

Missouri Association of Air Medical Services
 April 28, 2009 1030
 Truman Bldg Room 500 Jefferson City, MO



Attendance:

Adam Bruner, Air Evac	D J Satterfield, President, Life Line Springfield
George LaJoie, Air Evac	Jim Murray, Air Methods
Joan Drake, Air Methods	Leeann Johnson, Staff for Life
Pam Grimes, CMH KC	Ruby Mehrer, LifeFlight Eagle
Susan Crum, Vice-president, Cox Air Care	Suzanne Jennings, Staff for Life
Bob Abrams, ARCH	

Absent:

Kandi Sagehorn, Secretary, ARCH	Jerry Kirchhoff, Treasure, Air Evac
Malissa Hembre, EagleMed	

DJ Satterfield called the meeting to order at 10:35 am.

Approval of Minutes

Minute approval was delayed in order to get minutes caught up. The minutes will be posted on the MOAAMS website.

Association Dues

Susan Crum, vice-president reported that three (3) program invoices have been received for 2009 dues. Several members stated that they had received their invoices and are working through to get paid.

Website

D J reported that the website is still a work-in-progress. Anyone with suggestion on improving are welcome to help out. It was noted that

Weather Turndown

Committee members agreed the weatherturndown.com system was used often and working well for the Missouri air ambulance programs. The NTSB review cited 5 fatal crashes involving bad weather. Three of the five crashes involved programs who accepted the flights not knowing other air ambulance program(s) had turned down the request because of weather. The outcome might have been different if weatherturndown.com had been in place then.

Legislative

National Issues

It was reported that the NTSB still has not provided the executive summary on the findings of the February hearing. The release has been anticipated that past several weeks.

A Congressional hearing was April 22 in Washington DC to discuss the oversight of helicopter air medical services and HR 978. Speakers included a number of legislators, FAA representative and industry leaders. One of the recommendations that came from the hearing was to stop referring to our industry as HEMS (Helicopter Emergency Medical Services) because it gives a sense of undue urgency when the word 'emergency' is included. It was recommended that Helicopter Air Ambulance be used instead. The FAA is taking previously submitted recommendations under consideration and may institute new rules, usually about a two year process. Missouri Senator Claire McCaskill has introduced a companion bill, S 848 in the Senate.

State

House Bill 580, Line of Duty Death, had wording inserted last week to include pilots and nurses in the \$25,000 death benefits. Greg Natsch reported he had reviewed the bill and adjusted the wording to more accurately reflect the description of a pilot. While it is looking hopeful that the bill will pass, there are still several steps to be accomplished before that could happen.

Standing Committee Reports

DHSS Earthquake Planning; Mutual Aid and Disaster Response Emergency Training

BEMS recently asked Joan Drake to attend the earthquake meetings. Jerry Kirchhoff and Susan Crum have been attending through phone conferences or in person when possible. The above committees are similar but separate and overlap each other. Jerry Kirchhoff was unable to attend today's air ambulance meeting but has suggested the air ambulance committee work on addressing the needs of air ambulances responding to a disaster. The efforts could then become part of the big disaster plan. EMS, including HEMS, needs good representation and involvement at the planning meetings to be sure we are part of the plan and we respond appropriately in a mass casualty incident.

Multiple Aircraft Response Presentation

The Air Ambulance Committee and MOAAMS met on April 15 to work on the multiple aircraft presentation. The project was finished and will be provided to all the air ambulance programs. The intention is to have consistent presentations taking place across the state with participation from all the providers in the area. During an earlier discussion today it was recognized that the information on hazardous materials was inadvertently left out of the presentation. Joan Drake will insert the information and distribute it.

Helipad Survey Document

Ruby had a discussion with Paul Guptill, Missouri Hospital Association, about the document and provided him with an electronic copy as well. See the February minutes for discussion on this subject.

Adjournment

Joan Drake moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by D J Satterfield. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Next meeting May 26, 2009 Jefferson City, 0930, Place TBA