

# **Governor's Advisory Council**

**February 13, 2008**

## **MINUTES**

### **Member's Present**

Dr. Tim Calicott  
Deloris Sykes  
Doug Duerr  
Jamin Snarr  
Garry Odom  
David Stoppel  
Rod Barrett  
Tony Hickerson  
Dr. Monte Gagliardi

### **Member's Absent**

Billy Artis  
Dr. Marvin Leibovich  
Richard Taft  
CC McAllister  
Dr. Len Kemp  
Todd Freeman  
Kenneth Starnes  
Dr. David Schmidt

### **ADH Staff**

David Taylor  
Sonya Sampson  
Norajean Miles Harrell  
Addie Grigsby-Roshell  
Larry New  
Brian Nation  
Stella Nelson

### **Visitors**

Richard Floyd  
Cathee Terrell  
Denise Carson  
Karen Konarski-Hart  
John Gray

Sedley Tomlinson  
Mick Smith  
Pat Huar  
Pam Rolens

Brian Moore  
Joe Harrington  
Laura Guthree  
Myra Looney Wood

Approved May 15, 2008

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Timothy Calicott called the Governor's Advisory Council to order on February 13, 2008 at 1:35 p.m.

**II. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION**

The Governor's Council Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 13, 2008. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The floor was open for approval of the November 14, 2007 minutes. A motion was made by Garry Odom and seconded by David Stoppel to approve the November 14, 2007 minutes. The motion was passed and Council approved the minutes.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

A - Section Chief Update – David Taylor provided the following Section Chief Update:

**Paramedic Scholarship Fund & Training:**

The Office of Rural Health and Primary Care & the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems is currently initiating the Federal Fiscal Year 2008 sub-grant process with all Arkansas Paramedic training sites. The following will be available for distribution between all eligible paramedic training sites: \$40,000 for paramedic scholarships and \$20,000 for paramedic training site equipment. All Arkansas accredited paramedic training sites have submitted a notice to participate.

**Distribution of Triage Kits and N-95 Mask:**

The Section of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems (Section) is pleased to announce the distribution of Start Triage Kits & Training Modules, Health Care Particulate Respirators Type N-95 Mask, and Test Fit Kits for N-95 Mask to all Arkansas licensed ambulance services are close to being completed. We will complete all distribution by the end of February. As a reminder, the equipment was purchased through the Hospital Preparedness Grant and Center for Disease Control - Public Health Preparedness Grant.

**Website Update:**

The Section has incorporated suggestions from the EMS community to assist with daily activities for customers. Employers can now verify EMT certification, review minutes, ambulance services, EMT classes, documents related to rules and regulations and outgoing Section memos. The Section will continue to update the site with customer suggestions to help serve the EMS community better.



Approved May 15, 2008

**Basic Reciprocity candidates:**

Certified via reciprocity in 2007	52
Certified since January 1, 2008	9
Active files waiting on required documents	36

**Continuing Education**

CEU total approved in 2006	3224
CEU total approved in 2007	2667
CEU approved in 2008	618

<b><u>Statewide totals:</u></b>	Current (2/11/08)	<b>6153</b>	(11/14/07)	<b>5983</b>	<b>+170</b>
<b>EMT-Ambulance</b>	<b>4060</b>		<b>3919</b>	<b>+141</b>	
<b>EMT- Basic</b>	<b>300</b>		<b>300</b>		
<b>EMT- Intermediate</b>	<b>160</b>		<b>158</b>	<b>+ 2</b>	
<b>EMT- Paramedic</b>	<b>1632</b>		<b>1606</b>	<b>+26</b>	

Data for this report reflects information current through February 11, 2008.

