

EMS
Governor's Advisory Council
May 15, 2008
Minutes

Member's Present

Dr. Tim Calicott
Cathee Terrell
Garry Odom
Norbert Gunderman, Jr.
Todd Freeman
Deloris Sykes
Rod Barrett
Doug Duerr
Dr. Leibovich
Tony Hickerson
David Stoppel
Dr. Schmidt
Jeff Priebe

Member's Absent

Billy Artis
Rickard Taft
Dr. Len Kemp
Kenneth Starnes
Jamin Snarr
Dr. Monte Gagliardi
CC McAllister

ADH Staff

David Taylor
Helen Huitt
Norajean Miles
Addie Grigsby-Roshell
Larry New
Brian Nation

Visitors

Renee Mallory
Denis Carson
Danny Bercher
Matthew Brumley
Sedley Tomlinson

Robert Fox
Mack Hutchison
Charles T. Goswell
Laura Guthree
Amanda Warren

Sharon King
Jason Castleberry
Myra Looney Wood
Pam Rolens
Mrs. Ken Kelly

Rhonda Calicott
Terry Childers
Sidney Ward
Kim Hall
Ken Kelly

Approved August 7, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Timothy Calicott called the EMS Advisory Council to order on May 15, 2008 at 1:46 p.m.

II. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION

The EMS Advisory Council met on Wednesday, May 15, 2008. Members and guests introduced themselves. The following were introduced as new Council members: Cathee Terrell, Norman Gunderman and Jeff Priebe. A special presentation was given to Dr. Marvin Leibovich for 27 years of service to the EMS Advisory Council. He is now a member of the Arkansas State Board of Health.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The floor was open for approval of February 13, 2008 minutes. There was a correction under section B-5 that the Air Ambulance Sub-committee representative should be David Stoppel instead of Garry Odom. A motion was made by Garry Odom and seconded by David Stoppel to approve the February 13, 2008 minutes with the correction. The motion was passed and minutes were approved by Council.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Section Chief Update – David Taylor provided the Chief’s update.

Colleague Update:

The Section is pleased to announce that Helen Huitt, EMT-Intermediate has accepted the EMS Specialist position with the Section. Ms. Huitt was introduced to the Council members. The Section currently has one EMS Specialist position open and will continue to advertise the position. The Section will keep the Council updated regarding the status of the vacancy.

A-1 Certification Update – Norajeane Miles provided the following certification report:

March 31, 2008 recertification (Complete)

Recertification packets mailed on January 8, 2008 - 1545

Processed by close of business March 31, 2008 - 1118 (440 expired)

Processed since April 1, 2008 - 98 (342 expired)

Expired list was posted to the website and memo mailed to the services on April 1, 2008 at 11:00 am

Classes Approved by the Section of EMS and Trauma Systems for 2008:

Basic classes: 35 ongoing or complete between April & May, 08

Basic refresher classes: 96 completed between Jan and May 2008

Advanced classes: 17 ongoing classes, several will complete in 08/09
(5 to test in June/July)

2 Intermediate approved and in progress to complete in May 08

Advanced Refresher classes: 33 completed since 1/1/08.

New Certification

Certified in 2007 (includes reciprocity)	549
Newly Certified in 2008 (includes reciprocity)	242

Reciprocity

Advance Reciprocity candidates:

Certified via Reciprocity in 2007	62
Certified since January 1, 2008	18
Purged from files (no longer eligible)	31
Active files waiting on required documents-	9

Basic Reciprocity candidates:

Certified via reciprocity in 2007	52
Certified since January 1, 2008	24
Active files waiting on required documents-	25

Continuing Education

CEU total approved in 2006	3224
CEU total approved in 2007	2667
CEU approved to date in 2008	1416

<u>Statewide EMT totals:</u> Current (2/11/08) 6153	(5/07/08) 5986	(-167)
EMT-Ambulance	4060	3955
EMT- Basic	300	294
EMT- Intermediate	160	159
EMT- Paramedic	1632	1577

Data for this report reflects information current through May 10, 2008.

