

Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council

February 15, 2006

Minutes

Member's Present

Dr. Timothy Calicott
Dr. Marvin Leibovich
Rod Barrett
Todd Freeman
Kenneth Starnes
Michelle Staggs
Garry Odom
Dr. David Schmidt
Tony Hickerson
Jamin Snarr
Doug Duerr
CC McAllister
Richard Taft
Delois Sykes
Monte Gagliardi

Member's Absent

William Seaton
Fran Hickman
Billy Artis
Dr. Len Kemp

ADH Staff

David Taylor
Sonya Sampson
Norajean Miles
Larry New
Markann Young
Detrich Smith
Sonya Ward
Brian Nation
Dawn Dutcher
Stella Nelson

Visitors

Kyle Roach
Sedley Tomlinson
Pamie Weaver
DJ Satterfield
Cathee Terrell

Sandy Pryor
Laura Guthrie
Jennifer Essnean
Denise Carson
Tim Pickering

Mike Williamson
Deborah Haile
Kelly McCouley
Pam Rolens

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Calicott called the EMS Advisory Council to order on February 15, 2006 at 1:30 pm at the Office of EMS & Trauma Systems, Freeway Medical Tower- Suite 800.

II. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION

Members and guests introduced themselves.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The floor was opened for approval of the November 16, 2005 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Dr. Schmidt and seconded by Dr. Leibovich to approve the minutes as presented to Council. Minutes were passed out to the Council.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Section Update – David Taylor gave the following Section Chief Update:

EMSC Coordinator

The position is vacant at this time, the Section has held off on conducting interviews until a notice of grant award is received from HRSA and a contract is in place with Children's Hospital. Once this process is complete the Section will move forward with the hiring process.

Secretary II

Ms. Roshada Taylor accepted the Secretary II position on January 29, 2006. She transferred from the Jacksonville Health Unit. She has been employed with the Department of Health & Human Services for the past three years. It is a pleasure to have Ms. Taylor join the Section.

Paramedic Scholarship/Equipment Program

The Office of Rural Health and Primary Care & the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems have started the process to award \$60,000.00 of grant funding to Arkansas Accredited Paramedic Training Sites. Applications have been mailed to ten training sites that showed interest in the program. The training sites were required to submit a letter of intent in order to participate and ten of the fourteen sites turned in letters. Each training site will be eligible for \$6,000.00 of funding. Training sites will utilize \$3,000.00 to purchase non-disposable training equipment and \$3,000.00 for scholarships.

Family Physician Appointment

Dr. Len Kemp has been appointed to the EMS Advisory Council and will represent the Family Physicians. Dr. Kemp has been deployed to Iraq and will return in July.

Regulatory Update –Larry New’s gave the regulatory report: Inspected 400–500 series. Completed inspection of 38 services, 106 ambulances and aircrafts; next series will be in North East AR – 600 series.

1. **Certification Update** – Norajeane Miles gave the following certification report:

March 31, 2006 recertification in process

Recertifications packets sent-	1330
Received and in process	185

Initial Certification/ Testing January through December 31, 2005

Basic Written exams administered:	84
# Students tested	520
# Students successful	307
# Students unsuccessful	213

Advanced

Written exams administered	14
# Paramedic students tested	168
# Paramedic students successful	111
# Paramedic students unsuccessful	57

**6 advanced classes completed in December –
43 total students (11 Intermediate level)
25 successful on first attempt (9 Intermediate level)
One class still not tested. (6 students) scheduled 2/16/06**

Reciprocity

Advance Reciprocity candidates

Certified in Dec and January	6
Office waiting on required documents-	22
Waiting to purge	3
Active candidates	25

Basic Reciprocity candidates

Certified in January	5
Active – in some stage of process	44
Waiting to purge	6

Continuing Education

CEU total for 2004	2322
CEU classes approved through October 31, 2005	2283
CEU scheduled so far in 2006	759

Approved May 17, 2006

A new basic level EMT Training Site was approved in November. The site is located at Rich Mountain Community College in Mena, AR. The first class of 20 students has been approved and the Section will conduct a class visit soon.

The Council asked Ms. Miles what would be the last date a recertification packet could be mailed and processed. She answered that they had to be mailed by March 31, 2006. Ms. Miles informed the Council if the Section received the recertification packets by **March 15, 2006**, this would help to assure a card before March 31, 2006.

Trauma Systems – Brian Nation gave the following report:

The Trauma Advisory Council has been meeting regularly to discuss the advancement of the Trauma System in Arkansas. On February 7, 2005 a new group of officers were elected. Johannes Gruenwald is the new Chairman; Dr. James Graham, Vice Chairman, and Dr. Clint Evans was elected to be the Secretary/Treasurer for the council.

A Working Group was established to finalize the Arkansas Trauma Plan. The plan has been in draft form for some time, and the group will work to complete the plan in the near future. They will also analyze available data to learn more about trauma care in the state.

Data Collection – The Section of EMS and Trauma Systems is in the process of collecting this year's pre-hospital data. Data input has been down this year, so members of the staff will be investigating the changes.

Information obtained from the data collection is very important to the state. It has already been used to save the services money, by checking for seldom used equipment, and it is being used to help improve Intubation care in the state.

