

Governor's Advisory Council
November 16, 2005
Minutes

Member's Present

Dr. Marvin Leibovich
Rod Barrett
Todd Freeman
Dr. Timothy Calicott
Kenneth Starnes
Michelle Staggs
Garry Odom
Dr. David Schmidt
Dr. Len Kemp
Tony Hickerson
Jamin Snarr
Doug Deurr

Member's Absent

Fran Hickman
Leonard Krout
Dan Johnson
Delois Sykes
Billy Artis

ADH Staff

David Taylor
Sonya Sampson
Norajean Miles
James Johnson
Stella Nelson
Markann Young
Brian Nation

Visitors

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Leibovich called the Governor's Advisory Council to order on November 16, 2005 at 1:35 p.m. at the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems.

II. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION

The Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council meeting was held on Wednesday, July 22, 2004 at 1:35 p.m. at the Freeway Medical Tower, Suite 800 Little Rock, Arkansas. Dr. Leibovich called the meeting to order. Members and guests were asked to introduce themselves.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The floor was open for approval of August 17, 2005 minutes. A Motion was made by Kenneth Starnes to approve the minutes, motion seconded by Michelle Staggs. The minutes were approved as submitted.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Section Chief Update – Report presented by David Taylor. Mr. Taylor handed out the following for review and discussion:

I. Vacancies- EMS Specialist and EMSC Coordinator.

EMS Specialist:

Mrs. Markann Young, EMT-A, accepted the EMS Specialist vacancy on October 10, 2005. She has been in EMS since 1991 and was a previous employee of Med-Tech EMS. It is a pleasure to have Mrs. Young on board.

EMSC Coordinator:

Interviews are in progress; hopefully the position will be filled in the near future. This position has been advertised twice.

Secretary II:

Ms. Tracy Bowie, Secretary II for the office has resigned and accepted a position with Department of Finance & Administration. Ms. Bowie completed her Bachelors Degree in Business Administration this past May. I wish Ms. Bowie the best and may her career opportunities continue to flourish.

This position will be advertised within the next couple of weeks. Council will be notified when position is filled.

II. Rural Access to Emergency Devices:

Office is currently conducting a survey regarding the availability of AEDs on BLS ambulances. I expect to present the survey at the next EMS Advisory Council meeting.

III. Paramedic Scholarship/Equipment Program

The Office of Rural Health and Primary Care & the Section of EMS are currently distributing funds for invoices submitted to receive funding for scholarships and equipment. Training sites utilized \$32,230.33 of the available financial support during the federal fiscal year. A letter of intent will be requested from training sites prior to an award notice during the next cycle. Fourteen paramedic-training sites will be eligible for funding. During SFY06, \$60,000 will be divided between the training sites who elect to participate and submit a letter of intend by the schedule due date.

IV. Merger of ADH & DHS

Effective August 11, 2005 the Arkansas Department of Health and the Department of Human Service merged to create the Department of Health and Human Services. The Division of Health will have four areas of operations that will include the following: Center for Health Protection, Center for Health Advancement, Center for Local Public Health, and Center for Public Health Practice. The Office of EMS will be in the Center for Health Protection - Director Donnie Smith, Licensing & Regulations Branch- Branch Chief Renee Mallory, Section of EMS & Trauma Systems - Section Chief, David Taylor. The Office of EMS & Trauma Systems will now be referred to as Section, not Office. The EMS Director will be referred to as Section Chief, not Director. If any additional changes occur, the Council will be notified.

V. Regulatory Report

Inspections for September and November Included the 400 Series (Southeast) and 500 Series (Southwest).
400 Series- 20 Services and 53 vehicles
500 Series- 24 Services and 72 vehicles

Totals- 44 Service and 125 vehicles

1. Certification Update – Norajeane Miles gave the certification report. The following was handed out for review and discussion:

September 30, 2005 Recertification (complete)

Recertifications packets sent-	1368
Recertification packets received-	1084

Pending – needing additional information	2
Percent recertified	79%

Initial Certification/ Testing January through May 31, 2005

Basic Written exams administered:	8
# students tested	143
# students successful	78
# students unsuccessful	65
awaiting results for 3 classes	
Advanced Written exams administered	5
# Paramedic students tested	62
# Paramedic students successful	18
# Paramedic students unsuccessful	44

