

Meeting Minutes

August 4, 2004

Rhode Island CODES Board of Directors

Location

Rhode Island Department of Health

Rm 410

3 Capitol Hill

Providence, RI 02908

Attendance:

Board of Directors

Joseph Bucci, PE

RI DOT Traffic Safety Office

Jay S. Buechner, PhD

RI CODES Program Director

Peter Leary

Office of EMS

Janis Loiselle

Transportation Office on Highway Safety

William A. Waters, PhD
Deputy Director of Health

RI CODES staff

Ted Donnelly
RI CODES Epidemiologist/Program Manager

Jay Buechner, PhD opened the meeting at 10:15. He welcomed those in attendance and explained that William Waters, PhD, who usually chairs the meetings, was unexpectedly detained at another meeting. Dr. Waters arrived about 10:30.

Ted Donnelly reported submittal of proposal for another five years of funding under the CODES Network Cooperative Agreement. The project will continue with data linkage and reports along with the following changes:

- Add Death Certificate data to the linked tables**
- Leonard Green will represent the Office of Vital Records on the RI CODES Board**
- Increase frequency of Board meetings to one per month**

Ted Donnelly provided a RI CODES update:

- Crash records are available for Calendar Years 2002 and 2003**
- Will participate in the 2004 Annual CODES Technical Assistance**

Meeting in Arlington, VA

Jay Buechner presented a GIS poster that demonstrated ambulance travel times to hospitals in Rhode Island and the effects of rush hour traffic. Most of the population of the state is within 20 minutes of a hospital, ideally. There are islands and mainland areas of low population density that require somewhat longer transport times. Severely injured patients can be transported by air but the services are based in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

E.g. air evacuation can be provided from Block Island by a service with a plane based in New London, CT. The US Coast Guard provides backup medical evacuation in inclement weather. (Peter Leary)

The meeting was adjourned at 11AM.