

# **EMS Advisory Council**

**November 17, 2004**

## **Minutes**

### **Member's Present**

Dr. Marvin Leibovich  
Dr. Monte Gagliardi  
William Seaton  
Dr. Ted Lancaster  
Michelle Staggs  
Dr. Timothy Calicott  
Jamin Snarr  
Todd Freeman  
Rod Barrett  
Tim Tackett  
Leonard Krout  
Kenneth Starnes

### **Member's Absent**

Tony Hickerson  
Malvin Jones  
Fran Hickman  
Larry Freeman

### **ADH Staff**

David Taylor  
Sonya Sampson  
Bill Plunk  
Norajean Miles  
Stella Nelson  
Dawn Dutcher

### **Visitors**

Don Stinnett  
Laura Guthrie

Carol Barnes  
Steve Bassett

Sedley Tomlinson  
Charles Trull

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The EMS Advisory Council was called to order on November 17, 2004 at 1:30 p.m. at the Office of EMS & Trauma Systems. Dr. Leibovich announced the passing of EMT Bob Booth. Mr. Booth - a farmer, Paramedic, Instructor and friend to many, passed on November 8, 2004. For many years he worked to provide care and compassion to the people of Northeast AR. He spent dedicated, countless hours to advancing EMS in Arkansas through his leadership in the AEMTA and serving on many EMS advisory Boards. He retired October 12, 2004 and will be dearly missed by his family and friends in the EMS community. The Council had a moment of silence in honor of Mr. Booth.

**II. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS**

Dr. Marvin Leibovich welcomed attendees. Members and guest introduced themselves.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The floor was open for approval of July 22, 2004. A motion was made by Todd Freeman and second by William Seaton to approve the July 22, 2004 minutes. Motion passed.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Director's Update** – David Taylor gave Director's update. Distributed for review and discussed the following:

**Rural Access to Emergency Devices**

The Office of EMS & Trauma Systems has received a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant in the amount of \$363,509.00 to purchase and place Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) with emergency response teams and basic life support ambulance services within the State of Arkansas. The office anticipates completion of placement of the new devices by July 30, 2005.

A survey was conducted by the Office to assess current utilization of AED's by basic life support ambulance services. The following information was obtained during the survey:

Number	Action Taken
75	Ambulance services contacted during survey
109	BLS units identified in survey
58	BLS units are equipped with AED's
44	BLS units are not equipped and would like to obtain an AED
6	6 BLS/Special Purpose ambulances do not desire placement of AED's
1	BLS unit – Availability of AED unknown – Not available for contact

The goal is to place AED's in an eight (8) mile radius. Act 101 of 1999 states that a medical director must oversee the AED training. Would like to amend Act 101 so that a medical director would not be required. A motion was made by Dr. Calicott to make AED's available without medical recommendation and seconded by Kenneth Starnes. Motion passed.

**Scholarship/Training Site Equipment Fund**

The Office of EMS & Trauma Systems would like to express our gratitude to the Office of Rural Health and Primary Care for their assistance in obtaining \$60,000 in grant funding from HRSA's Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant. Funding will provide fifteen paramedic scholarships and permit up to fifteen paramedic level training sites to purchase \$2,000 of non-disposable paramedic training equipment. Guidelines will be established for students and training site awards. The Office hopes to distribute the funds by June 30, 2005.

**Health Alert Network**

The Office has conducted two tests of the Health Alert Network (HAN) system over the last two months. Each test assessed the HAN systems ability to contact services by trying to reach forty ambulance services chosen at random. The first test resulted in a sixty percent (60%) notification rate and the second test resulted in a sixty-five percent (65%) notification rate. The office will continue to update ambulance service contact information and continue to test the HAN system.

**Regulatory Administrator**

Mr. Harry Ringler, Regulatory Administrator retired from the Agency effective September 30, 2004. Mr. Ringler was a true asset to the Office of EMS and an admired leader within the EMS community. He served the EMS community for over thirty years and his dedication and hard work is recognized and appreciated. Colleagues within the Office will miss him dearly.

**Trauma Systems**

**1. Certification Update – Bill Plunk gave Certification Update Recertification:**

**June 30, 2004**

Recertification packets sent-	~1370
Recertification packets received-	1168
Recertified-	1155
Pending- (missing required documentation)	13
Elected <b>not</b> to recertify-	<b>~250</b>

**January 1, 2005**

Recertification packets sent-	~1370
Recertification packets received-	118
Recertified-	105
Pending- (missing required documentation)	13
Returned for bad address	56

Elected **not** to recertify-

**Testing/Certification**

To date approximately 714 students have completed Basic EMT courses and 86 students who have completed advanced courses this year. The Office has examined approximately 78 individual classes plus the end of month exams offered in Little Rock. The Basic overall and first time success rates are identical at 53%. There Office has provided 12 Advanced testing dates plus the end of month written offered at the Office. The Advanced pass rate is at 50%.

