

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Friday, September 9, 2005 at 9:00 AM**

*Board Accepted 10/7/05*

***PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL***

**BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

1500 SW 1st Ave, Suite 620

Portland, Oregon 97201

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Paul S. Rostykus, MD, Chair

Gregory Lorts, MD

John J. Herbold, EMT-I

Dave Lapof, EMT-B

Toni R. Grimes, EMT-P

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Diana Dolstra, Licensing Manager

Jennifer Lannigan, Licensing Coordinator

**GUESTS**

Shawn Baird, Woodburn Ambulance, Oregon Ambulance Association

Chris Benson, OFMAA, Lane County Fire District #1

Scott Cooper, Marion County Fire District #1

Casey Craig, Woodburn Ambulance

Tina Greiner, Jefferson RFPD, OVFA

Randy Jackson, Keizer Fire District

Gregg Lander, Chemeketa Community College, EMT Consortium

Mark Liepold, Boring Fire

Gary McLean, EMT-P, East Clackamas County EMS, OSPA

Eric Schult, Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue

Mark Stevens, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue

John Stouffer, Gresham Fire

Jon Tardiff, EMT-P, Tillamook Hospital Ambulance

Patricia Tardiff

**AGENDA**

Thank-you to Jon Tardiff, EMT-P for his many years of service to the EMT Advisory Committee

Welcome to Toni R. Grimes, EMT-P, new EMT Advisory Committee member

Vote on new Chair of Committee (rotating one-year chair position)

John Herbold, EMT-I leaving the EMT Advisory Committee

Approve minutes of the June 3, 2005 EMT Advisory Committee meeting.

Update to the EMT-Intermediate curriculum development – Peggy Andrews, Chemeketa Community College

At what age can a minor refuse pre-hospital care? Is the age of consent the same as the age of refusal? – Paul Rostykus, MD

What is the supervising physician’s role and responsibility in providing oversight to pre-hospital EMS agencies which do not transport patients (do not have ambulances) and have no First Responders using AEDs and no EMTs? - Paul Rostykus, MD

Discuss plan for the Committee for the next year. What issues are likely to come up? What issues should be addressed? – Paul Rostykus, MD

Other business

EMTs responding to a public health emergency or declared disaster

Future meeting

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Gregory Lorts, MD, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

**THANK-YOU TO JON TARDIFF, EMT-P**

Dr. Lorts thanked Jon Tardiff for his long years of service to the EMT Advisory Committee. Mr. Tardiff had reached the end of his second term on the Committee since term limits for Committee members were established. Dr. Lorts presented Mr. Tardiff with a plaque recognizing his dedication and honoring his commitment to the Committee.

**WELCOME TO TONI R. GRIMES, EMT-P, NEW EMT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER**

Dr. Lorts welcomed Toni R. Grimes to service on the EMT Advisory Committee. Ms. Grimes is the Operations Manager at Woodburn Ambulance Service, Inc. She has been working for Woodburn Ambulance since 1987. Ms. Grimes invited members of the public to contact her with any issues or concerns they may have.

**VOTE ON NEW COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Dr. Lorts reminded Committee members that the Committee had agreed at their meeting on September 17, 2004 that the Committee Chair position would be a one-year rotating position, to be selected at each June meeting. At the last June meeting, however, a new Committee member was being selected, who needed to be included in the voting process of the next Chair, so the election of the Chair was delayed until the current meeting. The person selected will chair the September meeting and the subsequent three meetings, and then a new Chair will be selected. Dr. Lorts indicated that he had now finished his one-year rotation as the Chair since being

elected to serve as such at the June, 2004 meeting, so the Committee shall now vote for a new Chair.

It was moved and seconded that

**PAUL ROSTYKUS, MD, SHALL SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE EMT ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE NEXT YEAR.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### **JOHN HERBOLD, EMT-I, LEAVING THE EMT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

John Herbold announced that today's meeting would be his last as a member of the Committee, as he has resigned his position after two years on the Committee. The Committee clarified that, given the current membership on the Committee, and the rules regarding membership, the remainder of Mr. Herbold's term, which expires 6/30/06, must be filled by an EMT (any level) from rural or frontier Oregon. Board staff will send out a notice of vacancy to the public to recruit for a new Committee member prior to the next Committee meeting. Dr. Lorts commented that the current membership of the Committee is more heavily represented by members from rural Oregon, and the Committee shall strive to maintain a balance between representation from rural and urban communities in the state.

**ACTION PLAN:** Board staff to send out notice of Committee vacancy to the public. At the next Committee meeting, Committee to review applicant materials, interview applicants who wish to appear before the Committee, and vote for top three candidates to be recommended to the Board of Medical Examiners. The Board to approve a new member at their January 2006 meeting.

