

Governor's Advisory Council

July 22, 2004

Minutes

Member's Present

Dr. Marvin Leibovich
Michelle Staggs
Kenneth Starnes
Kenny Shaw
Tim Tackett
William Seaton
Dr. Ted Lancaster
Dr. Schmidt
Jamin Snarr
Leonard Krout
Dr. Callicot
Larry Freeman

Member's Absent

Fran Hickman
Malvin Jones
Mike Williamson
Dan Johnson

ADH Staff

David Taylor
Sonya Sampson
Harry Ringler
Bill Plunk

Visitors

Camda Noonon
Dr. Mat Young
Jerry Hutchinson
Gary Ragen

Keith Hill
Danny Bercher
Don Johnson
Anne Roberts

Pam Padget
Rod Barrett
Denise Carson
Dr. Janet Jordan

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Marvin Leibovich called the Governor’s Advisory council to order on July 22, 2004 at 1:30 PM at the Hot Springs Convention Center.

II. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION

Dr. Marvin Leibovich called the meeting to order. Members and guest introduced themselves.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The floor was open for approval of May 19, 2004 minutes. A moved was made by Kenneth Starnes to approve the minutes and seconded by William Seaton. Council passed the motion.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Director’s Update – David Taylor gave Director’s update. Handed out for review and discussed the following:

Needs Assessment Survey – The assessment was completed May 3, 2004 and distributed to all Arkansas licensed ambulance services. Copies of the assessment are available at the EMS booth in the vendor hall. The Office of EMS & Trauma Systems would like to express our gratitude to the Office of Rural Health and Primary Care and Mr. Greg Potts with Health Statistics for their time and expertise with this project. The purpose of conducting the survey was to gather data to better understand the needs and viewpoints of Arkansas’ EMS providers. Results from the survey will be used to help allocate staff resources and federal and state funding to improve the level of service.

Training Site Software Purchase – The Office has purchased 40 copies of Key Data Training Modules to distribute to approve Arkansas EMS training sites (one copy per site). The software will help instructors prepare students to become a more valuable asset to the EMS services. The Certification Administrator will distribute software during training site visits.

Health Alert Network – Ambulance Service contact information has been submitted to the Agencies Health Alert Network Coordinator. The system will provide rapid communication via email, fax, telephone, or pagers. The Office sent a request to all licensed EMS services requesting contact information with approximately 25% of the services responding. The Office will continue to gather necessary information when ambulance inspections are conducted by obtaining contact information from renewal applications. During the month of September the Office will conduct a test of the Health Alert Network to licensed services. A notice will be sent to selected services prior to the test.

A-1 Certification Update – Bill Plunk gave the following certification report:

Recertification

<u>June 30, 2004</u> (in process)	
Recertification packets sent-	~1370
Recertification packets received-	1168
Recertified-	1155
Pending- (missing required documentation)	13
Elected not to recertify-	~250

<u>January 1, 2004</u>	
Recertification packets sent-	1339
Recertification packets received-	1069
Recertified-	1036
Pending- (missing required documentation)	33
Elected not to recertify-	285

Testing/Certification

To date approximately 630 students have completed Basic EMT courses and 64 students have completed advanced courses this year. We have not received results for all of those due to the volume of students testing in July (some tested yesterday and others will test next week). We will have more complete information for the November meeting.

Scheduled EMT Classes

Basic- Full EMT Classes-

8- Classes scheduled for completion- 22 Jul to 31 Dec 2004

Basic Refresher Classes-

7- Classes scheduled for completion- 22 Jul to 31 Dec 2004

Intermediate-

0 - Classes scheduled for completion- 22 Jul to 31 Dec 2004

Paramedic-

13- Classes scheduled for completion- 22 Jul to 31 Dec 2004

Paramedic Refresher Classes-

1 - Class scheduled for completion- 22 Jul to 31 Dec 2004

Reciprocity (since 19 May meeting)

Advance Reciprocity candidates	
Office waiting on required documents-	25
Active candidates (corr. within last 6 mo)	11
Basic Reciprocity candidates	
Office waiting on required documents-	51
Active candidates (corr. within last 6 mo)	13
Completed reciprocity requirements for 2004 (YTD)	

Advanced	13
Basic	15

EMS Career Survey – Bill Plunk, Certification Administrator presented results regarding the EMT career survey conducted during the last recertification period. The Office of EMS & Trauma Systems in corporation with the Arkansas EMS Training Committee developed a brief survey in an attempt to gather information to assist the EMS Office and Training Sites in a long-range educational plan (**ATTACHMENT I**).

A-2 Regulatory Update- Harry Ringler gave Regulatory Update. Since the last meeting, ambulance service inspections have been conducted in Northwest and Central areas. The Office is in the process of sending out the list of EMS personnel who did not recertify by June 30, 2004. There are 273 names on the list. Also, the list of those expected to recertify by January 2005, has been developed and will be sent with the lapsed list. There are 1377 names on that list. Services are urged to review the lists for eligibility to serve on registered EMS units, as well as those whose names are on the January 2005 list.

Ambulance Mandatory Equipment Requirements – the Office has completed the review of the requested changes and they should be in your packets. The items recommended for change was based on input from the service providers. Some were accepted, some rejected. Requests for medication changes were not acted on due to lack of justification from the requesting parties. All requesting parties were contacted to submit the supporting information for changes. The Office received no responses. The Office is seeking Council approval for enclosed recommendation. See section IV. F. for council comments and recommendations.