**Scheduled EMT Classes**

**Basic- Full EMT Classes-**

23- Classes scheduled for completion- 17 Nov to 31 Dec 2004

**Basic Refresher Classes-**

6- Classes scheduled for completion- 17 Nov to 31 Dec 2004

**Intermediate-**

3 - Classes scheduled for completion- 17 Nov to 31 Dec 2004

**Paramedic-**

7- Classes scheduled for completion- 17 Nov to 31 Dec 2004

**Paramedic Refresher Classes-**

6 - Class scheduled for completion- 17 Nov to 31 Dec 2004

**Reciprocity**

**Advance** Reciprocity candidates

Office waiting on required documents- 13

**Basic** Reciprocity candidates

Office waiting on required documents- 36

**Completed** reciprocity requirements for 2004 (YTD)

Advanced 38

Basic 18

**2. Regulatory Update-** David Taylor gave Regulatory Update. The Office conducted the 400 and 500 series ambulance service inspections during the months of August and October 2004. Forty-nine services were visited and 130 ambulances were inspected. The Agency is in the process of interviewing applicants for the Regulatory Administrator position and hopes to have the vacancy filled by mid January.

**3. Trauma Systems Update-** David Taylor gave Trauma Systems Update. A grant was secured in the amount of \$30,000 to continue the Trauma Systems program. The Office anticipates continued support from HRSA and will apply for additional funding to support activities during the state fiscal year of 2006. The Agency anticipates filling the Trauma Administrator vacancy by January.

## **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. EMSC** – Jamin Snarr gave report on EMSC. No activity to report.

**2. Training Committee** – The training committee met and discussed licensure issue and decided to table it until there was more information available regarding the EMT Scope of Practice. The Office of EMS will be sending out first responder survey to all fire departments with return envelopes. Results will be presented to Training Committee and Council for review.

**a. National EMS Scope of Practice-** Mr. Danny Bercher, Chairman of the EMS Training Committee presented Council members a letter of recommendation written to the National EMS Scope of Practice Task Force. (See attachment 1) There was a motion made by Jamin Snarr to accept the recommendation from Training Committee and seconded by Todd Freeman. Motion passed.

**3. Rules & Regulation Committee** - Kenneth Starnes gave the report concerning the DNR Rules and Regulation. The new DNR will allow paramedics to honor DNR. Next step will go to the Health Department Legal team. Jamin Snarr made motion to adopt the recommended changes. D. Johnson second motion. Motion passed by Council.

**C. Ambulance Diversion – ECC Agreement** – David Taylor gave report on Ambulance Diversion – ECC agreement. 266 ambulance contacts regarding assistance with notifying hospitals, two ambulance diversion assistance, and one stalled ambulance. Will monitor data for next three to four months and will determine course of action.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

**Adult Intraosseous Infusion** – Dr. Tim Calicott gave presentation on Adult Intraosseous Infusion. The procedure/device has not been approved to use in pediatric at this time. The cost is approximately \$547.00 to purchase EZ-IO system. The replacement needles come in fives and cost less than \$100. If anyone is interested in using the Adult Intraosseous Infusion they should contact Dr. Calicott. Packets were distributed to Council prior to meeting and covered success rate and research material. Dr. Calicott requested the Council support a field study regarding Adult IO procedures. It was suggested to use MEMS, Little Rock. The requested time frame for the field study would range between six months to one year. The field study results would be presented to the EMS Advisory Council for further consideration and recommendations. Motion to approve the field study made by Dr. Calicott, second by Rod Barrett, motion passed. David Taylor notified Council members that he would request the field

study to be placed on the next Board of Health's agenda for review and approval. Departmental approval must be received prior to starting the field study.

**VI. NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS**

Floor open for nominations. A motion was made by Dr. Lancaster to continue with current officers. Motion seconded by Tim Tackett, motion passed.

Current Officers:

Chair – Dr. Leibovich  
Vice-Chair - Jamin Snarr  
Parliamentarian - Michelle Staggs

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATES**

The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council will be held at the Office of EMS & Trauma Systems on February 16, 2005 1:30 pm

**VIII. ADJOURN**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.