

Approved February 11, 2009

**EMS**  
**Governor's Advisory Council**  
**November 12, 2008**  
**Minutes**

**Member's Present**

Dr. Timothy Calicott  
Garry Odom  
Norbert Gunderman, Jr.  
Mark Dixon  
Sidney Ward  
David Stoppel  
Kenneth Starnes  
Jamin Snarr  
Cathee Terrell  
Dr. Rodney Dixon  
Karl Wagenhauser  
Steve Henson  
Dr. Darren Flamik  
Billy Artis  
Jeff Priebe  
Deloris Sykes

**Member's Absent**

Richard Taft  
Todd Freeman  
Rod Barrett  
Doug Duerr

**ADH Staff**

David Taylor  
Sonya Sampson  
Norajean Miles Harrell  
Addie Grigsby-Roshell  
Larry New  
Brian Nation  
Detrich Smith  
Kenny Tutor  
Amy Anthony  
Stella Nelson  
Helen Huitt

**Visitors**

Denise Carson  
Tim Pickering  
Sedley Tomlinson  
Laura Guthrie  
Kim Hall  
Joe Hennington

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Timothy Calicott called the EMS Advisory Council to order on November 12, 2008 at the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems, at 1:35 pm.

**II. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION**

Members and guests introduced themselves. The following new members were introduced to the Council: Sidney Ward, Dr. Rodney Dixon, Karl Wagenhauser, Steve Henson and Dr. Darren Flamik.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The floor was opened for approval of the August 7, 2008 minutes. A motion was made by Jamin Snarr and seconded by David Stoppel to approve as submitted. The motion was passed.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Director's Update** – David Taylor provided the Director's update.

**Paramedic Scholarship Fund & Training:**

The Office of Rural Health and Primary Care & the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems is currently processing all reimbursements for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2008. The following will be available for distribution between all eligible Arkansas paramedic training sites for FFY 2009: \$40,000 for paramedic scholarships and \$20,000 for paramedic training site equipment. All Arkansas accredited paramedic training sites will be eligible to receive funding. Grant notifications will be sent out shortly.

The Section has also received \$6,000 in funding regarding training related to Medical Oversight/Involvement. The Section will work the Arkansas EMT Association (AEMTA) to establish required documentation to provide presentation at the AEMTA Educational Conference scheduled in August 2009.

**Colleague Update:**

The Section currently has one EMS Specialists vacancy. Mrs. Markann Young, EMS Specialist resigned at the end of August. The Section will miss Markann and wishes her the best. The Section is currently advertising for applicants and will keep the Council advised of progress.

Ms. Amy Anthony is the Section's newest EMS Specialist. Amy is a Paramedic and graduated from UAMS paramedic program in 2004. Amy has past experience as a Blue Print/Planroom Manger with FW Dodge and Baldwin & Shell. Amy comes from Arkansas Heart Hospital and Arkansas Emergency Transport ambulance service. We welcome Amy to our family and wish her well.

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

**September 30, 2008 recertification (ongoing)**

Recertifications packets mailed on July 7, 2008 – 1568

Recertifications complete on September 30, 2008

Lapsed certifications on October 1, 2008 – 352 (259-A, 21-B, 5-I, 67-P)

As of November 7, 2008 – still lapsed - 267 (189-A, 19-B, 3-I, 56-P)

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

**Basic classes:** 33 ongoing or complete during December 08

**Basic refresher classes:** 150 scheduled/completed since January  
4 classes scheduled to complete in Nov.

**Advanced classes:** 4 ongoing classes will complete in December  
One is Intermediate -85

**Advanced Refresher classes:** 57 scheduled since 1/1/08. (4 completed by  
December)

**New Certification**

Certified in 2007 (includes reciprocity) 549

Newly Certified in 2008 (includes reciprocity) 628 (+156 since May)  
113-A, 6-I, 37 -P

**Reciprocity**

**Advance Reciprocity candidates**

Certified via Reciprocity in 2007 62

Certified since January 1, 2008 51 (12 since August)