**A-2 Regulatory Report** - Larry New gave the following Regulatory Report:

Since the last EMS Advisory Council meeting on November 14, 2008, the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems has completed the following inspections:

200 Series – 25 Ambulance Services – 68 Ambulances (License expire on February 28, 2008)

700 Series - 12 Ambulance Services – 49 ambulances

**TO DATE WITH OPTIONAL SKILLS:**

CPAP -----	13
CVAV -----	1
HUBER NEEDLE -----	18
CARDIAC THROMBOLITICS -----	8
ADULT TIBIAL -----	31
RSI -----	1 (1 pending)
TOTAL AMBULANCES SERVICES ---	202
TOTAL AMBULANCES -----	648

**A-3 Trauma Systems Report** – Brian Nation gave the following Trauma Systems Report:

The Trauma Advisory Council is considering making some important changes to Arkansas' Rules and Regulations for Trauma Systems. This document was last updated in 2002 and members of the Council feel that it needs to be modified to match some recent changes in standards written by the American College of Surgeons.

Along with these changes members are considering some modifications, which will make the system a little easier to manage for the medical community. A Rules and Regulations Working Group was formed to examine the document and they have proposed changes such as moving the certification period for designated trauma centers from 3 to 4 years. They've also suggested that medical personnel should only have to take the Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) class once. To make sure that these personnel members continue their training past this course the group has asked that each designated trauma facility host an educational program focusing on trauma for physicians, nurses, anesthesiologists, EMT's and other medical professionals associated with the center.

The Trauma Advisory Council will be meeting on February 21, 2008 to consider these changes along with other modifications suggested by the group. If all changes are approved by the Council, the Section of EMS and Trauma Systems will follow administrative procedures process to send the proposed revisions on to the Board of Health and then the Governor's office if the Board approves the new document.

## **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **B-1 EMSC –**

Addie Grigsby gave EMSC report – Jamin Snarr requested to step down from his position on the EMSC Committee. Garry Odom agreed to replace Jamin on the committee. The Arkansas EMSC program is continuing work on the performance measures in order to meet the national goals. It is the number one goal to insure that children receive the very best care during a medical emergency situation; however, to assist with identifying any areas that need improvement, we must start with data collection. We are currently in the process of collecting data by surveying hospital emergency departments and ambulance systems throughout the state. The Council appreciates everyone who returned their surveys, and if anyone has not returned their survey, we ask that you return the survey as soon as possible. For those ambulance services completing the on/off line and pediatric surveys we are proud to announce that we have on-line capabilities for your convenience. Each ambulance services completing their survey by the deadline will receive an opportunity to have their names entered into a drawing for a Pediatric pediatric restraint system. The restraint system is valued at \$300.00 and we are awarding several systems.

Ms. Judy Taylor is our EMSC family representative. Judy is currently working with youth groups to provide CPR training. Also, she is working with local businesses and schools to purchase AED systems. We are especially proud of Ms. Taylor and the work she is doing in the community.

**B-2 Training Committee –**

Jamin Snarr – Handed out a draft on 2007 Computer Based test results on Basic, Intermediate and Paramedic levels. The document pointed out that the State is behind on national pass rate levels and more so at the paramedic level. The document provided the 2007 computer based test results. The document will be distributed to all training site representatives outlining the schools pass/fail ratio. Recruitment and retention of EMT's in the state of Arkansas is a must and the Training Committee will continue to work on project to encourage recruitment and retention.

**B-3 EMS Rules & Regulations Committee –** David Taylor stated it is important to hold off on the Rules and Regulations adoption until scope of practice and educational standards is published this year. The documents will need to be incorporated into the skill set for all levels of certification. The Disciplinary Workgroup will meeting in April if the other groups are ready to move forward. The processes is going very well and anticipate a product soon.

**B-4 Air Ambulance Regulations Sub-Committee –** Dr. Calicott provided the report. Rules and Regulations working group scheduled for March 14, 2009. The committee will provide a report at the next meeting scheduled in May. Dr. Calicott requested a volunteer from the Council to replace Michele Staggs as the EMS Advisory Council representative. David Stoppel volunteered to be appointed to the Air Ambulance Subcommittee.

**B-5 EMS Data Committee –** Garry Odom provided the report. The committee will meet February 19, 2008. The committee is still working on data dictionary to assist providers with definitions regarding data entry. The group made a commitment to have the dictionary completed by the May 2008 EMS Advisory Council meeting. The EMS Office is still not receiving data from all services. The EMS Office is working with services to make sure data is being submitted properly.

