



STATE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

September 6, 2003

Meeting Minutes



Members: Jon Jui, Erin Burnham, William Ferguson, Denise Giard, Terry Griffith, Pat Hart, Pete Kingsley, William Porter, Suzann Schmele, Richard Straw, Jim Thomas

Absent: James Giesen, T.R. Hilton, Charles McCart, Helen Miller, Ken Parsons, Linda Quackenbush

Staff: Jonathan Chin, Karen Baker, Debbie Danna, Catherine Schmitz, Kristen Hampton

Guests: Tracy DePew, Beth DePew, Shawn Baird, Chris Benson, Dave Lapof, Gary McLean, John Praggasto, Merlin Curry, Ameen Ramsey

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A) Jon Jui called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm. All were reminded of the no smoking policy.
- B) Approval of June 6, 2003 meeting minutes – 2 changes. Page 5-change Mr. Ramsey to Dr. Ramsey; and Page 1-change William Ferguson to Members present not absent. Motioned by Denise Giard and seconded by Pat Hart to accept June 6, 2003 minutes with two corrections. The committees accepted minutes.
- C) Introduction new staff members of the EMS & Trauma Systems Section, Kristen Hampton – Receptionist, and Karen Baker – Administrative Assistant. Also, introduction of Shawn Baird who is the candidate to replace Ken Parsons on the Committee.

2. SUBCOMMITTEE & LIAISON SECTION – REPORTS/COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Subcommittees

A) EMT Certification and Discipline

Suzann Schmele reported the executive session on discipline met on September 5, 2003 with two individuals on probation who are doing well. Discussion was also held in the subcommittee meeting regarding medical marijuana and EMTs. Jonathan Chin will provide more detail regarding medical marijuana later in the meeting.

- B) **EMS Database**
Will Worrall provided a PowerPoint Presentation on the status of the EMS Database. Additional funding has been provided to continue the program. Epics Jr. will be ready for release within a few weeks. Oregon Prehospital Registry (OPR) Phase 2 programming has been completed with security being the only issue that still needs to be addressed. OPR Phase 2a changes include numerous changes, the biggest being the addition of clinical data. Other items that need to be investigated include access for supervising medical directors and HIPAA rules and regulations in relation to data contained in the database.
- C) **Health Services**
No report at this time.
- D) **Disaster Planning**
Terry Griffith would give report as part of his SIEC presentation later in the meeting.

Liaisons

- A) **B.M.E. - EMT**
Ms. Schmele reported the BME EMT Advisory Board meet the morning of September 6, 2003. New members include Dr. Paul Rostykus, Emergency Room physician, and John Herbold, EMT-I. Discussion was held regarding the EMT-I Scope of Practice (SOP); addition of the combitube to the EMT-B SOP, further discussion maybe needed in December or January; addition of LMA to the EMT-I SOP; and the need to clean up the rules. The next meeting will be December 12, 2003. Also, Ms. Schmele was presented a plaque for numerous years of help and assistance.
- B) **EMS for Children**
Debbie Danna reported that the EMSC Conference was held on June 27 and 28, 2003. Attendance included 60% nurses, 30% EMTs, and 10% doctors. Several comments indicated that the conference was a great educational benefit. Next conference is planned for October 2004. The Regional EMSC Group – California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Guam – have agreed to meet yearly, with monthly conference calls. Data collection is the major focus of this group. Pediatric equipment surveys have all been entered into a database. Data analysis is the next step. Next meeting is September 11, 2003.
- C) **Oregon State Ambulance Association**
Mr. Baird reported that the main focus has been legislative bills including the personal injury protection increase and the Oregon Health Plan. Also following

the federal bills including Medicare in regards to the reimbursement of ambulance transport fees.

D) **Oregon Fire & Medical Administrators Association**

Ms. Giard reported that a core group has been working on a draft of rule changes to provide to the State EMS office. The Annual Leadership conference is scheduled for February 11, 12, and 13.

E) **Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association**

Dave Lapof reported that the Association is now 50 years old. There are approximately 8,700 volunteer firefighters, representing approximately 5,000, and representing more and more EMTs. Meet with California and Washington representatives to discuss common issues. The national meeting will be held in Arkansas. US Fire Grants are available for rural agencies to purchase needed items.

F) **EMT Consortium**

Merlin Curry reported that the Consortium has been working with the Department of Education to update the degree program. A written report was also submitted to the State EMS Committee. The Consortium does not have a website, Mr. Chin suggested that the State put a contact point on the State EMS web page. The next meeting will be October 10, 2003 at Clackamas Community College.

G) **Oregon ACEP**

Dr. Jui reported that the Oregon Poison Control Center has been funded for one year. Due to consultant changes, there is a potential for increased in inter-hospital transports, thus the State will need to better track trauma patients.

H) **Oregon DMAT Team**

Dr. Jui reported that the federal cache equipment has been moved to the Delta tarmac at Portland International Airport. The team is setting up caches around the state. To access the team, you must go through the Office of Emergency Management. Two teams on active call around the United States every month, thus Oregon DMAT is on-call every three months. The goal of the team is to be able to treat 100 patients, 10 critical patients.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A) **NHTSA**

Discussion was held on how the Committee should proceed with evaluating the NHTSA report. Consensus was to break down the sections for groups to work

together on to provide summaries by the end of September to Mr. Chin on where we are and where we want to go. The following is a list on how the sections were broken down.

