

MINUTES

NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Health Service Regulation
Office of Emergency Medical Services

Brown Building
Dorothea Dix Campus
801 Biggs Drive
Raleigh, North Carolina

November 13, 2012
11:00 A.M.

Members Present

Mr. Graham Pervier, Presiding
Mr. F. Wayne Ashworth
Dr. William K. Atkinson
Mr. Bob Bailey
Mr. Terry Barber
Dr. Nicholas Benson
Ms. Kathy Dutton
Dr. Michael Ghim
Ms. Carolyn Hughes
Dr. Steven E. Landau
Dr. Brent Myers
Mr. Robert Poe
Dr. Douglas Swanson
Dr. Dennis A. Taylor

Members Absent

Mr. Todd Baker
Dr. Herbert Garrison
Dr. Elizabeth Kanof
Mr. R. Keith Lovin
Mr. Carl McKnight
Dr. Donna Moro-Sutherland
Ms. Lynn Norwood
Mr. Tony Seamon, Jr
Mr. Stephen E. Taylor

Staff Members Present

Mr. Danny Allen
Mr. Doug Calhoun
Ms. Amy Douglas
Ms. Regina Godette-Crawford
Ms. Brenda Harrington
Mr. Jeff Peterson
Ms. Mary Beth Skarote
Mr. Brad Thompson
Ms. Julie Williams
Dr. James “Tripp” Winslow

Others Present

Dr. Steven Barmach, MEDIC, Charlotte
Mr. Robert Bednar, NC Academy of Physician Assistants
Ms. Betsy Casanave, WakeMed
Mr. Greg Chapman, Carolinas Medical Center
Mr. Bradley Dean, Rowan County EMS
Ms. Crystal Dean, Rowan County
Ms. Mallory Dean, Rowan County
Ms. Makayla Dean, Rowan County
Dr. Ted Delbridge, ECU/Vidant Medical Center
Mr. Joel Faircloth, NC Association of Rescue and EMS
Mr. John Flemming, Johnston Ambulance Service
Mr. Sean Gibson, WakeMed
Mr. Eric Hawkins, Carolinas Medical Center
Mr. Dale Hill, Capital RAC/WakeMed Health & Hospitals
Mr. Josh Holloman, Johnston County EMS
Mr. Gordon Joyner, NC Association of Rescue and EMS
Mr. Sean Kaye, EMSPIC
Mr. Randy Kearns, EMSPIC
Mr. Chuck Owens, Greenville Fire-Rescue
Mr. Joe Penner, MEDIC, Charlotte
Mr. Chris Raynor, NC Community College System
Mr. Jeffrey Sicz, Director, Caswell County EMS
Mr. Michael W. Smith, Durham County EMS
Mr. Kent Spitler, NC Association of EMS Educators, Gaston College
Mr. Jeff Strickler, UNC Hospital

(1) Purpose of the Meeting: The NC EMS Advisory Council met to hear reports from the Compliance and Education Committee, the Injury Committee and to hear a Healthcare Preparedness Response & Recovery update.

(2) Actions of the Council:

Mr. Pervier, chairman of the Council, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

- (a) Motion was made by Dr. Benson, seconded by Mr. Bailey and unanimously approved that:

RESOLVED: The EMS Advisory Council minutes of the August 14, 2012, meeting be approved as submitted.

- (b) Motion was made by Dr. Myers, seconded by Mr. Bailey, and unanimously approved that:

RESOLVED: The EMS Advisory Council charge the Compliance and Education Committee with the following for the next meeting (1) a map that shows accredited versus non accredited institutions and (2) total cost to accredit all non accredited initial paramedic education programs in the state.

Explanation: After a lengthy discussion, motion was made to further check into this matter and Dr. Myers clarified that the (2) is just the cost to have the visit for accreditation.

(3) Other Actions of the Council:

- (a) Mr. Pervier welcomed guests to the Council including participants by webinar and in recognition of Veteran's Day recognized all veterans present.

- (b) Due to Executive Order 70, an annual review of our rules will be conducted. Mr. Pervier appointed a Rules Task Force with Mr. Bailey serving as chair. OEMS is currently working on our new rules to include the credentialing levels that are being added based on the *Agenda for the Future* and the national initiatives. Three public meetings will be held across the state the last three weeks in February 2013 to vet our rules and obtain stakeholder input. Anyone interested or have recommendations, please let Mr. Bailey or Ms. Crawford know.

- (c) On behalf of the Injury Committee, Mr. Ashworth reported on the following items:

- Three trauma site visits, in conjunction with ACS, were held and completed in the last quarter. They include Moses Cone, Duke and Baptist. High Point Regional, New Hanover and Wake Med are on the near agenda.
- Dr. Myers reported to the Council on an advanced patient protocol on falls that will go live soon in Wake County (Doctors Making House Calls - Falls in Assisted Living). This protocol applies only to assisted living facilities and not to any other skilled nursing or other type facility. If someone from an assisted living facility calls with a patient fall, an advanced practice paramedic and EMS transport unit will be dispatched.

There are three tiers under this protocol. Tier 1 criteria requires immediate transport. Transport may or may not be necessary under Tier 2 and 3 criteria. One strength of this protocol is that Doctors Making House Calls will see these patients at a maximum of 18 hours after contact, almost always within 12 hours so there is rapid follow up available for these individuals. Also, this

is a two- year approved trial with three month updates all through the two year timeframe. This is being looked at from a patient satisfaction perspective as well as an economic perspective.

(d) On behalf of the Compliance and Education Committee, Dr. Taylor reported on the following items:

- The EMS Disciplinary Committee has interviewed 19 individuals since the last EMS Advisory Council meeting in August. About 1% or less of credentialed EMS personnel has had contact with our Disciplinary Committee, which is a reasonable number compared to other professional groups;
- Since our last meeting in August, the OEMS has taken three disciplinary actions against EMS applicants. One was a summary suspension until criminal charges are resolved, one was to revoke an individual's paramedic credential and one was action to deny an individual's EMS credentialing application at the EMT level due to active criminal history within the past six months;
- One credentialed individual at the Paramedic level has been identified to participate in the EMS Credentialed Personnel Chemical Dependency Recovery and Rehabilitation Program;
- EM Today 2012 was held recently with 831 attendees with positive feedback received. OEMS is currently looking at national speakers for next year's conference which will be held September 28 – October 2, 2013;
- Paramedics Chris Watford and Michael Herbert representing Leland Volunteer Fire/Rescue won the annual Paramedic Competition;
- *Agenda for the Future* - The NREMT transition course guidelines are available and can be obtained at the OEMS approved educational institutions through the institution's OEMS educational liaison. The transition course may be taken by current NC credentialed providers, as these will be retroactive, and will serve as the transition guidelines when OEMS is able to implement this change in rule. A notification will go out this week to all OEMS approved educational institutions;
- OEMS is working with NC Association of EMS Educators and the NC Community College System to develop new minimum curricula based on the education standards for EMS which will be funded with a Perkins grant. Mr. Kent Spitler and Gaston College are actively involved and have formed subcommittees at the provider level for the development of these new curricula; and
- OEMS is working with the Atlantic EMS Education Council and education program directors to develop the new education standard exams.

(e) Dr. Winslow provided the Council with the following report:

- Due to the hard work of Dr Swanson, we are moving ahead with approving individual county protocols. The NCCEP document will be kept as a living document, meaning changes will be made periodically to reflect trends in current medicine;
- Several Performance Improvement projects are underway with one being the Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI) Performance Improvement Project. OEMS

staff has reviewed 586 RSI procedures year to date with direct feedback to medical directors and training officers. Several site visits have been made to improve their RSI programs;

- PREMIS data is being used to look at needle decompression issues across the state; and
- A Medical Director Course and Medical Directors update was held at EM Today.

(f) Mr. Bailey provided the Council with the following Healthcare Preparedness Response & Recovery update:

- All grant activity for FY12 will continue to focus on the eight healthcare system preparedness capabilities and performance measures. All eight regions will be conducting a regional healthcare system risk assessment and gap analysis to provide the framework for future activity surrounding the grant funding;
- The State Medical Response System (SMRS) Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2013 at 1:00 pm to be held in the Wright Building;
- The SMRS responded in support of Charlotte and Mecklenburg county during the 2012 Democratic National Convention. This event was the largest deployment of the SMRS since Hurricane Katrina. This was also the first operational deployment of the National Mobile Disaster Hospital;
- Mary Beth Skarote has accepted the position of Hospital Preparedness Program Manager; however the Disaster Preparedness Educator position has not been filled;
- The SMRS was not required to deploy during the recent events of Hurricane Sandy. The teams, however, were on an alert status for the potential of a special medical support shelter mission; and
- The OEMS has contracted with the University of North Carolina, School of Public Health to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the State EMS, Trauma, and Hospital Preparedness/Disaster programs. Upon completion, the final report will be submitted to the State EMS Advisory Council, the State Trauma Advisory Committee and the State Medical Response System Executive Committee for review and possible recommendations for statutory and regulatory changes.

Agency Update:

Ms. Crawford reported on the following:

- Amy Douglas has accepted the position of Trauma Manager; Jeff Peterson has accepted the position of Assistant Hospital Preparedness Response and Recovery Coordinator; Randy Likens has accepted the Eastern Regional Office Regional Specialist position; the Education and Credentialing Manager position should be filled soon; and McKenzie Cook continues to fill in for the EMSC position;

- Workgroups have been working diligently to draft a set of rules for preparation to bring before the Advisory Council hopefully at the February meeting;
- Secretary Delia has been working with DHSR/OEMS to define and identify the top projects for the Department so we can prepare the new DHHS Secretary and the Governor with initiatives within DHHS; and
- Randy Kearns has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer for EMSPIC. Mr. Kearns will be working in conjunction with Paul Cooper, Chief Administrative Officer, and will serve as liaison to the EMS community.

The next Advisory Council meeting will be held at the Brown Building, Dorothea Dix Campus, on February 12, 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:42 am.

Minutes submitted by Julie Williams.