

State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee Meeting
Meeting Notes
December 5, 2008

In attendance: Erin Burnham, J.D. Fuiten, Pat Hart, Jon Jui, Greg Marlar, Helen Miller, Jennifer Mitchke, Bill Porter, Ameen Ramzy, Suzanne Schmidt

Absent: Denise Giard, John Mack, Chuck McCart

Guests: Jonathin Chin, Greg Lander, David Spiro, Mark Stevens

Staff: Philip Engle, Joanna Faunce, Justin Hardwick, Ritu Sahni, Kim Torris

Agenda change – Helen Miller to give ad hoc report on DMAT

Old Business

- EMS Office News –
 - Introduction of Kim Torris the new Pre-Hospital Standards Unit Manager
 - Thanks to Duenna Ignacio-Kawanishi for her help as the Interim Pre-Hospital Standards Unit Manager during our time of need
 - Update on First Responders
 - Currently we have processed 900 certifications,
 - 10 investigations currently open due to the new certification process and application
 - There are still an estimated 1200 applications unreturned at this point.
- OMB EMS Committee Update –
 - The committee discussed scope of practice involving pre-hospital use of 12 leads per certification levels.
 - A request for clarification on 12 lead scope of practice. Currently the scope of practice does allow anyone in a pre-hospital certification to apply the electrodes for the 12-lead.
 - The text can be read and relayed by anyone from an EMT-Basic level or higher.
 - A first interpretation reading of the scope allows an EMT-Paramedic to interpret the readings from a 12-lead.
 - A question of interpretation by intermediates of 12 lead, first read of a change of scope of practice interpretation falls within the EMT-Paramedic scope of practice.
 - Rural areas need to be worked with to make sure that communication is being used with hospitals to ensure the best patient care.
 - A motion to remove placement of femoral central lines from the scope of practice for Paramedics, since it will soon be obsolete.
 - A motion to allow Paramedics to access central catheters for emergency use since the national scope of practice does allow it and it was passed.
- Legislative News -
 - Two legislative concepts that were put forward for consideration were cut from the Governor's packet due to the current economy struggle.
- Database project –
 - We have received data from almost all the participating agencies in our pilot project.

- Currently OHSU is starting to working on the data.
- Through ODOT we have been funded for a 2nd year to continue with this analysis.
- We are working with ODOT, and DMV to link our EMS database and Trauma registry with their traffic safety databases.
- We are hoping to receive enough funding to continue to have Image Trend for the 19 agencies that are utilizing the software.
- The linking of emergency database and epidemiology database with specific identifiers will not be looked at in the near future.
- Committee membership expirations –
 - Currently there are three-quarters of the committee whose terms will expire on December 31st.
 - We have submitted the nominations for doctors to OMB and are currently waiting for their approval. We are also working with the ATABs to get the required number of paramedics.
 - We are asking the current committee to return in March since the final selections and approvals from OMB and the ATABs will not be obtained for a few more weeks.
 - A subcommittee convened and a recommendation regarding term limits and staggering the phase out was made to Bob Leopold.

New Business

- EMS Agency and Ambulance Licensure –
 - Justin Hardwick proposed plan to the committee to try to get agency's reviews back up to speed since due to a lack of personnel many agencies have not been inspected in some time.
 - The Division is trying to ensure the minimum standards for agencies and vehicles are being upheld. To do so will ensure the vehicles run properly and are equipped with the proper inventories for quality patient care.
 - The new program will ensure DHS the ability to stay within our resources and still make sure agencies are staying in compliance to operate within the State of Oregon.
 - The new program will be following in the footsteps of many other states that ask for information and then follow up with audits and/or inspections.
 - The new program through the renewal cycle would require the agencies to send in items requested of them from a list of items that the committee will recommend we review each year.
 - The committee unanimously approved the proposed new inspection process with an on site inspection every 3 -4 years?
- DUII Policy Guidelines – This item was discussed at length at subcommittee and is not ready at this time for the larger committee. We will bring back to the committee at a later date.

Subcommittee, Liaison, & Section – Reports and Committee Discussion

- EMT Certification and Discipline –
 - The policy guidelines on DUII were reviewed along with how people are investigated and processed who are reported for this offense.
 - The committee interviewed two applicants, 1 certificate holder and 1 first responder applicant. Two were doing okay and two were questionable.
 - The E-4 form has been updated to include ambulance accidents as a reportable action.
 - One item of concern for the committee involved students placed in internships without agencies knowing that the student was not in good standing and these students were allowed

to continue with their internship. A reminder to agencies that all student internships should have background checks. Agencies have the right to ask for a background check to ensure that students meet all requirements and the agency can turn away students if they don't meet expectations.

- Oregon State Ambulance Association Liaison –
 - The National Ambulance Association is moving for increased reimbursement.
- Oregon ACEP –
 - The padded backboards issue brought up by Dr. Ramzy at the September meeting will be added to the next meeting agenda.
- EMSC –
 - The committee is developing a strong interest and commitment to develop a high fidelity pre-hospital simulation for hospitals and agencies.
 - The committee has applied for more grants to purchase more simulators. The Mobile Training Units are using the simulators to assist in pediatric training.
 - OHSU is targeting the EMSC grant for partners to provide pre-hospital simulation throughout the state and look at the data collected from EMS directors as to how pediatric cases are cared for around the state.
 - The subcommittees have been reformatted to tackle education legislations, EMSC conference in Seaside, performance measures we are funded to assist Phil to meet those performance measures.
 - The EMSC annual meeting will be at the end of February at the EMSC Conference in Seaside. A leadership track is being provided to educate EMS providers on leadership and management training for small and medium agency personnel, providing understand of the different facets of EMS and to get involved.
 - David Spiro's term expired and he was unanimously renominated for four more years.
- Oregon DMAT –
 - The Oregon Disaster Medical Assistance Team has not had a mission this year since Vernonia in December 2007.
 - A reminder that the team is ready and operational. If you need additional disaster help don't hesitate to call.
 - The team received a grant for equipment and it is situated throughout the state and includes extra medical supplies.
 - On federal side, the team did respond to the hurricane Gustav and set up an 80 bed facility and took patients that were being evacuated. It was considered a very successful mission.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Next Meeting:

March 5, 2009

PSOB, Room 1B

1:30 – close of business