9 advanced classes completing in December –scheduling for Dec & Jan

Reciprocity

Advance Reciprocity candidates	
Total for January to August, 2005	20
Since August, 2005	11
2005 Total to date	31
Office waiting on required documents-	20
Waiting to purge	3
Active candidates	23

Basic Reciprocity candidates

January to November, 2004	9
Military since July, 2005	10
2005 Total to date	19
Inactive or waiting on required documents	44
Military (all pre June except one)	5 in process
One awaiting background check	

Continuing Education

CEU total for 2004	2322
CEU classes approved through October 31, 2005	2098

Data for this report reflects information current through November 15, 2005.

There was a mistake printed on the handout that should have read exam since August meeting. Added 11 Reciprocity since January 21 advance 19 paramedic 10 military and five to process. 2322 2004 CEU; since October 2038. Arkansas selected for state for Computer Based Testing.

Computer Based Testing

Norajeane Miles stated that computer based testing (CBT) would begin January 1, 2007 for all National Registry written examinations. Arkansas was invited to participate as a beta test site regarding CBT paramedic written examinations. Arkansas is one of seven states that will participate in the pilot. No additional fees will be charged to the students during the pilot test. Regular fees will apply during the pilot period. Arkansas has been granted 110 testing slots during the pilot. The pilot will be conducted from June 23, 2006 to July 28, 2006. She stated that she would be attending a meeting regarding the testing process and would keep the Council updated.

2. Regulatory Report- Given by David Taylor during Section update.

3. Trauma Systems – Brian Nation gave the report. Trauma Council will meet Tuesday, December 6, at 3pm at Section of EMS.

a. 2004 Pre-hospital Care Report – 2004 Arkansas Prehospital Care Annual Report mailed to all Arkansas Licensed Ambulance Services and EMS Advisory Council members on October 18, 2005. (see attached report)

b. The Section of EMS mailed over 1,800 applications for the AED grant program for 2006. The Department of Emergency Management made the application available to community leaders on their email list serve. Mailings fire departments, EMS Services with BLS trucks, and State Senators and Legislators.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. EMSC – Brian Nation gave the EMSC report.

The Section completed the interview process for the EMSC position and is waiting for Departmental approval. The 2007 EMSC grant application has been completed and submitted. We are waiting on the notice of grant award.

2. Training Committee – Jamin Snarr presented the report.

The Training Committee met November 16, 2005 at the Section of EMS & Trauma Systems

a. National EMS Scope of Practice

Norajeane Miles stated at the National EMS State Coordinators' meeting that the scope of practice was the minimum skill set recommended for EMS rules and regulations. She emphasized that the state could increase the listed skills, but there would be problems if states chose to fall below the minimums. Ms. Miles said that the skill set will be used to set the educational standards. The National Association of EMS Educators will

be given the charge to design the new educational standards for all levels. It should be noted that the educational standards will replace the current national standard curriculum. The final draft of the National EMS Scope of Practice will very likely be adopted by NTSB with few changes, if any.

b. Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)

Jamin Snarr stated that Lisa Robles presented a Medical Emergency Responder eleven-page draft to the Training Committee for review. Members of the committee commended Lisa for an excellent initial draft. Committee is still reviewing issues that need to be addressed, which include: grandfathering Nationally Certified First Responders, reciprocity, who will be allowed to teach the courses, recertification, what type of training site system approach will be used if any. David Taylor commented that if there is grandfathering, there should be a timetable for the grandfathering to phase out. He stated that there will be a requirement to amend Act 435 for binding rules and regulations to apply. He suggested that the target date of June 2006 in order to be in time for the next legislative session. Mr. Taylor also mentioned that the EMT Association is willing to sponsor the First Responder initiative during the next legislative session. Mr. Snarr stated the Training Committee will meet in January to discuss the topic further.

Garry Odom suggested that Combat Lifesavers receive similar training and there is opportunity for them to receive credit for EMR. He will bring a proposal to the next meeting.

c. New EMT-Basic Site Proposal-

Joe Corcoran from Rich Mountain Community College made a presentation to the Training Committee requesting state accreditation as an EMT-Basic training site in Arkansas. The packet was one of the best packets the Training Committee has ever received. A committee of three will conduct the site visit to ensure completion of the application process. The school wants to start an EMT class prior to the next Council meeting.

Mr. Snarr made a proposal to the Council that would permit the Site Team and the Department to determine if the school will receive state accreditation. If so, this would permit the school to start their EMT programs in January. Michelle Staggs seconded the motion. Motion passed by the Council.

3. Rules & Regulations Committee – Kenneth Starnes gave report. The committee has not met in the last few months.

DNR Update- The Do Not Resuscitate Rules and Regulations are complete. Notices have been mailed to all interested parties.

4. **Air Ambulance Subcommittee** – Report provided by Michelle Staggs. The committee met November 16, 2005. The committee reviewed the current Air Ambulance Rule and Regulations and has started to review Rules and Regulations for surrounding states. The committee suggested that they break into five Task Forces to review different sections of the Rules and Regulations. The following was suggested: Administration, Communication, Aviation, Clinical, and Legal. Volunteers from each Arkansas licensed air service are welcomed to be represented on the task forces. Chairs of task forces will become the oversight committee. That committee will provide their final recommendations to the EMS Advisory Council. The goal is to make sure everything is standard, no conflicting languages. Dr. Leibovich recommended a safety task force and maybe a disaster task force. Ms. Staggs stated that Mack Hutchison would be the ground ambulance liaison to assist the committee. Gary Odom requested that the military be included in the Task Force.

5. **Medical Subcommittee** – Dr. Calicott gave the Medical Subcommittee report. The committee has not met due to the recent hurricanes. The committee will meet in the near future to discuss the Board of Health Request regarding:
 - a. Huber Needles
 - b. CPAP
 - c. RSI
 - d. Optional Medication List

Dr. Calicott suggested that the medication list(s) be changed to classifications; this would save the Council time when services want to implement new medications. Dr. Calicott stated that if American Heart Association approves a medication then it should apply to the approved optional list. Dr. Calicott will work with the medical subcommittee to prepare the proposals for the Board of Health meeting.

C. IO Clinical Investigation – Dr. Calicott gave the report. We are about to start the study. The IO devices including the needles, batteries, protocols, training, and selected paramedics have been obtained. The study will start December 1st. at an estimated cost of \$10,000. The Board of Health has requested a quarterly report regarding the study. The study has been approved for six months to 1 year. Dr. Calicott plans to ask the Board of Health for field approval after three months has been completed of the study. This is due to recent reports and recommendations on the national level. Dr. Calicott will keep the Council advised of the study.

V. New Business

1. **Hurricane Katrina/Rita EMS Response** – David Taylor provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Arkansas' EMS response to Hurricane Katrina/Rita (see attached).
2. **Computer Based Testing** – Paramedics Pilot – covered by Norajean Miles under Certification Report.

VI. Nomination/Election of Officers – The following individuals was nominated for the 2006 EMS Advisory Council:

Jamin Snarr nominated Dr. Calicott as Chairman. Dr. Len Kemp seconded the nomination. The motion was closed by acclamation and passed by the Council.

Tony Hickerson nominated Jamin Snarr as Vice-Chairman. Dr. Schmidt seconded the nomination. The motion was closed by acclamation and passed by the Council.

Kenneth Starnes nominated Michelle Staggs as Parliamentarian. Dr. Leibovich seconded the nomination. The motion was closed by acclamation and passed by the Council.

David Taylor expressed his gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Marvin Leibovich for his many years of service and dedication to the EMS community and to the Council.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATES

February 15, 2006 at 1:30 pm, Section of EMS & Trauma Systems
May 17, 2006 at 1:30 pm, Section of EMS & Trauma Systems
August, 2006 date, time and location to be announce. (Hot Springs)
November 15, 2006 at 1:30 pm, Section of EMS & Trauma Systems

VIII. ADJOURN

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