

**STATE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**June 7, 2002**

- MEMBERS:** Jon Jui, Erin Burnham, William Ferguson, Denise Giard, Terry Griffith, Pat Hart, Ken Parsons, Pete Kingsley, William Porter, Jim Thomas, Helen Miller
- Absent:** Charles McCart, Richard Straw, T.R. Hilton, Suzann Schmele, James Giesen, Eric Brunswick, Linda Quackenbush
- Staff:** Jonathan Chin, Catherine J. Schmitz, Jerry Andrews, Elizabeth Morgan, Susie Werner, Buck Woodward, Harvey Crowder
- Guests:** Ken McGinnis, Dave Fuller, Scott Cooper, David Cook, Shawn Baird, Bernie Zollner, Peggy Andrews, Nick Rayner, Keith Flewelling, Beverly Baumann, MD, David Scheirman

**1. Call to Order**

- A) Dr. Jui called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. All were reminded of the no smoking policy.
- B) Motion by Dr. Ferguson and Pat Hart to accept December 7, 2001 minutes as corrected. The committee accepted minutes as corrected.

**2. Subcommittee & Liaison Section - Reports/Committee Discussion**

- A) **Board of Medical Examiners EMT Advisory Board Liaison**  
Suzann Schmele reported the Board of Medical Examiner (BME) met the morning of June 7, 2002. There was discussion but no decision concerning changes at the EMT Intermediate scope of practice including additional medications, and potential changes to those currently in place. Recommendations will be forwarded to the full Board for approval. The BME will next meet on September 20, 2002 in Portland.
- B) **Subcommittee on EMT Certification and Discipline**  
It was reported the committee met in executive session on June 6, 2002. Six (6) individuals were to be seen. Three (3) were released from probation after successful completion of the requirements of their agreement. One (1) was extended for an additional year due to failure to comply with requirements of the agreement. Two (2) were excused in advance due to prior commitments. The committee discussed file (s) of those excused.

C) **EMT Education**

Meeting cancelled due to lack of quorum. Jonathan Chin reported the EMT Consortium met May 3, 2002 in The Dalles, Oregon. The DHS-EMS Training Manager and Mobile Training Unit (MTU) positions, which are currently vacant, Consortium roles, Paramedic Recertification Exam, and the Talking Heads video, were discussed. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 11, 2002 at Umpqua Community College.

D) **EMS for Children**

Susie Werner reported the committee met June 7, 2002. The committee has vacant positions of a Hospital Administrator, Training Coordinator, and Medical Director. Fred Neis resigned from DHS-EMS. The position will be posted as a full time employee (FTE) vs. one ½ time FTE. Funding is pending Oregon's 3<sup>rd</sup> Special Session in July 2002. The Partnership Grant has been funded for three (3) years at \$100 k per year. A brochure for the EMSC Conference October 18 & 19, 2002 will be available shortly.

E) **Oregon State Ambulance Association Liaison**

Ken Parsons reported the changes for the initial Medicare reimbursement reductions were better than anticipated. More information will follow.

F) **Oregon ACEP Liaison**

Beverly Bauman, MD reported an ACEP Conference is scheduled for February 2-5, 2003 at Sunriver, Oregon. Representatives of Family Practitioners who are interested in EMS and community concerns will attend. They are currently working with Brad Higbee, Lobbyist to educate Legislators in regards to EMS and Trauma issues. The Legislator Visitor Program includes Emergency Room tours.

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

A) **Goals and Objectives for Subcommittees**

After discussion, Dr. Ferguson made motion to nominate Jim Thomas as Vice Chair of the State Emergency Medical Services Committee (SEMSC). Pat Hart seconded the motion. Jim Thomas will serve as Vice Chair from this point through end of his term December 31, 2003. A draft version of the Teleconferencing policy was provided outlining the purpose, policy, and procedure for use of this option. The committee adopted policy. Members shall provide 72-hour notice of intent to the EMS Section if they wish to exercise this option.

B) **Internal Reorganization**

Jonathan Chin reported DHS-EMS is currently in process with limited revisions to be

made. Positions include; Prehospital Manager, Prehospital Systems Manager (formerly Training Manager), Trauma & Tertiary Care (formerly Trauma Manager), Business and Operations Manager (formerly Office Manager). The EMSC Program Representative was increased from a ½ FTE to a full FTE. Reclassification requests have been submitted for an Office Specialist 2 to an Administrative Specialist 1, and Office Specialist 1 to an Office Specialist 2.

#### **4 NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A) Database Development: Short And Long Term Goals**

Will Worrall provided a demonstration of an Electronic Database including handouts. Implementation of Phase 1 is June 2002, however, security issues within DHS have not been resolved. Phase 2 is anticipated January 2003 including clinical data by April 2003. Several management components are featured. The program is Microsoft/Access based therefore additional fields are possible. Buck Woodward has been assigned to the project as ½ FTE Project Manager.

##### **B) Smallpox; Public Health Practice, Immunization of EMTs, Education**

Harvey Crowder, reported the current number of vaccination for Smallpox is higher than previously reported. Maria Siström provided handouts of educational information. The committee was asked how many were concerned about the vaccination of EMTs? Five (5) members raised their hand. A new tissue culture vaccination is in production. Complications from the vaccination vs. possible exposure are of concern. The NAEMSD conducted a CDC based questionnaire asking if EMS providers need to decide appropriate process for vaccination. Jon Jui asked providers to consider if this is a compelling issue.

##### **C) Weapons of Mass Destruction**

It was reported HRSA and CDC have granted two (2) Federal Grants for preparations and support of an event. Phase One (1) of 1.5 million notices have been received by the State for regional planning and guidelines for epidemic response. Funding will continue for three (3) years. Dr. Grant Higginson, Public Health Officer envisions building level capabilities across the State from beginning to end including small and large hospitals as well as other care needs of the facility.

##### **D) Demonstration of Electronic Database Management with Regards to Cardiac Arrests in Multnomah County**

Nick Rayner demonstrated the program used by Multnomah County EMS. Portland Fire Bureau, American Medical Response, and BOEC information is collected into one system. Mr. Rayner stressed the importance of collective complete information to reduce errors in reports produced.

E) **Newly Established Subcommittee Reports**

➤ ***EMS Database***

The group will work towards posting the project on the Internet.

➤ ***EMT Certification***

The meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum.

➤ ***Health Services***

The group discussed objectives including; financial impact to agencies regarding Medicare reimbursement, informational letter to agencies regarding changes, a generic (no name) six (6) to seven (7) question survey of direct impact on agencies

➤ ***Disaster Planning***

The group discussed plans including; to meet in key contact areas of the State, promote and expedited healthcare credentials, creation of agreement between medical staff and State indemnifying providers from liability

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; Jim Thomas, Vice Chair, Second; Denise Giard

Respectfully submitted by:

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