Data from the system has been used by Arkansas Children's Hospital and the Highway Safety Office of the State Police to apply for federal funding for many years, and every service needs to be sure to send in data to continue these important functions.

AED Grant – Application kits were mailed to all fire departments, EMS services, state representatives and senators, and were made available to county officers through the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management e-mail list. Applications must be postmarked by February 28, 2006 to be considered for an award this year. The Section is in the process of surveying all services with BLS trucks to see how many have AEDs and how many would like to add them. A report will be made available to the Council during the May 2006 meeting.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

B-1 EMSC – No Report - waiting on individual to fill position. No activity to report.

B-2 Training Committee – Jamin Snarr

a. Computer Based Testing- Testing will begin January 1, 2007 for all levels of EMTs. Arkansas is participating in a Beta test for paramedic students. The Beta project is for paramedics only and will begin June 5th and end July 28th. Students will test at designated sites and will be charged the current fee; the National Registry of EMTs will pay for the extra fee associated with the computer based test. If the student passes, the exam will count toward their certification, if they do not pass, it will not count against their attempt to achieve certification.

b. First Responders – Medical First Responder draft proposal is in process. The committee expects a draft to be completed by May 2006. Certification will be base on a volunteer bases. Proposal will require a new law and amendment of the current Rules & Regulations. It will take sometime to complete the task. Committee will meet January and February to have recommendation to Council at the May meeting.

c. Rich Mountain Community College – The college successfully completed its site visit and the Section of EMS and Training Committee recommends that they receive full Arkansas accreditation as a Basic EMT Training Site. There are no EMT Training Sites within 50 miles of Rich Mountain Community College. Jamin Snarr made a motion to accept their application and the recommendations Training Committee and issue full state accreditation to the college with Departmental approval. Motion second by Michelle Staggs. Motion passed by council.

B-3 Rules & Regulations Committee – Kenneth Starnes- The committee has not met. Mr. Tim Tackett is no longer on the Council and Mr. Starnes asked that his position be replaced. Tony Hickerson and Rod Barrett volunteered to serve on the Committee. The Committee will consist of the following: Kenneth Starnes, Michelle Staggs, Tony Hickerson, and Rod Barrett.

B-4 Air Ambulance Subcommittee – Michelle Staggs - The Air Ambulance Sub-committee has created a task force to review the current rules & regulations. The task force will make recommendations to the full Sub-committee and a report will be provided to the Council. The task force will review the following areas: clinical, aviation, communications, and administration/legal. Dr. Leibovich requested that a safety task force be created. Ms. Staggs stated they would add a task force to address this area. The Air Ambulance Subcommittee will provide an update at the next Council meeting.

B-5 Medical Subcommittee – Dr. Calicott- David Taylor and I met with the Board of Health on January 26, 2006 to discuss the approval of Huber Needles, CPAP, Central Venous Access, Mandatory and Optional Medication List, IO and RSI. Five of the six were approved by the board. RSI was not approved. We intend to return to the Board of Health in April to provide the Board with requested materials. Dr. Calicott discussed the ACEPP report related to Arkansas score regarding patient care and access. He stated that 5 of the 6 adjacent states are conducting RSI and the council needs to continue to pursue the approval of RSI. Dr. Leibovich discussed the possibility of regional medical directors may be needed to help with the oversight and the educational quality control aspects of the RSI program. Council was provided a report regarding pre-hospital intubation success rates in Arkansas.(See Attachment I) Monte Gagliardi expressed his concerns related to a good backup airway device for pediatric patients. He expressed his desires to continue to move forward for approval for the RSI request. It was suggested by Jamin Snarr that we may need hold off on the request regarding pediatric RSI and move forward with the adult request for now in order to move forward. The Council discussed the possibility of a study. Dr. Schmidt made a motion to add one pediatric and one adult CO2 detector to the mandatory equipment list. It was suggested that a Capnography Monitor be acceptable in place of the CO2 devices. Esophageal Bulb Aspirators would not be acceptable. Motion was amended to include Capnography Monitor and the use of a Esophageal Bulb Aspirator would not be permitted. Seconded by Dr. Leibovich, motion passed by Council. David Taylor informed Council members that ambulance services would be receiving a memo in the next few weeks regarding the new skills/procedures that have been approved.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Military Third Ride – Garry Odom presented the Council with the ARNG Third Ride Policy. (See Attachment II). Motion was made by Dr. Leibovich to support the concept and provide a letter from Council if needed. Motion seconded by Dr. Schmidt, motioned passed by Council. Sgt. Odom will provide David Taylor information regarding the content of letter.

American Heart Association- Deborah Hale of the American Heart Association presented the council with information she received from National Training regarding BLS, ACLS, and PALS training. The instructor update for BLS will be required by June 30, 2006, ACLS mid summer, and PALS in the fall. She stated she would keep the Council informed of implementation dates when they have been established.

Stipend (Travel Reimbursement)- Dr. Calicott- Please get with Ms. Sampson regarding your travel reimbursement so required documents can be filed.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATES

Approved May 17, 2006

The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council will be held at the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems, Freeway Medical Tower, Suite 800, May 17, 2006 at 1:30 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURN

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The motion was passed and the meeting was adjourned.