



STATE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

December 3, 2004

Meeting Minutes



Members: Jon Jui, Shawn Baird, Erin Burnham, William Ferguson, Denise Giard, Pat Hart, Pete Kingsley, Charles McCart, Helen Miller, William Porter, Ameen Ramzy, Suzanne Schmele, Jim Thomas

Absent: James Giesen, Terry Griffith, T.R. Hilton

Staff: Karen Baker, Debbie Danna, Timothy Hennigan, Susan Werner, Donna Wilson, Will Worrell

Guests: Peggy Andrews, Marc Houston, Gregg Lander, Paul LeSage, Ken Parsons, Pontine Rosteck, John Wish

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A) Jon Jui called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. All were reminded of the no smoking policy.
- B) April 2, 2004 meeting minutes approved with two changes. Motioned by Pat Hart and seconded by Helen Miller to accept the April 2, 2004 minutes. The committee accepted minutes.

2. SUBCOMMITTEE & LIAISON SECTION – REPORTS/COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

A) B.M.E-EMT Advisory Board

Suzanne Schmele reported the last BME meeting was held in September 2004. The next BME meeting will be held December 10, 2004.

B) EMT Certification and Discipline

Ms. Schmele reported for the Executive Session that two probation cases were reviewed and other cases and issues were discussed. The major issue was students in paramedic classes taking the National Registry exam before their classes were finished. The Executive Committee recommended that a letter be sent to all paramedic programs reminding them that students cannot take exam before finishing their classes. The Open Session met with Peggy Andrews regarding the EMT-I curriculum. The number of paramedic exams has increased from four to six exams next year. A brief discussion was held about out of state EMT students

coming into Oregon to do internships and do they meet the requirements that Oregon students do, that is either being state certified or holding a provisional certification.

C) **EMS Education**

Addressed later in agenda.

D) **EMS for Children**

Debbie Danna reported that the largest EMSC Conference held in October 2004 in Eugene, the attendance was 262 people. Donald Au in the State EMS Office processed the evaluations. The EMSC Advisory Committee met this morning. Currently, there are two vacancies, EMS Training Director and EMS Medical Director. Year 3 of the non-competitive grant was submitted in November. Five people from Oregon attended the Pediatric Disaster Life Support Train the Trainer Class in Alaska in November. The 6th Annual EMSC Conference is tentatively scheduled for October 9th, 10th, and 11th. Pre-conference will most likely focus on pediatric pain management.

E) **Oregon State Ambulance Association**

Shawn Baird reported that the OSAA meeting was held in October and Gail Shibley, Administrator, Office of Public Health Systems, attend to discuss issues in the EMS & Trauma Systems Office and the Administrative Rules process. The federal reimbursement will start to phase down in January 2005. The Association is staying involved with State Legislative efforts.

F) **Oregon ACEP**

No report given.

G) **Association of Air Medical Responders of Oregon**

Ameen Ramzy reported that the Association has adopted the name Association of Air Medical Responders of Oregon to reflect both transporting agencies and responding rescuing agencies. The group is meeting every other month. The Resource Guide is almost complete. Officers will be elected in January. Licensing regulations and rules will be reviewed at a later date.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A) **Report of SEMSC Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Group**

Chief Paul LeSage facilitated a large EMS group from around the State to discuss the change of leadership and lack of focus in the State EMS Office. Strengths, weakness, opportunities, and threats to the EMS system in Oregon were discussed.

What resulted from the meeting was the need for a comprehensive strategic planning process that is directed by the SEMSC. It is suggested that the SEMSC form a subgroup to complete a comprehensive strategic plan possibly using the NHTSA report as the foundation. The goal of the subgroup would be to compile a comprehensive list of priorities that the stakeholders would agree upon so when funding needed to be cut or focus needed to be directed to one issue, the stakeholders would be able to ensure that Oregon EMS was on the right track. Minutes were generated from meeting and then sent out to review by stakeholders.

The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association (OFCA) on record with a formal request to the SEMSC identify and appoint a group of key stakeholders to undertake a strategic planning process for the future of EMS in Oregon, starting in January 2005 and completed within six months. The OFCA Board request a copy of this report is sent to them upon the completion of the task.

