

## **Incident Emergency Medical Task Group Meeting Notes**

March 31 – April 4, 2008

**Core Member Participants:** Dia Gainor, Mary Jo Lommen, Bob Ashworth, Dan Pontbriand, Larry Sutton

**Chair:** Jan Peterson

**Executive Secretary:** Jon Thomas

**Technical Representative:** Twani Newton, Wayne Denny

**Absent:** Gene Madden, Fergus Laughridge, Dan Frazee

**Location:**     **Natural Resources Center**  
                  **1387 S. Vinnell Way**  
                  **Boise, Idaho 83709**

**AGENDA ITEMS:** see Attachment 1

### **NEW ITEMS:**

Jan – Introductions of members & building safety rules where addressed.

Jan - Agenda approved by members with the understanding it will be changed as needed best service meeting goals.

Jan - Team introduction letter was discussed and it was decided to address the letter at the end of the week, after identifying team goals and timeline.

Draft of introduction letter was produced and a copy is on file.

Jan - Communication plan was discussed at great length. This plan took up most of the meeting time this week. All aspects of the plan were talked about in-depth. Draft copy of plan is on file.

Jan – Said she is getting a lot of calls & email about this new group and offers to help.

Gene – He also has names of other doctors that have expressed an interest to help also. The need to come up with a clear need and direction before approaching any doctor was discussed. This would include how we as agencies can address obtaining doctors' participation and protect their licenses.

Jan - Tammy Denny, web master with NIFC, will be coming to one day of our meeting to talk about web site usage & maintenance. Carol Salo will come to meeting April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Jan & Bob - Funding for Dan Frazee is proving very difficult to obtain. Bob is still hopeful the NASF will come up with the funds. It was agreed that this group should continue with Dan's participation via conference calls if needed until funding is obtained.

Mary Jo - The need was identified to contact the Smokejumper Base EMT coordinators and Hotshot's to get their input for the team. This will be address at next weeks meeting.

Dan Pontbriand provided deck with NPS's medical program field manual information to the group.

The all agency introduction letter about the new IEMTG group was identified as being one of the first things to finalize in the first part of the meeting and get sent to SHWT by end of week. The over all communications plan is also high on the list to get drafted.

Jon - asked about having BIA represented within the team. Bob will ask SHWT about this.

Tammy Denny – Showed group the Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Task Group Web page as a template for the new IEMTG page. She would like to change the colors around and a little of the layout, but can not change much per NWCG standards. She requested suggestions for the design, links, etc. We will forward our suggestions to Jan and she will work with Tammy. Tammy also requested all documents be in original Word products, not a PDF doc. Photos should be number with captions.

### **General incident medical service background discussion & observations:**

Dia - Reported on a meeting held by Jay Marcum(sp) at the Office of Health Affairs in Department of Homeland Security (DHS). He convened a meeting about 2 weeks ago. Dia understands that they were covering some very similar subject matter as we are. Like scope of practice and standard of care, and equipment needs. It would be good to try and make contact with DHS and see if both agencies can come up with like guidelines.

Dan - National Park Service (NPS) is dealing with the lack of cross boundaries guidelines when sending medical resources to incident outside of NPS lands. NPS is a significant player in DHS's Emergency Support Functions #9 (Search & Rescue) and yet still has to find ways to function when called on.

Jon – When the President Declares a Major Disaster it is understood that when EMS resources are dispatch through official channels those resources are able to function at there level of listenership or certification. This train of though should be followed up on to find out if in fact out of state EMS resources can function and their level of certification when mobbed to a FEMA incident where a Declaration of Emergency is set.

Dan – NPS sent a bunch of people down there (Katrina). We had medics down there and everything. They had to go through the State of Louisiana's EMS office and some of them never did get that cleared up. Never did get qualified to practice EMS in Louisiana, in Mississippi or Florida or Texas. In Mississippi we were granted all of our law enforcement were granted to let NPS law officers function, but they didn't carry over to the EMS and those were the same people. The same people doing EMS and law enforcement. They could conduct Law enforcement services in Mississippi but not EMS.

Mary Jo – R-1 personnel had the same problem on the shuttle disaster in Texas. Some of them did get approved.

Jan - Idaho just passed a law that Search and Rescue will be done through the Sheriffs Association. Search and Rescue will be done under their guys and not under Bureau of Homeland Security. That was just passed.

Dan - DHS has significant political punch. When it comes to dealing with things like the State EMS directors and a bunch of other things. They have significant clout. So I think we should probably keep our finger on the pulse there on what's going on with DHS. Yes, that could be a real good idea.

Jon - If nothing else dovetail or streamline along the same lines they are going. It would make it easier to swallow at the State level if there was a law at the federal level that would allow states to welcome outside EMTs with little or no paperwork.

Dia - I actually joined the NTSA office of EMS on a conference call with Jay and they begged him not to use the phrase "Scope of practice" in his document. They ended up using, not like Standard of Care. They ended up using a different term. You know NTSA office of EMS's sensitivity and using the national EMS scope of practice as a model and I think there is some sensitivity as to whether or not you can really say things about additional skills over and above what the EMTs are taught and the Paramedics are taught that are completely unique to that alternate application.

Dan - NPS doesn't use "scope of practice". They use field manuals and have an in-depth program covering from first responder to paramedics. NPS has its EMS roots in federal law when the agency was created.

Dia - Introduced the group to a national EMS data base. The group recognizes there is no national data collection system that covers all incidents. The USFS, BLM, NPS, & others all have their own system. This system is real responsive to having as near as we can real time data. This would allow tracking of problems and make incidents much better & faster to respond to incidents. This group has a section of its charter that deals with data collection and storage.

Group - We will have to work with NWCG's training unit to update the MEDL course and requirement to become a MEDL. We all recognize there is a large spread of training & experiences within the MEDL pool of personnel.

Group - The need and desire to have a Physician Advisor type associated with this group was identified. Some ways of doing this could be getting a doctor assigned to the committee. We could also have a selection of doctors listed as SME. It was decided to have Mary Jo & Dia ask their doctors if they could be listed as SME. Dan said his NPS Physician Advisors should be willing to look at our products if we asked. If anyone came up with other SME we will address needs then.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Assigned to</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
Add a physician as a member to the IEMTG charter. Will talk to SHWT	Jan		Hold for now. Will list as SME
Wording for new physician section in the charter. Forward to Jan	Fergus		Hold
Maintain list of potential technical representative & subject matter experts & their skills. Forward lists to Jon	All		On going
Introduction letter. Forward to Jan then SHWT	Gene	3/27/08	On going
Communication plan & talking points. Forward to Jan	All	On going	On going
Everyone provide web site suggestion feedback to Jan	All	3/4/08	On going
Web site update/upgrade	Jan		On going
Funding for Dan (USFWS or NASF) check with SHWT	Jan/Bob	3/27/08	On going
Prioritize objectives and forward to group	Jan & Jon	3/18/08	On going
program of work (budget) for SHWT	Jan		On going
Integrate old EMSG records with IEMTG group	Mary Jo & Jon	3/31/08	On going

**Next conference call date: April 16, 2008 0900 MDT**

**Next Meeting date: TBA**

**Attachments: IEMTG Meeting Agenda for March 31<sup>st</sup> – April 4<sup>th</sup>**

# IEMTG Meeting Agenda

March 31 thru April 4, 2008

Time	Monday March 31	Tuesday April 1	Wednesday April 2	Thursday April 3	Friday April 4
8:00		Assignment Overview	Sub-Committees	Training	Bulletins
9:00		Tammy Denney Webmaster		Carol Salo Finance World	Other Products
10:00				Contract EMS Services	Conf Call Schedule Next Meeting
11:00		National EMS Update			Bin Items Adjourn
12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:00	Introduction Letter	Review EMSG Efforts	Conf Call Gene Update	Identify SMEs	
14:00	Communication Plan		Overview FMP Program	Physician Advisor	
15:00	Objectives Assignments	Overview NPS program	IMS Programs R1 & R6		
16:00					
17:00	Pulse Check	Pulse Check	Pulse Check	Pulse Check	