

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: January 23, 2009
10:01 A.M.

LOCATION: Brownsburg Fire Territory Headquarters and
Training Center
Brownsburg, Indiana

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Miller (Private Ambulance)
Charles Valentine (Municipal Fire)
Myron Mackey (EMTs)
Terri Hamilton (Volunteer EMS)
G. Lee Turpen II (Paramedics)
Jane Craigin (Hospital EMS)
Michael Olinger, MD (Trauma Physicians)
Ed Gordon (Volunteer Fire)
Sue Dunham (Emergency Nurses)

MEMBERS ABSENT: William Rutherford, MD (Emergency Physicians)

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Garvey, Chief of Staff, Indiana Department
Homeland Security

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Miller. Rebecca Blagrove called the roll and advised the chairman that a quorum was present. Chairman Miller expressed appreciation for the use of the facility.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Sherrie Crain commented that the motion on first responder training was not properly worded. The words "spine board" were changed to "spinal immobilization."

Lee Turpen offered a motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2008 meeting with the correction. The motion was seconded by Michael Olinger. The minutes were approved as amended.

STAFF REPORTS:EMS PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION

John Buckman reported that the agency was developing an on-line re-certification process. The process would include online verification of in-service, random audits of reported hours, and the emailing of certificates. Chairman Miller asked for public comment. Faril Ward, Trans Care/ Terre Haute, suggested an appeal process to address errors in the audit process. Bruce Bare questioned the manpower cost involved in performing audits. Mike McNutt requested that the process allow for providers to download training data and suggested the agency consider how the National Registry verifies signatures. Steve Garrison suggested that the education committee could make suggestions.

Commission members' comments included: Jane Craigin suggested that while the idea was good, the subject was too important to rush the planning and implementation. Dr. Olinger suggested that personnel still have a book that could be retained to record training. Charles Valentine questioned what proof of training would be accepted and Mr. Turpen asked if the audit process would delay certification. Mr. Buckman said that he would take their comments under advisement.

Myron Mackey requested Mr. Buckman to develop a report on the numbers of EMS personnel certified. He also stated that some personnel were having difficulty speaking with someone in the certification section and some had not received their PSID Number. Mr. Buckman replied that those not receiving a return call should contact him, PSID Numbers will be issued, and providers can get employees' PSIDs by emailing bgoble@dhs.in.gov.

EMS PROVIDER CERTIFICATION REPORT

Rescue Squad Organizations	6
Basic Life Support Non-Transport	481
Ambulance Provider Organizations	121
EMT Basic Advanced Organization	37
EMT Basic advanced Non-Transport	12
EMT Intermediate Organization	9
EMT Intermediate Non-Transport	0
Paramedic Organization	186
Paramedic Non-Transport	15
Rotorcraft Air Ambulance	20
Fixed Wing Air Ambulance	3

EMS OPERATIONS REPORT

Vehicle Inspections	83
Provider/Hospital//Training Institution Applications	115
EMS Provider visits	65
Hospital Visits	2

EMS Operations Director, Sherrie Crain reported that the SMART Tag training was conducted in the 10 Homeland Security Districts and had been successful. She stated that the training institutions would be trained at a later date. She also said that the agency should have an on-line application in place by April or May.

EMS District Manager Jason Smith reported on a planned 800 radio system upgrade. Chairman Miller asked if PSC had issued documentation on its policy regarding private provider use of the state 800 system. Randy Fox replied that FEMA considers EMS to be a public safety entity but the FCC does not. The PSC limits the access of the Hoosier Safe T system by private provider organizations. It was suggested that the commission could send a letter to PSC regarding the issue.

EMS DATA REGISTRY

Mark Nelson reported that the agency should be able to receive NEMSIS formatted data by the end of January and the web-based reporting should be on-line by March.

A question arose about the time limits of waivers granted to providers who were now collecting data in the NEMSIS format. **Dr. Olinger made a motion to confirm that waivers on rule 836 IAC 1-1-5 issued to providers were issued for a period of 2 years from the dates the waivers were granted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mackey. The motion passed.**

EMS EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Ed O'Farrell reported that the committee was not prepared to make a recommendation at this time. Mr. Mackey stated that the issue remains the use of spinal immobilization by first responders. Mr. Valentine stated that his research has shown that first responders are on scene an average of 4 to 20 minutes before the arrival of the ambulance. He said that the use of splinting and spinal immobilization by first responders is the standard of care in Indiana which the commission needs to support and the committee should do what it needs to do to make that happen.

WORKGROUP REPORTS

Trauma Protocol Workgroup

Mr. Smith reported on the ACS-COT consultation and also said that Senate Bill 464 seeks to create a trauma care committee. Mr. Garvey said that the ACS-COT report does not give needed direction but the task force needs to move forward to complete its task of developing trauma transportation protocols.

LEGAL MATTERS

Pending Administrative Cases

A list was given to the commission for their information only. Discussion centered on a Letter of Reprimand issued to Washington Township/Avon Fire Department. The department did not have a policy in place requiring a complete head to toe patient assessment prior to obtaining a Signature of Release and a patient from whom they did not obtain an SOR was later found to have a serious injury.

Ms. Craigin suggested risk management as a topic at the next Emergency Response Conference.

Probationary Certifications Issued

It was reported that the agency has issued the following Probationary Certifications:

Order No. 24-2009, Aaron Aaron
Order No. 25-2009, Brandon Allee
Order No. 26-2009, Kevin Roberts
Order No. 27-2009, Jake Hyde

OLD BUSINESS

The commission received a letter from CAAHEP confirming the accreditation of Ivy Tech- South Bend.

NEW BUSINESS

Legislative Report

Mr. Garvey reported on pending legislation of interest to EMS including: HB1034 which allows LED green lights, HB1052 establishes a Paramedic Licensing Board, HB1215 creates a trauma care hospital fund to be administered by the state department of health, HB1443 which allows for the expunging of certain felony and misdemeanor convictions, and HB1455 that would require firefighter and law enforcement personnel to be trained in the management of persons with autism. Chairman Miller cautioned that individual lobbying groups should not dictate training requirements.

Senate legislation included: SB0184 consolidating dispatch centers, SB0444 which consolidates Marion County fire departments, and SB0270 which changes the current law on how the EMS Commission regulates emergency medical dispatch centers, requires the EMSC to certify just dispatch agencies, and not individual dispatchers, and removes the requirement that the centers have a medical director.

EMS COMMISSION RULE WAIVERS:Provider Waiver Requests

EMS District Manager Rebecca Blagrove presented the following request: Knox County EMS, requesting a renewal of waiver for 836 IAC 2-2-1(h), Paramedic Staffing,

Dr. Olinger offered a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Turpen. The motion passed. Mr. Mackey abstained.

EMS Personnel Waiver Requests

The commission granted waivers of reporting rules and the acceptance of in-service which was filed late to the following:

Robert J. Eddy – motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Ms. Craigin
 Michael Benham – motion by Mr. Mackey and second by Dr. Olinger
 John M. Ray – motion by Mr. Mackey and second by Dr. Olinger
 Shannon Ernest – motion by Mr. Mackey and second by Dr. Olinger
 Michael Small – motion by Mr. Mackey and second by Dr. Olinger
 Jonathan Eglen – motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Mackey
 Scott McDonough – motion by Terri Hamilton and second by Mr. Valentine
 Richard Wilkins – motion by Mr. Mackey and second by Ed Gordon
 Randy Hill – motion by Mr. Mackey and second by Dr. Olinger
 Trenton Cooks – motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Valentine
 Michael Eads – motion by Mr. Gordon and second by Mr. Mackey, Mr. Turpen abstained
 W. Scott Minick – motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Mackey
 Rob Carey - motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Mackey
 Gregory Benge - motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Mackey
 Joshua Pickett - motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Mackey
 Glenn Thompson - motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Mackey
 Donnie King – motion by Mr. Valentine and second by Mr. Gordon
 Mark King - motion by Mr. Valentine and second by Mr. Gordon
 Wayne Cripps – motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Gordon
 Shiela Madison – motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Mackey
 Tony Bennett – motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Gordon

The commission tabled the following request for waivers of reporting rules and the acceptance of in-service which was filed late pending the receipt of additional information:

Brianne Suelzer – motion by Mr. Mackey and second by Ms. Craigin
 Lisa Robinson – motion by Mr. Turpen and second by Mr. Valentine
 Brandon Eckstein – motion by Dr. Olinger and second by Mr. Gordon
 Richard Bower – motion by Mr. Mackey and second by Mr. Valentine

The commission denied the following waiver requests:

James Jaffee, requesting an extension of time to obtain in-service,
Dr. Olinger made a motion to deny the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Turpen. Denial was because Mr. Jaffee said in his letter that he did not want to waste his time and effort to maintain his paramedic certification.

Scott Peavie – requesting recertification as a paramedic,
Mr. Turpen offered a motion to deny the request. The motion was seconded by Dr. Olinger. The motion passed. Denial was because the National Registry certification was not current.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT and DIRECTION

Mr. Turpen requested that the words “Your certification, your responsibility” be added to the reporting form.

Mr. Valentine commented on a report of vehicle inspection deficiencies which he had requested. He suggested that the district managers’ efforts be less on inspections and more on provider education and training. Mr. Garvey stated that he was also pleased with the report.

2009 EMS COMMISSION MEETINGS

The proposed dates are:

Friday, March 27

Friday, July 17

Friday, September 17

Friday, November 13

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00P.M.