Discussion held by SEMSC members. Motion by Charles McCart and seconded by Erin Burnham for the SEMSC to develop a comprehensive strategic plan for the EMS Community, State EMS Office, and EMS Advisory Committees in Oregon and for Jon Jui to deliver the plan to the State EMS Office and other legislative entities. Vote: For: Jon Jui, Shawn Baird, Erin Burnham, William Ferguson, Pat Hart, Pete Kingsley, Charles McCart, Helen Miller, Ameen Ramzy, Suzanne Schmele, Jim Thomas. Against: Denise Giard and William Porter.

Discussion held on process and rewording motion. Motion amended by Charles McCart and seconded by Erin Burnham for the SEMSC to develop a comprehensive strategic plan for the future of the EMS Community, State EMS Office, and EMS Advisory Committees in Oregon in conjunction with the State EMS Office and for Jon Jui to deliver the plan to the State EMS Office and other legislative entities. Vote: Unanimous.

Jon Jui, Ameen Ramzy, William Porter, Charles McCart, Pete Kingsley, Denise Giard, Suzann Schmele, and Paul LeSage, will meet via conference call to outline the process by January 1st. By the end of January workgroups will be assigned and given a mission. In March, a two-day meeting will be held to outline the desired outcome of the EMS system.

B) Communications Update “Interoperability Initiative”

Terry Griffith not present for update.

C) NHTSA Update

This will be combined with the strategic plan.

- D) **EMT-I Workgroup**
Peggy Andrews provided a Power Point presentation on the updated EMT-I curriculum that is being provided to the SEMSC for approval. The approval will be taken forward to the BME-EMT Advisory Committee. Motion by Shawn Baird and seconded by Pat Hart to endorse package as presented by Peggy Andrews and the EMT-I Workgroup. Vote: Unanimous.
- E) **Prehospital Database**
William Worrall discussed issues regarding the Oregon Prehospital Registry. Some of the issues include coding different from agency to agency, misclassification, and the need for statewide data definition. Each of the reports needs to be examined from the methodology on how it was analyzed and needs to be sent to agencies as soon as possible. It will take two to three years to implement statewide data definitions. Currently, the database contains historical data. At this time, due to rules and statutes, data cannot be released to the public for review.
- F) **EMS Internal Database**
Tim Hennigan recapped some of the needs of the system, online verification of certification for certificate holders, electronic application options, e-commerce, and better tracking of EMTs. Currently looking at a couple of different software packages that will offer the ability to provide these services.
- G) **Other Old Business**
None at this time.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A) **Health Preparedness**
Representation will be at the next meeting. Each member should put together a list of his or her regional assets that can be used in case of an emergency. Members of the committee should provide a written/e-mail report on their region in particular to the EMS and hospital aspect in case of mass casualties or mass care operations.
- B) **SEMSC Committee Membership**
Due to the changing leadership at the State EMS Office, it is requested by John Jui that all members be extended/renewed by one year then terms can be revisited in a more comprehensive manner. Eventually, all three-year rotations need to be reviewed. Please contact Susan Werner or Tim Hennigan regarding the length of term you can commit to, one, two, or three years.

C) **OAR Revision Update**

Shawn Baird noted that update was given under Subcommittee Reports, Oregon State Ambulance Association, 2.E.

D) **Other New Business**

Discussion held regarding submitting a letter to DHS in regards to the quality and quantity of work coming out of the State EMS Office despite the lack of an EMS Director and the SEMSC support of an interim EMS Director. Motion by Pat Hart and seconded by Charles McCart for the SEMSC to forward a letter to DHS that although there has been a lack of continuity of leadership from the EMS Director position, we believe the staff is doing a good job and we support their efforts during this time. Vote: Unanimous. Jon Jui and Ameen Ramzy will draft letter to Barry Kast with copy to the Governor, Gail Shibley, and others, to include issues from the motion and the need for stability, leadership, innovation, and resources for the State EMS Office to execute its mission, this can be greatly facilitated by timely appointments, as well as appropriate leadership from the highest levels of DHS. The letter will then be sent to the SEMSC for review then submission to DHS.

E) **Good of the Order**

The proposed 2005 meeting dates are consistent with the past dates. Dates are agreed upon via consensus of the SEMSC.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Accepted as written.

6. PUBLIC FORUM AND COMMENT

No comments.

7. ADJOURN

Motioned by Pat Hart and seconded by Denise Giard. Meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen E. Baker