

Approved July 19, 2007

# Governor's Advisory Council

May 23, 2007

## Minutes

### Member's Present

Dr. Tim Calicott  
Michelle Staggs  
David Stoppel  
CC McAllister  
Jamin Snarr  
Deloris Sykes  
Dr. Monte Gagliardi  
Garry Odom  
Dr. Leibovich

### Member's Absent

Billy Artis  
Todd Freeman  
Rod Barrett  
Doug Deurr  
Dr. David Schmidt  
Dr. Len Kemp  
Kenneth Starnes  
Tony Hickerson  
Richard Taft

### ADH Staff

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

### Visitors

Alyce Wagner  
Barry Burrus  
Robert Fox  
Laura Guthrie  
Sedley Thomlinson

Myra Looney Wood  
Denise Carson  
Pam Rollins  
Ken Kelly  
Scott Howie

Tom Wilson  
Tommy Rich  
Joe Hennington  
Kim Hall

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Timothy Calicott called the Governor's Advisory Council to order on May 23, 2007 at 1:45 p.m.

**II. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION/RECOGNITION OF EMS WEEK**

The Governor's Council Meeting was held on Wednesday, May 23, 2007, Members and guests introduced themselves. Dr. Calicott thanked everyone for attending the EMS activities and thanked all sponsors for assisting.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Director's Update** – David Taylor gave the Director's update. Handed out for review and discussed the following:

**National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO):**

On March 18 - 21, 2007 a representative from National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) visited the state to determine the location of their 2009 annual conference. Several sites were visited and a location will be determined in the near future. As time grows near, David Taylor and the Section of EMS and Trauma Systems will need assistance from EMS Advisory Board members, Arkansas EMT associations and EMTs across the state to assist with the conference. This is a great opportunity for Arkansas to take a leading role in the EMS profession.

**Department of Health & Human Services De-merger:**

Effective July 1, 2007 the Department of Health & Human Services will de-merge and form the Department of Health. Slight to no impact to the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems is expected. The Section will obtain a new mailing address. A notice will be sent to interested parties when exact address is determined.

**Website Update:**

The office website has been updated with new materials including:

- Trauma Advisory Council Minutes
- EMT Lapsed List
- Office notifications to EMS community
- Section updates regarding exams
- Surveys

**EMS Week Thank You:**

David Taylor thanked members and guests for participating in this year's EMS Week activities. On Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> several ambulance services and EMTs spent the day with the Arkansas Twisters to celebrate EMS Week. On Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup> KTHV's Morning Show featured the 2006 ambulance services of the year. The EMT Association, Arkansas EMS Foundation, Arkansas Ambulance Association, and Section of EMS & Trauma Systems

colleagues received special recognition for assisting with the decorations and hosting the open house.

**A-1 Certification Update** – Norajean Miles gave the following certification report:

Certification Report for EMS Advisory Council: May 23, 2007

**March 31, 2006 recertification**

Recertification packets sent-	1358
Received and processed prior 3/31/07	1058

Lapsed list was posted to the website and mailed to the services on 4/3/2007.

**Classes Approved by the Section of EMS and Trauma Systems:**

**Basic classes** 53 approved for 2007  
6 completed in March and April  
29 completing during May

**Basic refresher classes:** 121 approved  
(109 already complete, 8 in progress now)

**Advanced classes:** 29 Paramedic and 3 Intermediate in progress for completion in 2007 - 5 will complete during May.

**Advanced Refresher classes:** 27 approved and complete prior to March 31, 3 scheduled for later in 2007

**Reciprocity**

<b>Advance Reciprocity candidates</b>	
Certified 2006 (P=43, I=3)	46
Certified since January 1, 2007 (14-P, 2-I)	16
Active files waiting on required documents-	11
<b>Basic Reciprocity candidates</b>	
Certified 2006:	38
<b>Certified since January 1, 2007</b>	11
Active files waiting on required documents-	41

**Continuing Education**

CEU total approved for 2005	2186
CEU total approved for 2006	3224
CEU scheduled so far in 2007 March 20, 2007	1348

**Training Site Report**

New Intermediate Training Site approved in November in Mena, AR at Rich Mountain Community College. First class of students is complete and will take the NREMT – Intermediate 85 skills examination on May 24, 2007. Data for this report reflects information current through May 20, 2007.

