
Liz Day
Lindsay Turner
Melissa Sleeth
Daniel Marshall
Haley Bluto
Jimmie Lawrence
Tina Johnson

Chris Mattes
Russ Scanlan
Owen Aldridge
Annette Keller
Suzi Roeckle
Sarah Woolford
Kallie Provost
Jason Smith
Libby Clark
Rachel Stone

The TCD Workgroup met prior to the regular meeting, from 1100-1200 on this date.

Education Presentation:

An educational presentation entitled “MIST EMS to ER Handoff report” was presented by Dr. Tom Lewis. MIST stands for: Mechanism/Medical complaint; Injuries/Illness Identified; Signs and Symptoms; and Treatments. Dr. Lewis indicated this process will be put in place in all Mercy EDs. John Archer indicated Cox has a modified version of this. Dr. Lewis also spoke about “To the Heart of Energy Drinks” and how they are considered a performance enhancing drug (greater than 250 mg of Caffeine per day). Thank you to Cox South for providing the room and lunch.

Regular Meeting Agenda:

Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions

Jami Blackwell chaired the meeting in lieu of Bob Patterson’s absence and called the regular meeting to order at 1300. Welcome was made. Libby Clark was introduced as the new Trauma Program Manager for Mercy Joplin. Libby indicated she has been with Mercy for over 30 years in the ED and will be replacing Sharelle. Dr. Lewis introduced Dr. Luke Spain as the new Medical Director for Mercy Lifeline.

Establish Quorum/Review Agenda

A quorum was present. Agenda sent out prior to the meeting; no additions noted.

Review and Approval of Minutes

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Minutes from the January 17, 2025 meeting were sent out shortly before the meeting today. For that reason, they will be tabled until the next meeting.

New Business:

- A. Affidavits requests – per John Archer, the state quit requiring a *notarized* affidavit. Cox South quit doing notaries some time ago. Informed Dr. Lewis of the change → Mercy is no longer requiring notarizations. Of note, an affidavit has to be a first-hand delivery.
- B. Pediatric weights – per John Archer, Cox South has had occurrences of inaccurate (reported) pediatric weights resulting in two med errors. Need to either weigh a child at the door, or do not give a weight.

Old Business:

- A. Appointed Committee Nominations – currently have 4 open positions. If know of someone who is interested, let Bob or Jami know. An applicant has to have a letter of endorsement. Brian Rohlman potentially interested in the ‘education’ position. Brian indicated he has a new position as Director of Paramedicine at OTC. *Will have Bob send out a list of the open positions.*
- B. PULSARA updates – Dr. Lewis reported there have been recent meetings regarding a state roll out of PULSARA. Central region is coming along; St. Louis, not yet. The state of Arkansas has come online. Something like PULSARA needs to be statewide and used for disaster management. MOEMSAC was the company the state contracted with to determine a product and they chose PULSARA.
ID bands haven’t come yet.
Mark noted the northwest part of the state came online a year ago. Chris indicated there are ongoing conversations in Kansas and Oklahoma.

Bureau of EMS updates:

No one from the Bureau was on the call.

SAC Updates – Mark Alexander

SAC meets the end of the month. Nothing to report from the last meeting.

- A. TCD Update and reports from Subcommittees – Committee met today. Both Cox and Mercy had recent successful trauma surveys. Several STEMI and stroke surveys coming up. Not a lot to report from state meetings. Russ Scanlan was added to the regional committee; the committee would like more EMS participation.

Report on the regional TCD conference which has been scheduled for 9/19/25 – looking for a room at OTC. Still free; will be a QR code for registration. TCD credits and CEUs will be given. If know of potential speakers, please let Annette or Bob know.

- B. Legislative Update – Mark Alexander reported on the following:
 - Majority of what was proposed, passed.
 - Community Paramedic bill did not make it, due to added amendments. Died in the Senate.
 - LODD benefit increased from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Includes non-governmental entities.
 - First Responder bill passed. Interfering with a First Responder now considered a crime.

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- SAC bill passed. Increases the SAC from 15 to 23 people. DHSS will now make the appointments (instead of the Governor).
- Other items that passed included the Wayfair bill; increased sales tax; Ambulance service support bill; scholarships for first responders; and Good Samaritan bill ('citizens' were not covered under the law; now are).

C. Air Subcommittee Update – Chris Mattes

- Not anything relevant going on at the state level.

D. EMSC Update – no one on the call from EMSC.

Southwest HealthCare Coalition Update – no report

SEMA Updates – no report

Medical Director Updates – Drs. Brandt and Lewis

- Dr. Brandt working with the state to get the data project moving. Project inclusive of outcome data (have seen some initial data) and protocol alignment.

Other Business:

- A. Missouri's new funding opportunity for treatment and transport of behavioral health patients by EMS – Update by Mark Alexander
 - MOEMSAC is paying the bills for behavioral health transports. Five million dollars allotted by the Department of Mental Health to pay for ambulance transport of behavioral health patients (non-insured). Usage is starting to gain more momentum.
- B. 2025 SW Regional EMS TCD Conference planning updates – see above

Announcements:

- A. Regional construction projects – 1) Crane up at Ferrell Duncan Clinic; parties notified, 2) New Mercy ED at the south ortho hospital tentatively to open in November 2025.
- B. Regional Education offerings
 - a. Kid Safety Fair – FDC parking lot – 5/31/25
 - b. TCD Conference – Columbia – 6/5/25
 - c. Midwest Trauma Conference – KC – 6/11-6/12
 - d. MO EMS Conference & Expo – July 29-31, 2025 – KCI
 - e. Decisions in Trauma – Cox South - 9/5/25
 - f. Stephen Hall conference – October 2025
 - g. Mercy Joplin Trauma conference – 11/7/25
- C. Other announcements – for EMS Week, Mercy ED will be hosting hotdog cookouts. Mercy Joplin will have their breakfast buffet.
- D. Announced there will be 60 EMT graduates at OTC this week!

Next meeting will be July 18, 2025; location Hammons Multipurpose building, Mercy Springfield. Still needing an educational presentation.

Last meeting of the year (11/14/25), still need a location to host the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 13:45.

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Respectfully submitted,

Susan Crum, RN, BSN