Active files waiting on required documents 8

**Basic Reciprocity candidates**

Certified via reciprocity in 2007 52

Certified since January 1, 2008 41

Active files waiting on required documents 41

**Continuing Education**

CEU total approved in 2006 3224

CEU total approved in 2007 2667

CEU approved to date in 2008 2601

**Statewide Personnel Totals:**

Current (11/07/08) **6025** (8/4/08) **6143** (+157) (5/07/08) **5986**

**EMT-Ambulance 3968 4061 3955**

**EMT- Basic 271 294 294**

**EMT- Intermediate 156 160 159**

**EMT- Paramedic 1630 1627 1577**

Data for this report reflects information current through November 7, 2008.

**A-2 –Regulatory Report** provided by Larry New – Since the last EMS Advisory Council Meeting on August 07, 2008, the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems has completed the following inspections:

300 Series – 24 Ambulance services – 94 Ambulances inspected  
400 Series – 19 Ambulance services – 58 Ambulances inspected  
500 Series – 27 Ambulance services – 83 Ambulances inspected

Next inspection series is the 700 series: 12 services and 45 ambulances. The 700 series is the smallest of the 8 inspection series. There are currently 205 licensed ambulance services and 650 registered ambulances in the state.

**Optional Skills:**

RSI – 2 services active  
12 services pending site visits or required documentation  
CPAP – 49 Services  
CVAV – 1 Service  
Huber Needle – 20 Services  
Cardiac Thrombolitics – 8 Services  
EZ-I0 – 40 Services

**A-3 Trauma Systems Report** – Brian Nation gave the Trauma Systems report.

The Section of EMS and Trauma Systems and the Trauma Advisory Council are continuing to work on the proposed revisions to the Rules and Regulations for Trauma Systems. At this point, we are near the end of the administrative review process. With the assistance of David Taylor and Dr. Paul Halverson the revisions made it through the House and Senate Interim committees on Public Health, Welfare & Labor on November 10, 2008. They will be considered by the Administrative Rules and Regulations Committee of the Arkansas Legislative Council in December. The revised rules were on the agenda for December 6, 2008, but committee members asked for more time to review the documentation. If everything goes well during the final hearing the revised version will go back to the Board of Health in January.

The creation of a “Dashboard” system by utilizing a portion of the \$200,000 provided from the Governor’s emergency fund is a first, great step in moving the trauma system forward in Arkansas. The dashboard shows the capabilities of the 33 higher level participating hospitals so transferring facilities can get a preliminary picture of where to send their injured patients. This information is being updated on a regular basis by the participating hospitals and can help facilities to determine where best to send their patients while trying to keep them close to home.

This system is web based and has been available for hospital utilization since November 3, 2008. Each participating facility must call to update the system as their status changes to keep the information as current as possible. At this time the dashboard is only for the use of hospitals, but we are looking forward to having a call center which would benefit EMS if we obtain trauma systems funding during the upcoming legislative session.

**EMScan Software Update** – Brian Nation provided the EMScan Software Update report. EMS Data Systems will make available a web enabled version of the state data collection program to each ambulance service. A memo will be e-mailed to all services to download and activate the new version of the program. Once the activation occurs, the service should no longer have to email data reports as long as they are entering data on a computer with access to the Internet. Properly entered data will be automatically sent to the Section of EMS and Trauma Systems through the secure web site.

## **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**B-1 EMSC** – Garry Odom and Addie Grigsby-Roshell provided the following EMSC report - The EMSC Program is funded through a State Partnership Grant available from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The State Partnership grants are intended to solidify the integration of a pediatric focus within the state EMS system. State EMS offices and accredited schools of medicine are the only eligible applicants for funding under the EMSC Program. Arkansas Children’s Hospital (ACH) in cooperation with the State EMS & Trauma Systems Office has managed the Arkansas EMSC Program; however, plans are underway for the Section of EMS and Trauma Systems to apply for the grant for next years funding.