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

Ambulance services inspected since the last EMS Advisory Council meeting:  
56 Services  
175 Ambulances

Next series of inspections is the 100 Series: 36 services – 116 Ambulances.

Total number of Ambulance Services: 201

Basic Services	21
Air Medical Services	23
Advanced Response	06
Intermediate Service	04
Special Purpose	10
Stretcher Ambulances	03
Volunteer Services	21
Paramedic Services	<u>113</u>
Total Ambulance Services	201

Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)	10
Central Venous Access Port (CVAP)	01
Huber Needle	16
Cardiac Thrombolytic	08
Adult Tibial	<u>29</u>
Total	64

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

The Trauma Advisory Council worked diligently during the 86<sup>th</sup> General Assembly to pass a Bill to fund the Trauma System. Unfortunately, efforts ran into difficulty when the House and the Senate failed to agree on a funding stream for the system. While the House of Representatives was partial to funding the system with additional charges to moving violation and drunk driving fines the Senate wanted to fund the system by taxing insurance premiums. To try to solve this problem, the Trauma Advisory Council will consider additional funding initiatives for the next session.

Data collection efforts are moving forward in the EMS community. EMS Data Systems recently announced that they have become a NEMSIS Silver Level compliant company. Programmers for the firm are working on methods to download alternatively purchased software into the system. Once this is in place the state should be able to submit data to NEMSIS so Arkansas runs can be part of the national data set!

**B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**B-1 EMSC** – Addie Grigsby gave the following EMSC report:

The Arkansas EMSC Program had the unique opportunity to host guests from the National EMSC Resource Center in Washington, D.C. and from the National EMSC Data Analysis Resource Center (NEDARC) in Salt Lake City, Utah. During the quarterly EMSC Advisory Committee Meeting, members received in-depth information regarding the directions of the program, as well as, national expectations. The meeting was held May 3, 2007, and was well attended with 80% of the members being present along with the three national representatives.

The EMSC program would like to take the opportunity to express gratitude to David Taylor, Section Chief - EMS & Trauma Systems, for the invite to sit with him on the Highway Safety Steering Committee. This committee is in the process of drafting a

Strategic Highway Safety Plan for the state. One of the goals of the EMSC Program is to address the proper restraint of children during an emergency transport. Ms. Grigsby thanked all of the Ambulance Services who took time to respond to the On-Line and Off-Line Medical Direction Survey.

An order for new PEPP materials has been placed. Because of limited funds for the materials, all items must be requested and returned to this EMS Office after use. For those wanting to host a PEPP class please call The Section of EMS and Trauma Systems to schedule date.

**B-2 Training Committee** – Jamin Snarr – Did not meet; will reschedule and meet during the AEMTA conference.

**B-3 EMS Rules & Regulations Committee** – Michelle Staggs gave report. Over the last few months we have been building workgroups and dividing the rules and regulations into four categories. Ken Kelly's group (licensure & registration) has met three times. They have completed the review of definitions related to their group and have started reviewing areas of rules and regulations pertaining to licensure and registration. Other groups will meet soon. The groups seem to be on the right track.

**B-4 Air Ambulance Regulations Sub-Committee** – Michelle Staggs gave report. The committee has done a tremendous amount of work. The committee is pulling information together and tackling difficult issues; working on service areas and medical necessity definitions. They will meet with a representative from the Ambulance Association to help define the definition of medical necessity. They are ready to move forward and structure the committee similar to the Training Committee. They will elect officers for the committee, making sure every group is adequately represented on the committee. By-laws should be ready soon.

**B-5 EMS Data Committee** – David Stoppel gave report: The committee reviewed and discussed data points and is comparing them to the national data set. EMS Data Systems is now a Silver compliant vendor and we should be able to download data soon. XML formatting is continuing and imports from other vendors should be coming soon. The next meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2007 at Hot Springs at 11 a.m. during EMS Conference. Sedley Tomlinson requested the committee to add a definition regarding special purpose ambulance services.

## **C. PROJECT UPDATES**

**C-1 Impairment Working Group** – David Taylor gave report. A proposal was presented to the Arkansas Board of Health to contract with a company to assist with the monitoring of individuals that are requested to participate in program. CC McAllister attended meeting and represented the EMS Advisory Council. The program will assist individuals to help them get back into the workforce if possible. The contracted companies will provide screening and assistance to individuals when needed. The Agency attorney's are working with several groups to establish a contract and work out details.

**C-2 RSI Update: Board of Health** – Dr. Calicott and David Taylor went before the Board of Health to discuss RSI. After discussion, the Board of Health approved RSI for a two-year provisional status for paramedics in Arkansas. The program will be for patients ages 8 and older. A stipulation was requested by the Board of Health requiring paramedics to witness two RSI in an emergency room or operating room setting prior to performing skill in the field. Paramedics must complete ambulance service training plan, complete monitoring portion of sedation, and be

recommended by medical director of their ambulance service. A verification process will be developed by the Section to track the observation of two RSIs requiring a physician to verify the completion of the prerequisite. It was suggested to send a complete informational packet to ambulance services and to offer a one day training program for ambulance service training officers. Dr. Calicott agreed to do session at training seminar if needed. The following Council members have volunteered to assist David with the ambulance service program document: Monte Gagliardi, David Stopple, Dr. Calicott and field paramedic Tom Wilson. See attached draft Rapid Sequence Intubation Overview and Training Plan (Attachment #1)

## V. NEW BUSINESS

A. **ESAR-VHP – Emergency Systems for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals-** Barry Burris –reported on the Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals. Electronic database will be developed to store information on health professional volunteers. It will permit health care providers to volunteer in time of need. The system will provide an avenue to verify credentialing and allow for the verification of the qualifications of registered volunteers. In 2002, congress passed a law to authorize the development and establishment of the program. EMS/EMT's will be impacted by the ESAR-VHP program regarding assistance from pre-hospital care providers. If an EMT would like to volunteer, they can register at [www.arkansas.gov/dhhs/esar](http://www.arkansas.gov/dhhs/esar).

Currently liabilities are covered under EMAC agreement between states. Definition of volunteer is considered non-compensated. Some companies do pay compensation, but for the most part volunteers are not compensated. Mr. Burris provided informational material regarding the program.

B. **EpiPen Survey** – David Taylor discussed survey with Council. See attachment #2. It was noted that three ambulances did not respond to survey or phone calls. There is a possibility that they may experience problems obtaining a medical director. However, they have had several opportunities to reply to survey questions. This topic will be put on hold until the rewrite of current Rules and Regulations for EMS is completed. It is intended to add the skill at that time and request authorization from Board of Health for implementation of skill.

## VI. OPEN DISCUSSION

**Licensure versus Certification** – Monte Gagliardi discussed the scope of practice for EMTs and discussed the difference between licensure and certification. It was recommended that the Rules and Regulations work group address this during the revision of the current Rules and Regulation for EMS. He would like to change the language of certification to licensure. David was requested to check into the process with the legal team for the Agency. The Section will conduct a survey related to processes utilized by other states. He will try to have survey completed by the next Council meeting.

**2006 EMT Written Examination Test Scores-** David Taylor provided a booklet (attachment #3) containing the 2006 Basic and Advanced written results. Council discussed national and state pass rates. The Council was informed that this would be the last report in this format regarding test scores. The new format may not contain a breakdown in testing categories related to airway, cardiology, etc.

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATES**

The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council will be held during EMS Convention at the Hot Springs Convention Center, Hot Springs, AR July 19, 2007 at 1:30 pm. A notice will be sent to all Council members regarding room location.

**VIII. ADJOURN**

Council was unable to adjourn due to several members leaving prior to meeting ending at 4:40 p.m. Meeting will be adjourned at beginning of next council meeting.

On July 19, 2007 a motion was made by David Stoppel to close the May 23, 2007 minutes, motioned seconded by Jamin Snarr, motioned passed by Council. Meeting adjourned.