

## Arkansas EMS Training Committee Minutes

August 7, 2008

Members present: Judy Taylor, Jerry Hutchison, Mike Davidson, Robert Chastain, Monte Gagliardi, Jamin Snarr, K.C. Jones, Wesley Gay, Joe Chappell, Karen Konarski-Hart , Amanda Warren, Norajean Miles Harrell, Danny Bercher

Members absent: Mack Hutchison, Janie Kennedy, Garry Odom

Guests: Stephen R. Sims ( Bella Vista Fire Dept), Robert J. Steeps (NWACC/LFD), Brandon K Janssen ( Air Evac Lifeteam), Kenny Tutor ( EMS & Trauma Systems), David Myers ( Arkansas Fire Academy), Addie Grigsby-Rochell ( EMSC – Section EMS & Trauma Systems), Rod Barrett ( Bella Vista FD)

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Rob Chastain. The committee discussed the follow-up on the situation in which the ASU-Jonesboro Paramedic Program had a nursing supervisor in a key emergency department clinical affiliate threaten access for the paramedic students unless faculty were present at all times. Dr. Gagliardi commented that as long as a robust clinical preceptor program were in place (including preceptor training), that faculty should not necessarily be present at the clinical site at all times. The consensus was that the situation should be worked out locally unless the clinical affiliate's requirements became unreasonable. Scottie Nettles indicated that he would be willing to implement a preceptor program.

Norajean Harrell reported that the final draft of the national EMS education standards is out and open for public comments through the end of August. The document will be going to NHTSA in September. NHTSA should be completing the adoption by December of 2008. Jamin Snarr reminded everyone that the national EMS education standards are the minimum suggested requirements. National implementation should occur from 2011-2012. If Arkansas is to adopt the National EMS Education Standards, the name changes as indicated in the National Scope of Practice (i.e. EMT, advanced EMT, and paramedic) will need to occur by June or July of 2009 for the legislative session. The administrative review process will occur and then it will be open for public comments. Below is a summary of the National EMS Education Standards timeline.

August, 2008	Open for public comments
September, 2008	Document sent to NHTSA
June/July, 2009	National Scope of Practice name changes to the Arkansas Legislature
Afterward	Administrative review process & open for public discussion

Norajean Harrell said that there were no further comments submitted for the Paramedic Survey. Joe Chappell suggested that we should go to the legislature and summarize the comments on the survey. KC Jones commented that we should draft talking points that could be distributed to the

legislators. Rob Chastain requested that anyone who wanted to work on any type of project like this should forward suggestions to him. David Taylor said that there was no money available in the near term to support any other mailings or printing projects to disseminate information or to perform anymore surveys. He stated that we have four surveys returned and should make position statements about them. Below is a summary of the surveys.

EMT Career Survey

Paramedic Survey

EMS Needs Assessment of Ambulance Services

UAMS Trauma System Development Survey

Joe Chappell made a motion that the committee should look at the surveys and decide what we want to do with it in the November meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

The waiver request that was sent to National Registry concerning the use of alternative secondary advanced airways for the paramedic practical station has still had no response from Registry. David Taylor and Norajean Harrell will send follow-up Email to the Training Committee members when we get a response for National Registry.

Joe Chappell also had a question about the use of tourniquets ahead of pressure points and elevation on the National Registry test

Kenny Tudor was welcomed as the new EMS specialist at the Section of EMS. He will specialize in CEUs.

Norajean Harrell gave a Powerpoint presentation about the National Registry Computer Based Testing in Arkansas for Stella Nelson. The first time pass rate for the paramedic was 33%. Dr. Gagliardi commented that accountability was an issue for training sites.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Danny Bercher, Ph.D., NREMT-P