

## EMS Training Committee Meeting Minutes for May 13, 2009

Present: Amanda Warren (Presiding), Jerry Hutchison, Karen Kanarski Hart, Jamin Snarr, Norajean Miles Harrell.

Department of Health: David Taylor, Larry New, Stella Nelson, Detrick Smith, Hellen Huitt, Addie Grigsby.

Visitors: Robert Steeps

10:10 AM

Meeting Called to order by Amanda Warren – Vice Chairperson for the EMS Training Committee.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Approval of minutes was not available. Minutes will be sent via e-mail at a later date for consideration per Norajean Miles Harrell.

### **Old Business**

Emergency Medical Services for Children Letter: The GAC was notified at their last meeting that the training committee recommended adding a member of the EMSC to the advisory council and to move forward to the legislative session to make this happen. The legislative session ended prior to getting this done. It will be taken up at the next available session of the legislators.

Certification Report – Norajean Harrell – 2008 National Exam test results were disseminated and discussed. Concern about the lost pass rates from certain paramedic sites was discussed but no recommendation given at this time. It was thought that the CoEMSP was drafting procedure to deal with low pass rates and we will wait to see what their recommendations are.

2009 Legislative review was given by Director David Taylor.

Act 1185 – Protect Emergency Workers allows for physician ordered testing of a patient if an emergency worker had been exposed to Hep B or C or TB. Does not include HIV because it was included in the 20-115-905 HIV Shield Law.

Act 1448 – City of 1<sup>st</sup> class and 2<sup>nd</sup> class to regulate ambulance patient transport. Allows these cities to regulate, establish standards, rules, and regulations that are equal or greater than those established by the state. City can establish, own, operate, regulate, control manage, permit, franchise, license, and contract, establish EMS board, regulate ambulance transports. Enforced by city ordinance.

Act 553 – Transport to Facility of Choice – An act to insure that patients can be transported to the facility of choice without regard to service area restrictions. May transport patient to care facility of choice – consider service area limitations, federal law, local protocol.

Act 393 – to amend trauma systems act – Allocation of funding goes to – EMS, Hospitals, Rehabilitation, Quality improvement, TRACs command communication networks, injury prevention. It also realigned Trauma Committee with 24 voting members and 2 non voting. Reports to general assembly.

Act 180 – Increase the tax on cigarettes and certain tobacco products. Had emergency clause to

immediately enact it by March 1, 2009. This was the only one with an emergency clause.

Act 684 – Severe Allergic Reactions – Authorized individuals to administer epinephrine – severe adverse reactions to insect stings, or other allergic reaction when a physician is not immediately available. Must be 18 years of age to administer epinephrine – relationship or volunteer status: camp counselors, scout leaders, school teachers, forest rangers, tour guides, or chaperones. Must be properly instructed by a physician and issued a certificate of completion. Does not apply to EMS personnel! EMS rule revision will incorporate administration of epinephrine and mandatory medical director 2010.

Act 689 – Licensure of Personnel – Unanimously approved by senate and house. An act to provide the licensure of EMS Personnel. Will be all levels in Arkansas including EMT instructor and EMT Instructor Trainer.

Advanced Stroke Life Support – Given by Helen Huitt. An instructor's class was given at the department of Health and was provided by funds through a grant. This class was well accepted. The Division has the teaching materials available to instructors in the state that want to put one on in their area. Another course will be offered in October and it is already filled.

### **NEW Business**

Implementation plan for licensure – Norajean Harrell. A detailed implementation plan was given to members present. Everyone in the state should have a card reflecting licensure rather than certification by September 2009.

Texarkana College Paramedic program. Jerry Hutchison is requesting CoEMSP for accreditation site visit. They are wanting to put on a paramedic class prior to accreditation. Recommendation to allow a one time class to be allowed while the school obtains their accreditation status from CAHEP. Motion made by Karen Kanarski Hart, second by Amanda Warren. Passed unanimously. To be forwarded to the GAC at the next available meeting time.

Everyone was invited to attend the EMS week celebration and refreshments to be held at the DEMS department next Wednesday.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:15 PM

Submitted by: Jamin Snarr