

**Northwest Community EMS System
Education Committee Meeting
MINUTES
March 1, 2011**

Agenda item	Discussion
Call to Order Previous Minutes Review of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to order at 09:05 • Minutes accepted with spelling corrections
Introductions	No Introductions
Education Committee Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System Entry – Classes have been scheduled. Verification documentation is the process of being developed. There have been some who have attempted system entry and have re-tested on several occasions without re-education. The documentation will be utilized as a means of confirming re-education completion. • Peer Educator – Classes are being scheduled monthly for both Peer levels. C. Mattera explained that the class will be more of a “skills rodeo” than a teaching session. Those attending will be validating their ability to teach a system recognized skill. Six skill stations will cover multiple related skills (i.e. airway, vascular access. etc.). The Peer Educator will be required to complete all stations. Each station will have built in errors that will require the Peer Educator to recognized and corrected. C. Mattera will email the skills each will be evaluated on. • Video CE – J. Schneidwind reported that they were unable to confirm taping dates due to the Prairie Arts Center making cut backs. John also stated that G. Fabsits may have a facility available. C. Mattera reminded that a member of the EMS staff needs to be present during the taping session as a technical advisor to verify accuracy the procedure being taped. J. Tobiasz stated he would check the availability of McDonald’s studios. • EMT Gap Analysis - It was asked if there were any didactic requirements for those EMTs who certified before the new educational standards were being taught. C. Mattera stated that there would be little needs if they (EMTs) have been attending the PM CE. There have been changes at the national level (CPAP, 12L placement) but they were not implemented in to local SOPs. She reminded all that the National Education Standards could be found at www.ems.gov <p>Education Policy Updates – Open discussion on CE and annual testing ideas continued from January and February’s meetings. The discussion began with the May annual exam. It was asked if the time schedule for testing could be extended in to June. There was extensive discussion from many that encompassed several of the idea topics proposed. Both negative and positive findings were discussed. There was a concern that we became focused on the 5 – 10% that were not maintaining test exemption and not including the 90% that were meeting or exceeding the requirements. C. Mattera stated that many of the agencies were paying for money being spent by the agency. C. Hudecek of Schiller Park FD stated that we should view the test and CE as separate topics of discussion. After additional discussion, J. Tobiasz suggested that we dissect each idea out of the list and address it separately for achievability. He continued that each idea does play a role in the overall plan, but we need to establish a starting point and avoid repetitious discussion. C. Mattera stated that the focus is not necessarily the number of hours but how CE addresses competency. How time, money and resources can best be used to cover content and promote competency. With the focus being on having a legitimate CE program that is defensible and uses time effectively and appropriately. When asked, C. Mattera stated that the System would consider entertaining the idea of removing the May exam. She continued that the System could use another month of CE giving what a PM needs to know to be able to perform their job. Discussion ensued on each idea separately. It was concluded that the goal is to achieve an increase in the educational CE offerings, while removing the need for annual testing. May’s CE would be emphasized as skills CE. Using both the agency’s Peer Educator and the System’s Nurse Educator to cover the theory behind the skill itself. S. Wood emphasized that we would need to evaluate/measure the effectiveness of this approach. January’s CE was a successful step in establishing this type of approach to a joint CE. Discussion proceeded on to the number of CEs that one would need to attend; the number that would require the completion of the make-up packet; and the number of post-tests that would need to be completed. Initial considerations included attendance at 8/10 CEs offered; the 9th CE could either be attended or a packet completed; but all 10 CE’s post-tests would need to be completed. The current number of “live” CEs that must be attended came</p>

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	into questions and would be verified. These last discussion ideas and the post-test passing score would be tabled until next month due to time constraints.
System and State Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C. Mattera provided a NWC EMSS Strategic Plan 2011-2015 (Draft #1) of the <i>External Forces Impacting Our Planning</i> handout. It was recommended that this document be reviewed and that as a committee we are striving to meet the goals. • The new AHA guidelines were distilled down and incorporated into the new SOPs. • Reduced size SOPs are being worked on so that they would be distributed at the same time as the full-size. C. Mattera is working on a centralized price for the System agencies. • State exam results as follows: EMT 99.2% pass rate for System/66.8% State-wide; PM 97.1% System/72.8% State-wide • A site review was completed with 100% approval and no change recommendations to either the EMT or PM program • The website is anticipated to be turned on in the next 2 weeks. Address = www.nwc.emss.org • 30 EMTs have passed the entry exam for the fall PM class; 18 have completed their file requirements; once there is 40 completed and matched to an agency the class will be closed • Additional agencies are still needed for unaffiliated students to be able to complete ride time.
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:02 Next meeting – April 5, 2011