Member	Topic 1	Topic 2
Charles McCart, MD	Medical Direction	Transportation
Erin Burnham, MD	Medical Direction	HR and Training
Helen Miller, MD	Regulation and Policy	Trauma Systems
William Ferguson, MD	Public Info & Education	Medical Direction
Ken Parsons	Transportation	Regulation and Policy
Denise Giard	Resource Management	Evaluation
William Porter	Trauma Systems	Transportation
Terry Griffith	Communications	Resource Management
Linda Quackenbush	HR and Training	Evaluation
Pat Hart	Facilities	HR and Training
Suzann Schmele	HR and Training	Evaluation
T.R. Hilton	Evaluation	Communications
Richard Straw	Evaluation	HR and Training
Pete Kingsley	Facilities	Public Info & Education
Jim Thomas	Public Info & Education	HR and Training

Presentations on the summaries will be held over the next three meetings. Presentations should last 5 to 10 minutes followed by 5 to 10 minutes of questions and answers. Summaries will be presented in the following order:

December 2003	HR and Training Transportation Communications Medical Direction Resource Management
March 2004	Facilities Trauma Systems Evaluation
June 2004	Public Information and Education Regulation and Policy

Mr. Chin will investigate the current NHTSA evaluation tool and provided this information at the next meeting.

- B) **SIEC**
Mr. Griffith presented information on the State Inoperability Executive Council (SIEC). Created in 2002 under Executive Order 02-17, the SIEC was established to address the communication needs during emergencies. Grant money will be used help address problems due to communication regionalization. Representatives from State, County, City, and Associations are represented on the Council. Mr. Griffith provided detail information in a PowerPoint presentation on the SIEC.
- C) **SEMSC Bylaws**
Numerous changes were discussed in the Bylaws for the Committee. Changes will be made and brought forth to the Committee at the next meeting. Discussion was also held in regards to adding three new non-voting members to the Committee. A representative from the Air Medical Workgroup, the State Trauma Advisory Board, and the EMS for Children Committee will be asked to join the State EMS Committee. Discussion was also held on unexcused absences, term limits, rotation of doctors on committee, and officers length of service.
- D) **SEMSC Appointments**
Mr. Baird has been nominated by the Oregon State Ambulance Association to replace Ken Parsons as their representative. Linda Quackenbush is resigning from the Committee. Mr. Curry will supply a nomination to fill this position. The vacant physician position needs to be filled from ATAB 5 or ATAB 9. Mr. Chin will research if we need approval from the Committee to formally submit nominations to the Director of Human Services.
- E) **BME Appointment**
Dr. Paul Rastakus, Emergency Room physician, and John Herbold, EMT-I were appointed to the BME-EMT Advisory Board.
- F) **State Budget**
Last biennium the EMS & Trauma Systems Section budget decreased by approximately \$800,000. The EMS Section has received \$350,000 from SB 5513 this biennium. The EMS Section is exploring the necessity to increase fees in 05-07 for EMTs, ambulance licenses, and agency licenses.
- G) **Recertification**
The current process recertifies all EMTs at once. The EMS Section will be reviewing the process and will be forming a workgroup to address possible changes. Also, the non-active status will need to be reviewed.

- H) **Combitube**
No current information to provide at this time.
- I) **EMT-I Scope of Practice**
Due to the legislative session and other time sensitive issues within the Section, the process has been moving slowly.
- J) **Oregon Air Medical Workgroup**
The group has been meeting regularly and they are working on two major issues at this time, organizational structure and resource guide.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A) **HRSA**
Randy Shaw presented information on the HRSA Grant. Currently, the Needs Assessment (NA) is the primary goal. Each county has jurisdiction, then the State. County NA's are due by September 30, 2003 and the State's NA is due by December 31, 2003. Funds will be awarded in January 2004. Committee members are encouraged to participate in local County NA before funding can be granted.
- B) **Medical Marijuana**
Tim Hennigan has contacted numerous agencies regarding how they deal with medical marijuana cardholders. The issue is whether a person holding a medical marijuana card can perform the duties of an EMT and whether that person can retain his or her certificate. No decision has been made at this time. Dr. Ferguson would like further discussion with Mr. Chin and Mr. Hennigan.
- C) **Wheelchair and Stretcher Cars**
Lately, the EMS office has received several call regarding wheelchair and stretcher cars providing oxygen to patients being transported. These vehicles are not regulated by the State. The pivotal issue is the provision of oxygen and determining whether medical care is being rendered. This issue will need to be addressed at the full BME Meeting.
- D) **Regionalization following ATAB Guidelines**
Mr. Griffith provided some information in his PowerPoint presentation. More information will need to be provided at the next meeting for further discussion.

E) Medical Mutual Aid

Mr. Chin stated that \$150k has been requested from the HRSA Grant to develop a State-wide Medical Mutual Aid plan.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Accepted as written. Mr. Parsons suggested that the committee move the subcommittee and liaison reports to the end of the meeting. Ms. Giard suggested that written reports be submitted for the subcommittee and liaison reports. Further discussion will be held during the next meeting on this item.

6. PUBLIC FORUM AND COMMENT

No comments.

7. ADJOURN

Motioned by Ms. Giard and seconded by Mr. Hart. Meeting adjourned.