

Approved November 14, 2007

**Governor's EMS Advisory Council**  
**Hot Springs Convention Center**  
**Hot Springs, Arkansas**  
**July 19, 2007**  
**\*MINUTES\***

**Member's Present**

Dr. Tim Calicott  
Michelle Staggs  
David Stoppel  
CC McAllister  
Jamin Snarr  
Monte Gagliardi  
Rod Barrett  
Garry Odom  
Kenneth Starnes  
Tony Hickerson  
Todd Freeman  
Dr. David Schmidt  
Doug Deurr

**Member's Absent**

Billy Artis  
Delois Sykes  
Dr. Marvin Leibovich  
Dr. Len Kemp

**ADH Staff**

David Taylor  
Sonya Sampson  
Norajean Miles  
Larry New  
Brian Nation  
Stella Nelson

**Visitors**

Allen Usery  
Joe Hennington  
Robert J Steps

Anne Roberts  
Cathee Terrell  
Monte Davis

Jerry Padget  
Danny Bercher  
Randy Hines

Jerry Cohan  
Denise Carson

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Timothy Calicott called the Governor's EMS Advisory Council to order on July 19, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

**II. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION**

The Governor's Advisory Council Meeting was held on Thursday July 19, 2007 at the Hot Springs Convention Center, Hot Springs, AR. Members and guest introduced themselves.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Jamin Snarr to close the May 23, 2007 EMS Governor's Advisory Council meeting. The motion was seconded by David Stoppel and passed by the Council.

The floor was open for approval of May 23, 2007 Minutes. A motion was made by David Stoppel and seconded by Jamin Snarr to approve the May 23, 2007 minutes. The motion was passed and the minutes were approved.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

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

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

The meeting will be held from September 19-25, 2009 at the Peabody Hotel, Little Rock, AR. As time grows near, he will need assistance from board members, 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 de-merged to form the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services. Notices have been distributed to all licensed ambulance services and interested parties regarding the new mailing address for the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems.

**Paramedic Scholarship Fund & Training:**

The Office of Rural Health and Primary Care & the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems have been working closely over the last month to submit a renewal grant application to continue the paramedic scholarship/equipment funding. \$60,000 has been requested to continue both projects and \$6,000 has been requested to provide educational courses related to medical direction/oversight during the next AEMTA conference. Fourteen paramedic Training Sites have submitted required

documentation to receive funding this year and must expend all funding by the end of August 2007.

**Stroke Scale/Data Collection Training Module:**

Effective immediately, Arkansas EMTs will be able to obtain 1 hour of continuing education on-line related to the Stoke Scale and EMS Data Collection. It can be accessed from any computer and will provide another avenue for Arkansas EMTs to obtain continuing education. I want to thank Ms. Norajean Miles: Certification Administrator, Markann Young: EMS Specialist, Sonya Ward: EMS Specialist, Dr. Alan Vanbiervliet: UAMS, Ronnie Wheeler: Workforce Development, Linda Faulkner: Cardiovascular Health and MEMS for assisting with this project. Ms. Norajean Miles will make a short presentation.

**A-1 Certification Update** – Norajean Miles provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Stroke and the Stroke Scale Training. She noted that the EMScan data collection program has been updated to include the stroke scale. Ms. Miles discussed A-TRAIN (Arkansas Training-finder Real-Time Affiliate Integrated Network) a web-based learning management system that provides a comprehensive clearinghouse of on-site and distance learning opportunities. EMT's are encouraged to sign up and utilize A-TRAIN to receive CEU credits. For more information the following website was provided: [www.ar.train.org](http://www.ar.train.org) or [www.healthyarkansas.com](http://www.healthyarkansas.com)

Ms. Miles handed out the following certification report for review:

**September 30, 2007 recertification**

Recertifications packets mailed on July 17, 2007 1468

Lapsed list was posted to the website and notice mailed to the services on 7/17/2007.

**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**

**Advance** Reciprocity candidates  
Certified since January 1, 2007 (29-P, 4-I) 33  
Certified since 5/23/07 meeting (11-P, 2-I) 13  
Active files waiting on required documents- 24

<b>Basic</b> Reciprocity candidates	
Certified 2006:	38
Certified since January 1, 2007	13
Certified since 5/23/07 meeting	13
Active files waiting on required documents-	10

**Continuing Education**

CEU total approved for 2005	2186
CEU total approved for 2006	3224
CEU scheduled so far in 2007 July 17, 2007	1824

**Testing report:**

**Certified between May 30 and July 17, 2007**

100	EMT-Basic
6	Intermediate I-85
14	Paramedic

**Practical examinations since May 30, 2007**

11	EMT-Basic
4	EMT-Paramedic
2	EMT-Intermediate

Data for this report reflects information current through July 17, 2007.

**A-2 Regulatory Report** – Larry New provided the following report: Ambulance services and ambulance vehicles inspected since the last EMS Advisory Council Meeting held May 2007 includes Series 100 and 800.

Ambulance Services:	58
Ambulances Inspected:	178

The next inspection series due is the 300 series, which is the central part of Arkansas. The 300 Series has an August 31, 2007 expiration date.

