

**AEMS Functional Group Meeting
January 18, 2023
Meeting Minutes**

Voting Members in Attendance: Shari Brand, MD; Nicola Crim; Garth Gemar, MD; Sandra Nygaard; Cindy Rekemeyer, RN; Roy Ryals; Albert Razo, RN; Tomi St. Mars; Ryan Southworth, DO; and Valerie Weaver, RN;

Guest Members in Attendance: Dewey Anderson; Kevin Bailey; Marcia Barry, RN; Dana Barton; Jamie Beauvais; Georgia Bissonnette; Joel Bonk; Olivia Brothers; Sheila Bryant; Franco Castro-Marin; Kayla Cole; Kevin Depner; Kendal Dold; Nick Ellis; Stephen Ferris; Antonia Gerard; Justin Gorospe; Shauna Griffith; Alicia Gromer; David Harden; Shelley Henry; Bruce Horwood, MD; Brian Hubbell; Dan Jarrett; Tiffany Jimenz; Jeff Kerri; Mickey Kovach, RN; Russ Lindholm; Robert Londeree, MD; Rhonda Mason, RN; Daniel McLaughlin; T.J. McKay; Shawn Mokert; Tracy Moroney, RN; Vince Podrybau; Dawn Polkaba; Cindy Roberts, RN; Adam Rodriguez; Heather Santiago; Barbara Schaffer, RN; Lora Snow-Piggott; Mark Stratton; Melissa Strozewski; Sebastian Thomas; Julia Vinton; Billy Warren; Ivan Whitaker; Brandley Williams

Meeting called to order at 10:01 am by Sandy Nygaard

Education

A. Lunch N learn

Rural Challenges with EMS

Lionel Lee, DO

Medical Director - Exceptional Community Hospital – Maricopa

An overview of the multiple challenges of Rural EMS. Presentation addressed the importance of shared resources, good communication, and trusting the locals.

B. Central Region Profile

Kearney Ambulance

Lora Snow-Piggott

Kearney Ambulance is owned by Cobre Valley Hospital and works closely with them. They cover 800 square miles, 8,000-10,000 people. They have 4 full time staff. They currently have one ambulance.

C. Topical Focus I

Arizona REACH Resource Equity & Access Coordination Hub

Erin Tams, Shannon Spotts, and Charley Larsen – Members of REACH Leadership Team

Contact: AZREACHLeadership@blackboxhs.com Powerpoint Presentation: <https://aems.org/images/pdf/fyi/reach-program.pdf>

AZ REACH streamlines the transfer process by facilitating calls for placement, connecting physicians, and following through on placement progress, allowing referring facility team members to focus on bedside care. In addition, AZ REACH will provide referring hospitals with comprehensive reporting on their patient transfer trends and any unmet needs they are experiencing. REACH is a voluntary, free 24/7 service that coordinates acute medical care transfers out of IHS, PL 93-638, and critical access hospitals across Arizona.

D Topical Focus II

Stress Reduction for First Responders: Hunkapi Farms Terra Schaad, LAC, SEP Founder and Executive Director Hunkapi Programs, Inc. and Hunkapi Farms Hunkapi website: <https://www.hunkapi.org/>

Administrative Business

A. General Report: Sandy Nygaard

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve made by Roy Ryals and seconded by Albert Razo, RN. Approved

2. AEMS Announcements:

- a. Annual Functional Group Voting Member Renewal - Deadline is today to register for being a Functional Group 2023 Voting Member.
- b. Paramedic Education Funding Initiative - All four Regions received additional funding from the State to support rural paramedic education (elevating current EMCT-B to an EMCT-P). Our intent is to fully fund EMCT B to EMCT P within different agencies. Open to all transport agencies and fire department/district in Gila and Pinal counties AND to those same organizations in Maricopa County if they are not part of the automatic aid system. Application deadline is 1/28/23. There will be a Question/Answer Meeting - 1/20/23
- c. 2023 AEMS Membership Campaign - The campaign is ongoing. We appreciate your advocacy and support in securing your organization's dues.

3. Old Business - None

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4. New Business - Dr. Castro Marin announced that there are educational videos now posted on AEMS website for the 2023 CAREMS guidelines and Drug Focus: Epinephrine. Partnering with Gila River EMS and Dr. Southworth to use with target solutions/ vector solutions.
5. State Report - Adam Rodriguez reported that the EMS and Trauma Portal coming spring of 2023. The regional needs assessment survey will soon be distributed soon. Dave Harden provided info on the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) training which includes four virtual trainings. Visit: <https://tim.az.gov/home> for training dates. New staff at BEMST - Sebastian Thomas.
Sebastian.Thomas@azdhs.gov
6. Jaime Beauvais with the AzCHER coalition reported that they will be having a tabletop in Phoenix, February 23rd, 2023 EMS / hospitals etc. invited AzCHER 2023 IN PERSON Radiation Tabletop Exercise (TTX) February 23, 2023 @ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Register at: <https://azcher.org/event/azcher-2023-radiation-tabletop-exercise-ttx/>

B. Planning & Outreach Report - Sandy Nygaard

1. Education
 - a. EMS CE Fall Forum - Dec 8 2022 Follow Up
CE Forms to be Distributed by 2/15/23
 - b. 23rd Annual EMS Odyssey Conference - June 8, 2023 - Virtual
 - c. Other Education initiatives -Twelve Central Region rural representatives were approved by AEMS to participate in the HandTevy Instructor Training - 1/20/23 in Payson. Thank you to Banner Payson Medical Service for providing the space. Special thanks to Sandy Nygaard, Kayla Cole, and Shelley Henry for their coordination of this event.
2. Outreach
 - a. Agency/Hospital/Fire Contact Updates/Transitions. Please let AEMS know of any contact changes or additions. New participants may join our mailing list at: <https://aems1975.wufoo.com/forms/z8gi4zu1ehz2c8/>

C. Patient Management Report – Garth Gemar, MD (for Ryan Southworth, DO)

1. Categorization - Cindy Roberts reported that the Categorization Committee met on January 12. The committee will soon be categorizing a new HonorHealth Complete Care Satellite Emergency Department. A plan was made to commence re-categorization of all Free-Standing/Hospital Satellite Emergency Departments. Categorization link may now be found on AEMS website - both as an icon on top right of home page and as a submenu item of the Functional Group menu item. The Categorization Status Change Form is also posted on AEMS website - same landing page as Categorization links - this form is to be used by facilities to update any changes in categorized services.
2. Red Book - Garth Gemar MD
 - a. Central AZ Regional EMS Guidelines Update - Now available on AEMS website where you will find updated CARES Guidelines, Summary of the Changes, and Training Videos <https://aems.org/red-book-chapter-3>
3. AZ Stroke Initiative - Robert Londeree, MD/Garth Gemar, MD
 - a. Arizona Stroke Initiative - No news on progress of this committee.
4. Pediatric- Mickey Kovach RN - No report available.
5. Other Reports - None

Meeting Adjourned at 12:13 pm - Motion made by Roy Ryals, seconded by Barb Schaffer, RN

Next AEMS Board Meeting is February 15, 2023 at Noon

Next Functional Group Meeting March 15, 2023 at 10 AM