Ideally, the grants are housed in the state offices of EMS and this will give the Arkansas program the opportunity to align with the national goals. Arkansas Children’s Hospital and the Section of EMS has had a long standing relationship with the program and will continue to work together very closely to ensure that children across the state receive the best care during an emergency situation.

The EMSC Advisory Committee met last week. The committee had an opportunity to discuss some of the targeted issues for the 2009 –2010 State partnership grant. Also, the group continued to address the goals needed to fulfill the present year grant, such as providing training for emergency care workers. Plans are underway to host a Pediatric Education for Pre-hospital Professionals (PEPP) course in Pine Bluff at the Southeast Arkansas Community College. It is the programs goal to make pediatric training available throughout the state of Arkansas.

**B-2 Training Committee** – Jamin Snarr provided the Training Committee Report. The Training Committee met Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems at 10 a.m. A letter was sent to National Registry to request the utilization of the King Airway and E-Z Intraosseous (IO) drill for paramedic skills testing for certification. Rob Wagoner, Associate Director of the National Registry of EMTs stated that the King Airway could be utilized for testing, but not the E-Z IO drill. Testing

guidelines for the King Airway will be published by the National Registry in the near future.

The group also discussed the upcoming National Educational Standards, Scope of Practice, and new skill sets for future implementation. This will be the groups focus during 2009.

**B-3 EMS Rules & Regulations Committee** – David Taylor provided the update. Some committees have met and completed assignments. The Licensure & Registration committee still needs to meet and complete review process. The working group has not met in three months due to Hurricane response activities. Once all working groups have completed their revisions, the Disciplinary working group will meet to incorporate suggested revisions and disciplinary actions.

**B-4 Air Ambulance Regulations Sub-Committee** – David Stoppel provided the report. Election of new officers occurred, Laura Guthrie, Chairman, Cathee Terrell, Vice Chair and Jeremy Stogner, Secretary. Discussed Air Ambulance Safety concern and FCC rules related to air ambulance. The sub-committee is looking at websites designed to assist in weather turndown for air ambulance services. Group would like for all Arkansas air services to utilize the same type of program.. Next scheduled meeting is February 11, 2009 at 11:30 am at the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems.

**B-5 EMS Data Committee & EMScan Software Update** – Garry Odom provided the report. The Section of EMS & Trauma Systems received \$150,000 from the Office of Rural Health to help upgrade the current ambulance data collection program to a web based system. This system is up and running and new servers have been installed to start receiving data. Training session was conducted in five regions of the state in the month of August. All data collected is now collected electronically and not by scan bubble forms. 35 services have been contacted to download their software as part of the trial session. EMS Data Systems will work with the next 35 to install the software. If they are successful they will work with all of the services until they are all complete.

## **C. PROJECT UPDATES**

**C-1 RSI Update** – To date two services (one ground and one air) have been approved to conduct field RSI. There are 12 services that have submitted requests, and site visits will be conducted once all required material is received. Once the required material is received, a site visit will be conducted for training related to data collection. The Section hopes to have all 12 applicants up and running by the next Council meeting

**C-2 Stroke/Protocol Development** – Dr. Calicott provided the update. Stroke protocol is still in the development and review process. It is important that the state recognizes that stroke is a true emergency and must be treated as so. Hopefully protocol development will shed light on stroke and the necessity of higher prioritization of stroke patients.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**Gustav Response** – David Taylor provided a handout (Attachment #1) to Council members related to hurricane assistance for 2008. Kenneth Starnes expressed his concerns that some ambulance services are frustrated with slow reimbursement from the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM). David assured him that all paperwork submitted correctly to the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems has been submitted to ADEM for reimbursement. There are currently 15 ambulance services that have not sent in any request for reimbursement.