**NUMBER OF SERVICES THAT ARE APPROVED TO PROVIDE OPTIONAL SKILLS TO DATE:**

CPAP	10
CVAD	1
HUBER NEEDLE	17
CARDIAC THROMBOLITIC	8
ADULT TIBIAL IO	30

**A-3 Trauma Systems Report** – Brian Nation provided the following: Interested State Representatives and Senators are looking into a couple of different funding possibilities for the trauma system in Arkansas. Members of the Trauma Advisory Council will work closely with them over the next year to try to get the best outcome during the 87<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

Representative Denny Sumpter is making efforts to hold a Special Session on health care in Arkansas focusing on the trauma system. He is also considering an initiated act to fund the system.

Senator Tracy Steele is interested in trying to get the system funded during the next legislative session. Since support from both houses will be necessary to get a bill passed, Senator Steele's involvement could be very helpful.

## **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**B-1 EMSC** – Jamin Snarr provided the EMSC report:

The 2007 Annual EMSC Grantee Meeting was held in Silver Spring, Maryland on July 19<sup>th</sup> – July 21<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Tonya Thompson, Principal Investigator; Addie Roshell, EMSC Coordinator; and Judy Taylor, EMSC Family Representative attended. The meeting served as an important educational and networking event with representatives attending from all 50 States and five U.S. Territories.

Currently, the EMSC program is focusing on fulfilling national requirements by submitting an extensive electronic report and conducting a survey of Arkansas Hospital Emergency Departments for disaster preparedness and equipment related to pediatric care. In addition, the program's plans are to host several PEPP courses at the Freeway Medical Building location. The goal is to provide greater access to training for EMS workers around the State. Dr. Calicott mentioned the Statewide Disaster Conference July 27 – 28, 2007 and that free CMEs can be obtained.

**B-2 Training Committee** – Jamin Snarr – The Training Committee met on July 19, 2007 at Hot Springs Convention Center. Computer Based Testing was discussed and some have expressed concern about limited seating at some testing sites. Other than the seating issues, the computer testing seems to be going well. Some members of the Training Committee will meet with the National Registry to talk about the disclosure of test results, primarily regarding areas of weakness.

A training site in Arkadelphia has expressed interests in upgrading to an Intermediate training site. The committee will keep the Council informed.

Jamin Snarr distributed a survey conducted by the Section regarding licensure vs certification. (Attachment I). The Council discussed the survey and is looking for any suggestions or comments related to the licensure process of paramedics.

All questions and/or suggestions should be given to David Taylor, Rob Chastain, or Dr. Calicott to draft questions or concerns that can be presented to the Department's legal team if needed.

**B-3 EMS Rules & Regulations Committee** – Michelle Staggs provided the report. She informed the Council that the workgroups are going well and there will be a meeting held in August in Little Rock. Monte Gagliardi stated he held a meeting in Northwest Arkansas and discussed changing EMT certification to licensure.

**B-4 Air Ambulance Regulations Sub-Committee** – Michelle Staggs provided the report. She stated she did not attend the last meeting. She stated the group did approve final revisions of the committee's bylaws and they will follow the structure of the Training Committee and elect officers.

After the update, Ms. Staggs announced that she would not seek re-appointment for the EMS Advisory Council. She stated she would be happy to assist if the Council or committees need assistance. Dr. Calicott and members thanked her for her nine years of service and dedication to the State.

**B-5 EMS Data Committee** – David Stopple provided the report. The EMS Data Committee met July 19, 2007. The committee is working on data points and creating a data dictionary. The group started with 10 data points and will review an additional 30 data points by their next meeting. It was discussed that data submission should be tied to future grants to encourage submission. It was pointed out that data submission is mandatory and outlined in the current Rules and Regulations for EMS. Brian Nation stated the Section is working with services that are behind in data submission.

## **C. Project Updates**

**1. RSI Update** – Dr. Calicott provide the update. Informational packets are being created and expect distribution to all ambulance services in August. The packet will include: notification of RSI program, training requirements, sample protocols, data collection, medical oversight, and data collection forms. A data collection form has been created to collect data related to RSI. Information collected will be provided to the Board of Health during biannual updates. Ambulance services must receive approval by Section prior to implementation of a RSI program. Hospitals are responsible for maintain training files if paramedics conduct RSI within the hospital setting. Paramedics will be required to monitor two patient sedations prior to field implementation. Ambulance services that elect to participate in the two-year provisional program must submit biannual written reports to the Council and Department. If reports are not submitted, the services will be stopped from participating in the program.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**ESAR-VHP** – Dr. Calicott stated that he went to the ESAR-VHP website to sign up and volunteer. He stated that he felt a little uncomfortable because it requested a lot of personal information. However, he feels that it is a valuable resource and encourages everyone to sign up.

**VI. OPEN DISCUSSION**

An audience member asked the question - did Arkansas have a plan in place to respond to a national disaster? David Taylor stated that the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM) does have a response plan in place. Mr. Taylor explained that ambulance services would be notified via the Health Alert Network system and Emergency Management Assistance Compacts (EMAC) agreements would be utilized for national ambulance response/deployment. The Department of Health will utilize the same system/procedures as utilized during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and Rita. Mr. Taylor encouraged ambulance providers to work with the local emergency managers (ADEM) and adjacent ambulance services regarding mutual aid and additional resources. Dr. Calicott recommended that David Maxwell from ADEM be invited to the next meeting to discuss ADEM's role in the deployment of ambulances.

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATES**

The next meeting of the EMS Governor's Advisory Council will be held November 14, 2007 at the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems, 5800 W 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 800, Little Rock at 1:30 p.m.

**VIII. ADJOURN**

A motion was made to adjourn by Garry Odom and seconded by David Stoppel. The motion was passed by Council and meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.