
Brent D. Sherard, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P., Director and State Health Officer

Governor Matthew H. Mead

February 11, 2011

TO: Ambulance Services

FROM: Andy Gienapp, EMS Administrator

I can certainly say that it has been an interesting six months. A lot has occurred, I know far more about Wyoming than I did in August and I think we are on the right track. I apologize for not contacting all of you sooner, but I hope to do better in the future.

There are several things I want to bring your attention to. Some you will need to take action on and some are just for your information.

The OEMS Budget

Like everyone else, the OEMS has seen ever increasing amounts of regulation and accountability with a simultaneous decrease in funding. We lost a couple of large funding streams in 2010. We lost our funding from the Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant (roughly \$80,000) and we saw the appropriations that were allocated to us under the EMT retirement bill expire. Taken together, we lost around \$460,000 that we had for the FY 2009-2010.

At the request of John Said and WAEMSA, as well as Paula Fagnant and WAPP, Representative Steward picked up our flag for us and managed to get \$383,000 (half of the original appropriation) through the Joint Appropriations Committee. Of course, this budget request will have to be voted on and approved by both the House and the Senate. If it is approved, we will not receive the money till July. If it is not approved, things will be very tight for the fall of 2011, and spring of 2012.

Regardless, I am deeply grateful to John and WAEMSA, Paula and WAPP as well as Chief Lyle Armstrong and the Wyoming Fire Chiefs Association. All three of them were present for the Committee hearing and it definitely showed the support of these organizations for EMS in Wyoming.

Surveys

Once again we have asked for your help by way of two separate surveys. One of these is the annual survey for EMS and for those of you that have already completed this and returned it we greatly appreciate your effort. If you did not receive a survey for your service, spilled coffee on the last one, or accidentally lost it on the last elk hunting trip, we would love to provide you with another one! Please contact Jay Ostby and he will get you another copy. The other survey you should have received was related to the EMS-C program. Again, many of you have filled this out already. If you have not completed yours, please do so. If you did not receive a copy, please contact Carol Jansen in our office and she will get another one to you.

Brent D. Sherard, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P., Director and State Health Officer

Governor Matthew H. Mead

I know that surveys seem tedious, but they are one of the best means we have to measure how we are doing, what issues you face and they help us justify our budget requests. So the more information we have regarding your particular area, the better able we are to serve you. We do appreciate your willingness to help us out in this manner.

Narrowbanding

Please review the following from Bob Symons. The issue of narrowbanding has a lot of implications for you, our local fire services and our hospitals.

As of today, February 4, 2011, there are just 696 days or less than 23 months until the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rule on Narrowbanding VHF and UHF channels becomes effective. The attached document provides guidance on narrowbanding and links to additional information.

The FCC has stated that extension waivers are unlikely and failure to comply could result in loss of FCC license, fines and/or interference from narrowband users.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

*Robert (Bob) Symons
PSCC Administrative Support
bsymon@wyo.gov
Phone - 307-777-5065
Fax - 307-777-6725*

Upcoming Training Opportunities

March 25 & 26, 2011 Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP)	Casper College Paramedic Technology Program
April 6 & 7, 2011 Trauma and Disaster Management for the Healthcare Provider	Sponsored by: Wyoming ENA, Central Wyoming AACN and Wyoming Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services Association
April 7 through 9, 2011 EMS University	Campbell County Memorial Hospital
April 15 & 16, 2011 Advanced Cardiac Life Support	Casper College Paramedic Technology Program



Commit to your health.
visit www.health.wyo.gov



Brent D. Sherard, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P., Director and State Health Officer

Governor Matthew H. Mead

<p>May 6 & 7, 2011 Pediatric Advanced Life Support</p>	<p>Casper College Paramedic Technology Program</p>
--	--

Please see the website at: <http://www.health.wyo.gov/sho/ems/conferences.html> for more details.

In addition to the above classes, we are hoping to sponsor Steve Ott again to do an EMT Instructor Course. We have tentatively planned this for May 13th and 14th. If you currently teach EMT classes in Wyoming, or would like to teach, you need this course. I am looking forward to a better working relationship with our Instructor/Coordinators and hoping to give all of you some better tools to use in your courses.

Thanks again to you and your families for your service to Wyoming. Please stay safe and well.
Best Wishes,

Andy Gienapp
Office of EMS