**VI. NOMINATION OF 2009 OFFICERS**

The floor was turned over to Vice-Chairman Jamin Snarr to accept nominees for position of Chairman of the EMS Advisory Council. The following were nominated for Chair:

Dr. Timothy Calicott was nominated by Kenneth Starnes and seconded by David Stoppel. Kenneth Starnes motioned to close all nominations and elect Dr. Calicott by acclimation. Nomination closed by acclimation.

The floor was turned back over to Dr. Calicott to conclude the election of officers. The following were nominated for Vice-Chair:

Dr. Darren Flamik – nominated by Cathee Terrell  
Jamin Snarr – nominated by David Stoppel

Nomination closed by Garry Odom. Jamin Snarr was elected as Vice-chair by majority vote.

The following was nominated for Parliamentarian:

David Stoppel - nominated by Norbert Gunderman  
Nomination closed by acclimation.

The 2009 Governor's EMS Advisory Council officers are: Dr. Timothy Calicott, Chairman, Jamin Snarr, Vice-Chairman, and David Stoppel, Parliamentarian.

**VII. OPEN DISCUSSION**

Garry Odom discussed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ride Program for National Guardsmen. Emergency Medical Technicians with the National Guard can work as a third crew member at ambulance services that will permit them to participate. The guardsmen do not receive any type of compensation, but the program provides an avenue and opportunity for them to practice their skills. Ambulance services interested in the program should contact Garry Odom.

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**VIII. NEXT MEETING DATES** – David Taylor distributed the scheduled for the 2009 EMS Advisory Council Meeting dates and locations. The dates are as follows:

- ❖ Wednesday, February 11, 2009  
Section of EMS & Trauma Systems
- ❖ Wednesday, May 20, 2009 (During EMS Week Celebration)  
Section of EMS & Trauma Systems
- ❖ Thursday, July 30, 2009 (In Conjunction with AEMTA Education Conference)  
Hot Springs Convention Center, Hot Springs, AR
- ❖ Wednesday, November 4, 2009  
Section of EMS & Trauma Systems

**IV. ADJOURN**

Motion was made by David Stoppel and seconded by Cathee Terrell to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

**Attachment #1  
Hurricane Gustav Assistance  
Provided by Arkansas Ambulance Services & Section of EMS**

**August 30-September 7, 2008**

Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) contract signed for 18 ambulance services to provide 20 ambulances to the State of Louisiana to assist with evacuation and repatriation efforts for Hurricane Gustav. Ambulances deployed for 8 days to Alexandria, Louisiana. Contract was for 21 ambulances, but state was only able to send 20.

**August 30, 2008**

NDMS assistance at Adam's Field. The Section was requested to send 12 ambulances to help move NDMS patients that were arriving in Little Rock due to evacuation efforts in preparation of Hurricane Gustav. NDMS/MEMS will work with local ambulance providers for reimbursement for assistance provided.

**September 4, 2008 to September 7, 2008**

The Section obtained an Arkansas ambulance provider to assist local ambulance assets with evacuees at Fort Chaffee. Ambulance service provided crewmembers and unit to help local provider with patient care and transport.

**September 7, 2008 through October 7, 2008**

Gustav repatriation EMAC signed to transport patients from Arkansas Hospitals back to Louisiana. All transports were delayed due to evacuation procedures put in place for Hurricane Ike. After Hurricane Ike made landfall and Louisiana hospitals opened to receive patients, transports occurred by Arkansas services.

**September 10, 2008 through September 19, 2008**

EMAC contract signed for 25 ambulances and one command vehicle to assist with repatriation efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Gustav. Ambulance deployed for 10 days to Alexandria, Louisiana.

**September 16, 2008**

ADEM requested Arkansas' ambulances to move patients from area hospitals to the airport. Patients were moved by ground ambulances and two Arkansas paramedics provided medical care during the C-130 flight to Louisiana.

The Section is working with local Arkansas ambulance services, Arkansas Department of Emergency Management and the State of Louisiana to obtain reimbursement for Arkansas ambulance providers who assisted with Hurricane Gustav. The Section will keep services informed of the reimbursement process as frequently as possible.