### **APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 3, 2005 EMT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

It was moved and seconded that

**THE EMT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACCEPTS THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 3, 2005 EMT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### **UPDATE TO THE EMT-INTERMEDIATE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

Peggy Andrews, Chemeketa Community College, was not present to give an update on the EMT-I curriculum development. The new curriculum is still being reviewed and is due out this December or January. Members of the public voiced concern that the curriculum and plans for proper instruction of the curriculum were not being implemented quickly enough to ensure safe and competent practice by the deadline for re-certification. Gary McLean, EMT-P, recommended that the Board of Medical Examiners encourage EMS to implement the new curriculum as soon as possible. Dr. Rostykus emphasized that the curriculum is moving forward but that the Board needs a current update from the curriculum committee.

**ACTION PLAN:** Board staff to request an update from Peggy Andrews prior to next Committee meeting. Put this item on the agenda of the next Committee meeting.

### **AT WHAT AGE CAN A MINOR REFUSE PRE-HOSPITAL CARE?**

A few members of the public indicated that in their practice a patient must be 18 years old in order to refuse pre-hospital care for self, but that the age of consent or implied consent for pre-hospital care can be any age below 18. It was agreed that it is important for pre-hospital care providers to use their best judgment when making determinations of refusal and consent of care.

### **WHAT IS THE SUPERVISING PHYSICIAN'S ROLE IN PROVIDING OVERSIGHT TO PRE-HOSPITAL EMS AGENCIES WHICH DO NOT TRANSPORT PATIENTS AND HAVE NO FIRST RESPONDERS USING AEDs AND NO EMTs?**

Dr. Rostykus spoke on this subject, since this is an issue down in southern Oregon. Dr. Rostykus indicated that there is an apparent conflict between information he has received from EMS and information in the Board's administrative rules regarding the role of supervising physicians with EMTs and First Responders. Dr. Rostykus indicated that OAR 847-035-0001 (12) states the role of a supervising physician is to specifically supervise care rendered by EMTs and First Responders. Dr. Rostykus reported, however, that he was told by Elizabeth Morgan at EMS that any EMS agency providing emergency care services must have a supervising physician regardless of whether or not EMTs or First Responders are providing care for the agency.

Shawn Baird stated that perhaps the work group that has recently been formed by EMS to revise all the EMS administrative rules can address this issue. A member of the public indicated that it seems prudent to have supervision in emergency response situations regardless of the level of emergency services provided and that other states have instituted such regulation. It was agreed that the EMT Committee can draft a letter to EMS asking for EMS to clarify their position on this issue in writing for the Board.

**ACTION PLAN:** Dr. Rostykus to work with Board staff to draft a letter to EMS requesting clarification of their position. Put this item on the agenda of the next Committee meeting.

### **PLAN FOR THE COMMITTEE FOR THE NEXT YEAR**

Dr. Rostykus initiated a discussion of the issues that may need to be addressed by the Committee in the coming year. The Committee agreed that quarterly meetings are only needed if the Committee has business to conduct. The Committee indicated that a main issue for the next year will be continued collaboration and coordination with EMS, particularly regarding the revision of the EMS administrative rules. Dave Lapof, EMT-B, and Diana Dolstra, BME Licensing Manager, both sit on the workgroup formed to revise the EMS rules. Some of the main issues that will be addressed in this administrative rule revision are as follows: supervising physicians, First Responders and certification of First Responders, licensing of ambulance companies and first response agencies, and practice by EMTs and First Responders in emergency rooms.

**ACTION PLAN:** Board staff to obtain a copy of the draft revision to EMS rules as soon as possible for review by the Committee. Put this item on the agenda of the next Committee meeting.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Members of the public estimated that approximately 100 EMS personnel have been deployed to the Gulf Coast to aid in disaster relief efforts.

### **EMTs Responding to a Public Health Emergency or Declared Disaster**

Shawn Baird said that an issue has been raised by the Marion County Bioterrorism Coordinator, who is doing an exercise in Marion County on pharmaceutical stockpile distribution. Mr. Baird requested information from the Committee regarding the appropriateness of EMTs giving injections at mass vaccination sites or dispensing medications during a declared public health emergency or declared disaster. Dr. Lorts clarified that the determination of a public health emergency comes from the Governor through the county Health Department, which then has the authority to direct the actions of EMTs in the state. Dr. Rostykus indicated, however, that the Board of Medical Examiners has previously said that EMTs cannot give vaccinations.

Mr. Baird asked if this apparent conflict could be addressed in an administrative rule which could clarify what entity has authority over EMTs in a declared public health emergency. The Committee agreed that it is not clear to the Committee at this time whether or not this issue is already addressed in the statutes outside of the Medical Practice Act or in the administrative rules outside of Chapter 847. Dr. Rostykus said he will look at his county plan for further information and that more research into existing statutes and administrative rules needs to be done before moving to amend the rules under OAR 847-035.

**ACTION PLAN:** Dr. Rostykus to look at his county plan. Research existing statutes and administrative rules. Put this item on the agenda of the next Committee meeting.

Dr. Rostykus announced that there will be a supervising physician forum at the EMS conference next Friday, September 16, 2005.

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting date will be Friday, December 9, 2005 at 9:00 AM.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 AM.