A.-2- Regulatory Update – Larry New provided the following Regulatory Update:

The Section has completed the following inspections:

- 600 Series – 38 Ambulance Services – 102 Ambulances (License expired on April 30, 2008),
- 200 Series – 23 Ambulance Services – 78 Ambulances (License will expire on May 31, 2008),

OPTIONAL SKILLS:

CPAP -----	17 (Increase of 4)
CVAV -----	1
HUBER NEEDLE -----	18
CARDIAC THROMBOLITICS -----	8
ADULT TIBIAL -----	31
RSI -----	2 (Increase of 1)

TOTAL AMBULANCE SERVICES: 202

1-B -----	20
AIR MEDICAL -----	26
ADVANCE RESP. -----	6
INTERMEDIATE -----	4
STRETCHER -----	1
SP. PURPOSE -----	11
VOLUNTEER -----	19
1-A -----	1
PARAMEDIC -----	114

TOTAL AMBULANCES: 645

A-3 Trauma Systems Report – Brian Nation provided the Trauma Systems Report: Members of the Trauma Advisory Council have finished working on the proposed revisions to the Rules and Regulations for Trauma Systems. The proposed rules were approved for public hearing by the Board of Health on April 24, 2008 and the hearing will take place on June 13, 2008. The Section will continue to follow the administrative procedures process to move the regulations forward for adoption. If everything goes well during the public hearing, enactment of regulations is anticipated on August 25, 2008.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

B-1 EMSC – Addie Grigsby Roshell provided the report. Dr. Tonya Thompson, EMSC Principle Investigator and Director of the EMSC Program, presented the data that was compiled from the state survey to the Pediatric Academic Society. The group was very impressed with the findings and she has been asked to conduct a national survey.

Simulation Course for Paramedics covering pediatric emergencies in the field training will be Available soon:

- Respiratory distress
- Persistent seizures
- Pediatric codes

Pilot testing has already begun with Metropolitan EMS ambulance service and plans are underway to open up the training to paramedics across the state.

The Arkansas EMSC program achieved an 80% rating for the surveys conducted and would like to thank everyone who completed and returned the surveys. Because of the high response rate, the Arkansas EMSC program will not have to resurvey for the upcoming year.

B-2 Training Committee – No report, the committee will meet June 19, 2008 at 10 a.m. The committee will report progress at that time.

B-3 EMS Rules & Regulations Committee – Myra Wood from the Licensure and Registration Rules and Regulations Subcommittee distributed information regarding Special Purpose ambulance service licensure (attachment #1). The Sub-committee is requesting guidance from the Council regarding crew requirements and equipment needs. The Council requested the Section to survey all current Special Purpose ambulance services regarding personnel

requirements and equipment utilization. A motion was made by Dr. Leibovich and seconded by David Stoppel to conduct a survey and have the Section report back to the Council. Motion was passed by Council members.

B-4 Air Ambulance Regulations Sub-Committee – Report provided by David Stoppel. The Air Ambulance Regulations Sub-Committee will meet at the 2008 EMS Conference at the Hot Springs Convention Center on August 7, 2008. The committee has completed revising the air ambulance regulations. The committee will now meet on a quarterly bases.

B-5 EMS Data Committee – Garry Odom and Brian Nation provided the report. Council members were provided the final draft of the EMS Data Dictionary for review and adoption. There was a motion made by Garry Odom and second by Dr. Schmidt to approve the Data Dictionary as submitted. The motion was passed by the Council.

PROJECT UPDATES

C-1 RSI Update – David Taylor provided Baptist Health Med-Flight’s first semi-annual RSI report for review. Mr. Taylor is currently working with one additional ground ambulance service to initiate their RSI program. Mr. Taylor reported that data is starting to come in and he would keep the Council updated regarding reporting efforts.

C-2 Paramedic Survey Results – David Taylor provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the results of the Paramedic Survey. All Council members received a hard copy of the survey. A letter of notification regarding the completing of the survey was sent to all ambulance services in the state. The survey is posted on the Section’s website for review at: http://www.healthylarkansas.com/ems/pdf/2007_ems_paramedics_survey.pdf The Section is currently working on an ambulance service need assessment. Results should be available to the Council members by January 2009.

C-3 Equipment List Implementation – David Taylor stated the Arkansas Board of Health approved recommendations from the Council regarding the revised equipment list. All ambulance services were notified of the new equipment lists effective June 1, 2008. A few of the new requirements revolves around mandated radio frequencies: enroute to scene: 155.235 MHz, at scene: 155.280 MHz, departing scene: 155.340 Mhz, Triage Tags/Tape (color coded: black, red, yellow and green) and the addition of a Pulse Oximetry and Esophageal-Tracheal Multi—Lumen Airway to advanced permitted ambulances by October 2008.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Stroke/Protocol Development** - Dr. Calicott is on the Stroke Prevention Board as the EMS representative. He discussed the need for a statewide EMS stroke protocol to be developed. Rod Barrett made a motion for a subcommittee to be organized and develop a statewide stroke protocol. The motion was seconded by David Stoppel and motion passed by Council.

B. **TAC Nominations** – Dr. Calicott advised the Council that there will be one position open July 2008 on the Trauma Advisory Council for EMS representation. The Council is required to submit two nominees to the Governor’s office for consideration for appointment. The following nominees will be submitted to the Governor’s office for consideration if they are interested in serving: Dr. John Cone, Captain Robin Lowery and Dr. Johannes Gruenwald. David Taylor and Dr. Calicott will work with each nominee to see if they are interested in

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serving and a letter from the Council will be sent to the Governor's office. After discussion, a motion was made to close nominations and to submit nominees in the following order: Dr. John Cone, Captain Robin Lowery and Dr. Gruenwald.

- C. **Stipend** – Council members were informed to submit required documents if they are interested in obtaining available stipend. Please return paperwork to David Taylor or Sonya Sampson.

VI. OPEN DISCUSSION

Council members were asked to complete a contact information sheet and return to David Taylor.

VI. NEXT MEETING DATES

The next EMS Governor's Advisory Council meeting is scheduled at the 2008 EMS Conference in Hot Springs, AR at 1:00 p.m. room TBA.

VIII. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm

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Attachment # 1
Licensure and Regulatory Rules and Regulations Subcommittee
Request to Governor's EMS Advisory Council
05-15-08

Introduction: The Licensure and Regulatory Rules and Regulations Subcommittee are a group of industry volunteers that are working with David Taylor and Larry New to rewrite the sections of the EMS Rules and Regulations that pertain to licensure of ambulance services and other general regulations.

We have met numerous times and have much work yet to do. The general trend in our work has been to set write clear regulations that protect the public and improve the standards and performance of emergency medical services in Arkansas. We are asking for your direction regarding special purpose ambulances which apparently has been addressed by prior GACs.

Regulation in Question: Current regulation states
SECTION III. LICENSURE OF AMBULANCE SERVICES
F. Special Purpose Services:

1. Definition of license

A Special Purpose License shall be issued to an applicant who provides a specific medical service to a limited population group and emergency evacuation services only, and does not participate in the business of providing continuous general population response for emergency medical services.

2. Appropriate vehicle and equipment required

Each licensee shall ensure that the appropriate vehicle and equipment be available to perform the services set forth in SECTION VII.

Current Practice: Currently a special purpose ambulance is not required to have medically certified or trained staff, there is no specific equipment required, and once licensed there is no reinspection required.

Of 11 special purpose vehicles, 9 are operated by industries and 2 are operated by hospitals and are used for interfacility transports of in-patients.

Issue: Should every 'ambulance' licensed by the state of Arkansas be required to have to meet at least some standards? Does number 2. above clearly set a standard?

Would you consider requiring special purpose to have at least the following?

- Certified, licensed, or medically trained personnel with the patient that are oriented to the vehicle and equipment, capable of meeting the patients medical needs, and approved by the Medical Director
- A minimum list of basic patient care equipment specific to the special population to address patient needs until arrival at the facility or arrival of an emergency ambulance
- Annual or periodic inspection by the Section of EMS