**C. PROJECT UPDATES**

**C-1 RSI Update –** David Taylor provided report. Med-Flight is the first ambulance service that has received approval to start the RSI two study. They will provide a report at the next Council meeting. The office is working with one additional ambulance service regarding the application process and expects to have them up and running soon.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Review of Equipment List: Survey –** The Council reviewed recommended revisions to mandatory ambulance inspection sheets. The Section conducted a survey of all ambulance services and provided the Council with the suggested revisions. (See attachment #1) The council approved the Section's

Approved May 15, 2008

recommended equipment list. The Section will seek approval from the Board of Health during the April 2008 meeting. If the proposed inspections sheets are approved by the Board of Health, the Section will implement as soon as possible.

**VI. OPEN DISCUSSION**

The EMS Advisory Council reviewed a letter from EMS Chief Becky Stewart regarding Central EMS' Quarterly Report for Thrombolytic Protocol. No further discussion.

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATES**

The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council will be held May 21, 2008 (Revised later to May 15) at the Section EMS & Trauma Systems.

**VIII. ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn was made by Jamin Snarr and Second by David Stoppel. Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.

**Attachment I**  
**Recommended Revisions to Mandatory Ambulance Inspection Sheets**  
**EMS Advisory Council Meeting**  
**February 13, 2008**

**Incorporated Revisions:**

- Change 18 gauge needled requirements to: Demonstrate ability to administer IM, SQ and IV Piggy Back.
- Removed Pocket Mask
- Remove Simple Oxygen Face Mask
- Change Combitube/PTL: Esophageal-Tracheal Multi-Lumen Airway for Intermediate Ambulances and added to Air, Advance Response, & Paramedic
- Add to all Inspection Sheets: Triage Tags/Tap (Color Coded: Black, Red, Yellow, Green)
- Clarified Pedi and Infant O2 mask.
- Change wording from “Paramedic” shears to “EMT” shears.
- Add Pulse Oximetry- Advanced units
- Monitoring of Blood or Blood products- added to optional medication list.
- Thrombolytic semi-annual report clarified on medication list.
- Add to all Inspection Sheets: Radio Frequencies
  - Enroute to scene: 155.235 mHz.
  - At scene: 155.280 mHz.
  - Departing scene: 155.340 mHz.

**Suggest Revisions not incorporated: (Need to discuss)**

- Reduce, eliminate, or make optional the requirement for 6 triangular bandages if the ambulance carries arm slings.
  - Reasoning: The most common use of the triangular bandage is as an arm sling. Some services carry a wide variety of sizes of slings, thus carrying 6 triangular bandages seems to be redundant. (Question: swathe to immobilize fractured humerus. Joint above and below fracture????)
- Increase spine boards from one to two, increase one set of straps to two sets
  - **(EMT email)** I live in rural Arkansas, its 32 miles to the nearest hospital and it’s just a good first aid station. The ambulance service that covers us just puts the basic equipment on their trucks. If you have more than one patient that needs boards, head beds, and straps they want have them. The ambulance is also 25 minutes from us. When they don’t have the equipment they have to call for back up and what happens to the golden hour. **Note: This was also requested by a licensed ambulance service.**
- Air Ambulance: Air Equipment needs to specific like the ground lists. It leaves too much flexibility. I realize that space and weight are major issues for helicopters, but leaving this much flexibility could jeopardize patient care. Example: It just says ET tubes (they could have 2 sizes and pass the inspection)
- Adult and Child Stylettes

Approved May 15, 2008

- Multi-cuff Blood Pressure Systems
- Require both a folding or scoop stretcher **and** a stair chair.
- Clarify intraosseous needles as 1-adult and 1 pediatric
- Advanced Response: There should be two portable oxygen instead of 1 because they have no on-board oxygen tank.

**Stretcher Ambulance Additions:**

- Add AED
- Add BP Cuff
- Add Radio

**Required Medication List for Advance Response, Air and Paramedic:**

I am not sure I understand why the Advanced Response is not required to carry narcotics or benzos. They have should provide the same level of care if Paramedics and Advanced is associated with their licensure. There are many emergency medical situations that a patient could benefit from early administration of either medication. The standards should not be different.

**Refer to Ambulance Inspection Sheets Effective August 16, 2008.**