A-3. Trauma Systems Update- David Taylor gave Trauma Systems Update. Gary Ragen has transferred to the Office of Public Health and Preparedness as of June 20, 2004. Mr. Ragen was a true asset to the EMS Community and Office he will be missed. The Trauma Coordinator position will continue to be funded and is scheduled to be advertised by the end of July. At this time the Office will assist services regarding software assistance or refer them to Data Systems Technical Support Center

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

B-1 EMSC – Jamin Snarr gave report concerning EMSC. Brian Nation, EMSC Coordinator submitted letter regarding suggested pediatric equipment changes. Presented the Council with a letter from EMSC Coordinator, Brian Nation (**ATTACHMENT II**).

B-2 Training Committee – Jamin Snarr gave the Training Committee Report. The committee is working on certification level concerning first responders. Paramedic licensure is still a topic of discussion. If Arkansas moves to licensure,

there is a possibility of establishing a regulatory/medical board to assist. The committee discussed the possibility to request an Associate Degree to be licensed. Regarding EMS survey, the majority of individuals are leaving the EMS profession due to financial reasons. The committee will continue to review EMT surveys.

B-3 Rules & Regulation Committee - Kenneth Starnes gave the report concerning the Rules and Regulation committee. The committee met once since the last GAC meeting. The committee needs input from the legal department from the Department of Health. The committee is in process of completing the EMS-DNR Rules and Regulations. After completion they will be sent through appropriate channels for adoption. A final draft will be ready for review by the next GAC meeting. The document will be reduced from twelve pages to about six. The committee will have a session at the end of the GAC meeting for individuals to express their concerns and ideas regarding the current EMS Rules and Regulations.

C. Revolving Fund Update – There were 44 applicants who applied for the EMS Revolving Fund Grant. A total of \$152,785.00 was to be distributed. \$148,661.00 of the funds was disbursed. (One applicant was approved, but did not complete the process to receive the funds.) This left a balance of \$4,124.00. The Revolving Fund will not be funded for this year.

D. St. Johns Health System Medication Request- – Dr. Janet Jordan, Medical Director, St John’s Health System presented a letter asking for Pediaprofen, Tylenol, Neo-Synephrine, Oral Glucose, Activated Charcoal, Syrup of Ipecac to be added to the optional EMS medication list. In addition, requested permission to carry Hydralazine, Solu-Medrol, Racemic Epinephrine on EMS units, medications requested to be placed on optional EMS medication list.

After discussion, a motion was made by Tim Callicot and second by Todd Freeman to accept recommendation, except for the placement of Racemic Epinephrine and Syrup of Ipecac. Hydralazine and Solu-Medrol would be approved with EMS Medical Director oversight and placed on optional EMS medication list. The council does not make recommendation concerning the use of over the counter medications. The Council passed the motion.

Dr. Jordan gave brief prehospital thrombolytic administration report concerning St. John’s EMS – **SEE ATTACHMENT III.**

E. Hospital Staffing Concerning Paramedics - Dr. Leibovich requested that everyone monitor this issue at the next legislative session.

F. Ambulance Mandatory Equipment Review – Kenny Shaw made motion to accept recommended list; William Seaton seconded the motion. Discussion: Michelle Staggs suggested eliminating the numbers on the gauze pads and ABD

dressing. Todd Freeman moved to remove thermometers from mandatory list and to accept the frac-pak; ked; ktd; scoop stretcher. Dr. Schmidt moved to accept the change of the recommend equipment list with the change of removing the number of gauze pads, ABD dressing and thermometer. Michelle Skaggs seconded the motion. Council passed motion.

G. Ambulance Diversion - David Taylor, Emergency Communications Center (ECC) report – David advised the council it was not the responsibility of the ECC to dispatch ambulances. The ECC does this as a courtesy to the ambulance services. The Office of EMS does not regulate the ECC, it is located in a different building and is under a different business unit. David suggested the Council email him with suggestions concerning problems associated with the ECC. The Council wanted to know what the job responsibilities of the ECC were. David informed the Council regarding the responsibilities of the ECC. Those responsibilities include the following: assist Arkansas Nuclear One, CSEPP drills, maintain security for the ADH buildings, and Agency communications.

H. Medical Director Training Course Information – David Taylor presented the Council with material regarding medical director training as requested. There was a discussion regarding the requirement of medical director training. Discussion revolved around training courses in order for services to be able to provide different levels treatment regarding patient care. It was suggested that the R&R committee review and make proposal regarding discussion. Dr. Leibovich suggested a subcommittee for medical director training/control and this committee will report back to Council. Tim Tackett, Dr. Leibovich, Matt Young from Life Net, Dr. Lancaster and Dr. Schmidt will serve on this committee.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Open Discussion- Michelle Staggs made a motion that the Governor’s Advisory Council send a letter to ADEM requesting ambulances and other emergency services to be permitted to hook up to the AWIN System. The motion was seconded by Kenneth Starnes and passed by the Council.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the Governor’s Advisory Council will be held at the Office of EMS & Trauma Systems on November 17, 2004 1:30 PM.

VIII. ADJOURN

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