

STATE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

September 12, 2002

- MEMBERS Present:** Erin Burnham, Denise Giard, T.R. Hilton, Pete Kingsley, Chuck McCart, Ken Parsons, Linda Quackenbush, Suzann Schmele, Richard Straw, Jim Thomas
- Absent:** Eric Brunswick, William Ferguson, James Giesen, Terry Griffith, Pat Hart, Jon Jui, Helen Miller, William Porter
- Staff:** Jonathan Chin, Catherine J. Schmitz, and Raelene Jarvis
- Guests:** Mr. & Mrs. Wish

1. Call to Order

- A) Vice Chair Jim Thomas called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm. All were reminded of the no smoking policy.
- B) Denise Giard made motion to accept minutes of June 7, 2002 with the addition of Helen Miller as present. Ken Parsons seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted.

2. Subcommittee & Liaison Section - Reports/Committee Discussion

A) Board of Medical Examiners EMT Advisory Board Liaison

Suzann Schmele announced the BME EMT subcommittee will meet Friday September 20, 2002 in Portland. Appointment of committee members is on the agenda. All were encouraged to attend.

B) Subcommittee on EMT Certification and Discipline

Suzann Schmele reported the subcommittee requests two- (2) nominations of the full SEMSC for this subcommittee. There was discussion regarding possible conflicts between proposed EMT-I changes. The original intent was to address concerns of rural ALS needs. Recent survey showed sixty (60) percent of EMT-Intermediates were in the suburban setting. Sub-group plans to survey EMT-I demographics outside the I-5 corridor with focus on under served areas including specific skill requirements projected cost of service, a five year, and ten-year plan.

C) **EMT Education**

Jonathan Chin reported the Paramedic recertification exam is underway. Mr. Chin acknowledged his own education process on the subject. Validation exams taken by NREMT-Paramedics are scheduled. A seventy-five (75) percent pass rate is required on the final exam. If a candidate fails two (2) times, a refresher course is required. Agencies administer exams as outlined by State process.

D) **EMS for Children**

Raelene Jarvis reported the committee has vacancies for the following positions Medical Director, Family Advocate, and Pediatric Practice. Posting of a full FTO EMSC Coordinator is pending State process. Due date for the 2002-05 grant is November 12, 2002. List of priorities includes healthcare education and prevention. The EMS for Children conference takes place October 18-19 in Corvallis, Oregon.

E) **Oregon State Ambulance Association Liaison**

Ken Parsons reported additional cuts in air mileage reimbursement. A Medicare give back packet in the near future providing up to twenty-five (25) of the cuts to be restored. An email requesting Legislative contact was share from Shawn Baird.

F) **Oregon ACEP Liaison**

No report

3. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **EMS Database Status**

Jonathan Chin reported the Database is accepting data directly and by floppy behind a secure firewall. Each of the three pilot sights offers various problems to be addressed. Chin stated more progress has been made in the past four (4) months than the previous eighteen (18). The project proves more difficult than originally planned. Work groups supported by DHS-IS continue to persevere. Servers and software have been ordered by DHS-EMS for the project.

B. **Updates**

➤ Weapons of Mass Destruction

Planning continues by Department of Justice guidelines for First Response planning of 570 million in funding to Oregon by the end of preparations. EMS is one part.

➤ EMT-Intermediate Scope - See above

➤ **MTU Restructure**

Jonathan Chin announced Jerry Andrews has been reassigned to the Mobile Training Unit. Mr. Andrews brings a wealth of instructional experience to Oregon's EMS community. Chin stated a conceptual new way of looking at options to get the best buck for the money. While hands on instruction are preferred, long-distance learning is a high priority for rural and frontier communities where connections prove challenging. Comments may be submitted to Chin or the MTU directly.

➤ **Visitations**

Jonathan Chin shared plans to travel the State and meet stakeholders in communities beginning with committee members. A communities vision is what's important, not his own.

➤ **Office of Public Health Systems**

The Pre-Hospital Systems Manager position is currently open. An Administrative Specialist 2 position will replace the Office Manager position, which has been vacant since February. Support Staff have successfully shared responsibilities since that time.

C) **EMSC Conference and Educational Opportunities**
See Above

D) **Oregon Trauma Systems Update**

Raelene Jarvis reported requests from Providence Medford Medical Center, Rouge Valley Medical Center, and McKenzie-Willamette hospitals to decrease from accreditation Level II to Level III trauma facility. Decreasing resources were cause for request. On-going discussion of inter-facility transport issues as they relate to community resources and current Administrative Rules were discussed at the State Trauma Advisory Board (STAB).

E) **Subcommittee Reports**

➤ ***EMS Database*** - See Above

➤ ***EMT Certification*** - See Above

➤ ***Health Services***

There was discussion regarding where the EMT-Paramedic certification education requirements may lead, in five (5) years, and ten (10)? Is it a big opportunity, or big headache? Suggestions included looking at the growth of the Trauma System from the beginning.

➤ ***Disaster Planning***

There was discussion of liability coverage for DMAT volunteer members for malpractice and legal protection. Currently it is offered under the Medical Director's license. Is this too much risk? DMAT is strategizing how to obtain Federal-funding dollars in Oregon. A Federal supply load was received and is stored in Eugene; they are to be used only in a Federal emergency. A warehouse at Portland Airbase is available for storage of supplies as well.

5) STAFF REPORTS

Jonathan Chin referred all to Program Quarterly Reports provided to committee members. Additional copies were available for guests. There were no questions of the group.

6. PUBLIC FORUM & COMMENT

None

7. ADJOURN

Motion; Denise Giard
Second; Richard Straw

Respectfully submitted by:

Catherine J Schmitz
Professional Standards Assistant
Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems