

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

May 14, 2013
11:00 A.M.

Members Present

Mr. Graham Pervier, Presiding
Mr. F. Wayne Ashworth
Dr. Kim Askew
Dr. William K. Atkinson
Mr. Bob Bailey
Mr. Todd Baker
Mr. Terry Barber
Dr. Ted Delbridge
Dr. Annette Greer
Ms. Carolyn Hughes
Dr. Elizabeth Kanof
Dr. Steven E. Landau
Dr. Brent Myers
Ms. Lynn Norwood
Mr. Robert Poe
Dr. Edward St. Bernard
Dr. Douglas Swanson

Members Absent

Dr. Nicholas Benson
Dr. Michael Ghim
Mr. R. Keith Lovin
Mr. Carl McKnight
Mr. Tony Seamon, Jr
Mr. Stephen E. Taylor
Dr. James Wyatt

Staff Members Present

Mr. Wally Ainsworth
Mr. Danny Allen
Mr. Paul Allen
Dr. Roy Alson
Mr. Doug Calhoun
Ms. McKenzie Cook
Ms. Amy Douglas
Ms. Regina Godette-Crawford
Mr. Todd Messer
Mr. Tom Mitchell
Mr. Jim Morris
Ms. Susan Rogers
Ms. Sharon Schiro
Ms. Mary Beth Skarote
Mr. Brad Thompson
Mr. Carl Van Cott
Ms. Julie Williams
Dr. James "Tripp" Winslow

Others Present

Dr. Steven Barmach, Mecklenburg EMS Agency
Mr. Greg Chapman, Carolinas Medical Center
Ms. Cat Colvin, WakeMed Health & Hospitals
Mr. Lee Cox, NC Radiation Protection Section
Mr. Bradley Dean, Rowan County EMS, NC Association of Paramedics
Mr. Joel Faircloth, NC Association of Rescue and EMS
Dr. PJ Hamilton, WakeMed Health & Hospitals
Mr. Dale Hill, Capital RAC/WakeMed Health & Hospitals
Mr. Gordon Joyner, NC Association of Rescue and EMS
Mr. Sean Kaye, EMS Performance Improvement Center
Dr. Randy Kearns, University of North Carolina
Dr. Hervy Kornegay, Jr., NC Association of Rescue and EMS
Ms. Julie Macie, WakeMed Health & Hospitals
Ms. Debra Petrarca, WakeMed Health & Hospitals
Ms. Debbie Poe, Blue Ridge Medical Transport
Mr. Drexal Pratt, Director, Division of Health Service Regulation
Mr. Michael W. Smith, Durham County EMS
Mr. Kent Spitler, NC Association of EMS Educators, Gaston College
Mr. Donnie Tipton, McDowell EMS
Dr. Osi Udekwu, WakeMed Health & Hospitals
Ms. Rhonda Vincent, WakeMed Health & Hospitals
Mr. Danny West, Charlotte Fire & NC Association of Paramedics
Mr. Jeff White, First Med EMS
Ms. Joyce Winstead, NC Board of Nursing

(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. In addition, the Council met to consider WakeMed Health & Hospitals state designation renewal as a Level I trauma center.

(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 Mr. Ashworth, seconded by Mr. Bailey and unanimously approved that:

RESOLVED: The EMS Advisory Council minutes of the February 12, 2013, meeting be approved as submitted.

(b) On behalf of the Injury Committee, motion was made by Mr. Ashworth, seconded by Mr. Bailey and approved with two abstentions (Dr. Atkinson and Dr. Myers) that:

RESOLVED: WakeMed Health & Hospital's Level I Trauma Designation is renewed effective through May 31, 2017.

Explanation: WakeMed Health & Hospitals was reviewed on March 26, 2013, for renewal designation as a Level I Trauma Center in a site visit by the Office of Emergency Medical Services. Numerous strengths were noted and no deficiencies were found. The Injury Committee strongly recommended that WakeMed Health and Hospitals trauma designation be renewed.

(3) Other Actions of the Council:

(a) Mr. Pervier welcomed guests to the Council including participants by webinar.

(b) Mr. Pervier welcomed new members recently appointed to the Council which include:

- Dr. Annette Greer, satisfying the unexpired term of Ms. Kathy Dutton, representing the NC Nurses Association. Dr. Greer currently serves as Co-Director, Office of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences and Assistant Professor, Department of Bioethics and Interdisciplinary Studies, East Carolina University.
- Dr. Edward St. Bernard was appointed as a Public Member replacing Dr. Dennis Taylor. Dr. St. Bernard currently serves as Medical Director for Hospice of McDowell County and Medical Director for McDowell County Emergency Medical Services.
- Dr. Kim Askew, satisfying the unexpired term of Dr. Donna Moro-Sutherland, representing the NC Medical Society. Dr. Askew currently is a Pediatric Emergency Physician at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center and serves as Chair of the NC EMSC Advisory Committee.

- Dr. Theodore Delbridge, satisfying the unexpired term of Dr. Herbert Garrison, representing the NC Medical Society. Dr. Delbridge currently serves as Professor and Chair of Emergency Medicine, East Carolina University, Brody School of Medicine, and is a world leader in pre-hospital emergency medical services.
 - Dr. James Wyatt, who could not be with us today, is satisfying the vacant seat of the NC Chapter of American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma. This position was held by Dr. Michael Chang but his term had expired. Dr. Wyatt currently serves as Medical Director of Trauma Services, Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital.
 - Dr. Nicholas Benson, representing the NC College of Emergency Physicians was reappointed to another term. Dr. Benson currently serves as Vice Dean, Medical Director, East Carolina University Physicians, Professor of Emergency Medicine, Brody School of Medicine.
- Pending appointments include seats held by Ms. Carolyn Hughes, Mr. Robert Poe, Mr. Keith Lovin, Dr. Steven Landau and the unexpired term of the Honorable William Wainwright.

- (c) Mr. Drexal Pratt presented to WakeMed Health and Hospital's a Level I Trauma Center Designation certificate. Present to receive this certificate was Dr. Pascal Udekwu, Dr. William Atkinson, Ms. Debra Petrarca, Ms. Rhonda Vincent, Dr. PJ Hamilton and Ms. Cat Colvin.
- (d) On behalf of the Injury Committee, Mr. Ashworth reported on the following item:
- Ms. Sharon Schiro has rejoined the Office of EMS on a contractual basis through the Office of Sponsored Research of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a Trauma Registry and Disaster Data Analyst.
- (e) On behalf of the Compliance and Education Committee, Dr. Swanson reported on the following items:
- Ms. Kimberly Sides reported that the OEMS Case Review Panel reviewed a total of twenty-seven cases which contained fourteen individuals under investigation and thirteen individuals with a criminal history.
 - The Disciplinary Committee interviewed and made recommendations involving twelve individuals.
 - The Department addressed eight enforcement actions to include four summary suspensions, one amended privileges from a Paramedic to an EMT, two revocations, one letter of reprimand, two cases pending and two that are also pending following a review of a summary suspension.
 - Enforcement actions were taken regarding criminal histories involving charges determined to place the public in harm or immediate jeopardy should these individuals continue to function while their charges are pending by the courts; patient care issues of practicing outside one's credentialed scope of practice; unprofessional conduct, including the performance of or attempt to perform a procedure that is detrimental to the health and safety of any person or that is beyond the scope of practice of credentialed EMS personnel or EMS instructors; and lack of competence to practice with a reasonable degree of

skill and safety for patients including a failure to perform a prescribed procedure.

- From January 1, 2013 to April 30, 2013, the Agency received and reviewed 384 National Criminal History Reports from the SBI. These are primarily for individuals seeking credentialing who have resided in the state less than five years.
- Currently no one is enrolled in the EMS Credentialed Personnel Chemical Dependency Recovery and Rehabilitation Program. There has been a funding issue due to individuals being terminated from their agency and no longer having insurance to enter the program. There is a minimum of 90 days surrender of credential and, in most cases, the individual is not able to retain employment. The Office of EMS will be attempting to make all systems and agencies aware of the fiscal benefit of retaining employees. The individual will be closely monitored through the program, thereby alleviating the risk to the agency.
- The 40th EM Today conference will be held September 28-October 2 in Greensboro at the Koury Convention Center. Presentations have been selected for the upcoming conference and OEMS is in the process of confirming with the selected presenters. June 1st is the target date for RegOnline to go live.
- Regional competitions for the Paramedic competition will be held on Friday, July 19, 2013.
- Currently there are five CoAEMSP accredited institutions and twelve institutions that have been granted a Letter of Review status.
- Mr. Kent Spitler updated us on the EMS accreditation alignment grant which will align the standards for all four accreditation levels. This grant ends on the 30th. Final curriculum mapping has been drafted and is under review. Associated with this grant is the career and college promise for EMT curriculum at the high school level which will provide college credit. David Page has been contracted through this grant to provide a workshop for evaluation of competency at Catawba Valley Community College May 31, 2013. This is an eight hour course open to all educators to be able to evaluate providers.
- Mr. Danny West announced that the Charlotte Fire Department will be hosting a Disaster Medical Specialist Refresher Program. This will be a 2 ½ day course with 72 spots available. This program will be funded through a grant which will cover lodging and meals, but not transportation. There will be speakers that will comment on the events that took place at the Boston marathon, Haiti and West Texas disaster.
- Mr. Terry Barber announced that the NC EMS Administrator's conference will be held July 9-12, 2013. Registration is available at www.ncaemsa.org Dr. Winslow will host a medical director's update at the conference on Friday morning from 8:30 am – 10:30 am for all medical directors. Dr. Swanson commented that this is a reminder that medical director's must attend one of the sessions available in the state at some point during the year.
- Mr. Todd Baker announced that the American Heart Association (AHA) has released DVDs for instructor courses for all levels of AHA instructors.
- Dr. Tripp Winslow announced that there is a pilot project that he is working on with the NC Medical Board introducing epinephrine for use via EMT's and Medical Responders outside the auto injectors that has been required in the

past knowing that the auto injectors are quite expensive for some agencies to maintain.

- All rules are going to be held and submitted as a package with anticipation of November or January for submission. There are several House and Senate bills which need to be completed that may affect some of our EMS rules.

(f) Dr. Winslow provided the Council with a PowerPoint Presentation as follows:

- A map of the 2012 protocols approved by county. As of April 29, 2013, sixty-nine agencies had approved protocols, four of those being SCTP. The deadline for having protocols approved is July 15th.
- In order to get pertinent information out to the EMS Community, Dr. Winslow and Justin Stewart, Design Editor, created the *North Carolina EMS Journal* in February 2013. One article of interest was written jointly by Dr. Roy Alson and Dr. Darrell Nelson, in collaboration with the Chief Medical Examiner, Dr. Deborah Radisch. The article was a review of what qualifies as a medical examiner's case. There has been some confusion about what is a medical examiner case. Some EMS agencies have also had problems finding physicians to sign death certificates. More information on this subject along with the mechanics of getting death certificates signed should be coming out soon.
- A map showing the rapid sequence intubation (RSI) project. In general, the practice of RSI across the state continues to improve. Cases of serious complications are decreasing substantially due to the expertise of the providers and the attention given to this procedure by training officers and medical directors.
- Dr. Winslow also mentioned that Dr. Ted Delbridge will be helping with the needle decompression project.

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

- NCOEMS received the Funding Opportunity Announcement for the HPP cooperative agreement on March 1, 2013. Total draft budget amount for FY13 is \$10.2 million (approximately 1% decrease). Program staff completed the application process and submitted the joint application (HPP and PHEP) on May 1, 2013. A budget review is scheduled with ASPR and CDC in late June with the notice of grant award expected on July 1, 2013 and should contain revised budget amounts. The final budget is expected to be an additional 5-30% cut and staff is in the process of making contingency plans.
- The Healthcare Preparedness Response and Recovery staff currently has four vacancies. Program management is working diligently with the Department to get these positions posted and filled.
- The OEMS through the Hospital Preparedness Program conducted a full-scale exercise April 20-27, 2013. "Operation Recovery" was conducted at Davidson County Community College in Thomasville, NC. The purpose of the exercise was to test current policies, plans and procedures of the State Medical Response System (SMRS) to establish the Rapid Response Unit of

the National Mobile Disaster Hospital. After action and improvement items from the response to the Democratic National Convention were included in the exercise design. Attendees of the exercise included representation from all 8 regions of the SMRS and members of the North Carolina Baptist Men. North Carolina also benefited from its partnership with Mississippi by having key personnel from their emergency response programs evaluate the exercise objectives. A summary of the report will be made available to the Advisory Council at the November 2013 meeting.

- As a follow up to a programmatic assessment, identified program gaps, budget cuts and the Healthcare System Preparedness Capabilities, North Carolina will implement a plan to consolidate the 8 healthcare coalitions into 3 newly defined coalitions. A task force has been appointed to review the plan with HPR&R staff and make recommendations to finalize the plan and process. The next phase will be to meet with Contractors to deliver the proposed plan and the implementation time line. We will then begin to present to the regional stakeholders.
- The eight (8) healthcare coalitions are currently completing a regional health/medical and inventory assessment. The project delivery date is June 30, 2013. This information will be utilized for future planning and funding priorities within the program.
- Hospital Preparedness Program staff participated in a Federal site visit April 23-24, 2013. The purpose of the site visit was to establish the current status of the program including the current grant year and all processes and policies associated with the program. The site visit was conducted under the direction of the Federal Project Officer for North Carolina and all Healthcare Capabilities were reviewed. A site visit report will be forthcoming and an update of the report will be available at the November 2013 Advisory Council meeting. Unofficially, some of the program strengths include sub-awardees' monitoring, state leadership, state SMRS Executive Committee and action teams. Weaknesses were duplication of efforts at the regional level, contractor scope of work needing more specific language and deliverables and lack of planning initiatives at the coalition level.

Agency Update:

Ms. Crawford reported on the following:

- Ms. McKenzie Cook has accepted the position as EMSC Program Manager.
- Mr. Paul Allen has accepted the Regional Specialist position in the Eastern Regional Office in Greenville.
- We continue to track legislative bills that have been introduced and individuals should check the website to keep abreast.
- Internally, work has been done on budget management initiatives for the Division on cost savings. A monthly report is submitted to the Division/Department. OEMS had a cost savings of \$22,000 this past month.
- May 19 – 26, 2013, is EMS Week. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Emergency Medical Services' Act of 1973 establishing a comprehensive statewide emergency medical services system in the Department of Health and Human Services. Recognizing the importance of this history combined with a

desire to preserve historical artifacts, the OEMS formed a Historical Committee consisting of Allen Johnson, McKenzie Cook, Wayne Denning, Kim Sides and Julie Williams. This Committee has embarked on a project that allows EMS Agencies an opportunity to spotlight their achievements. The OEMS has designated a glass display cabinet to be utilized for the purpose of exhibiting historical emergency medical services information. This cabinet is located in the Wright Building. Presently we have several EMS objects on display; an exhibit honoring the EMS for Children Program as well as a few historical items that the Agency has acquired. EMS Agencies are encouraged to develop an exhibit for display within the OEMS office. An email will be sent to System Administrators subsequently explaining this project in greater detail.

The next Advisory Council meeting will be held at the Brown Building, Dorothea Dix Campus, on August 13, 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Minutes submitted by Julie Williams.