

EMS Education Committee Minutes - April 24, 2006

Wayne Township Fire Department Headquarters
Indianapolis, Indiana

Meeting called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Ed O'Farrell. Committee members present:

Ron Parsons
Steve Garrison
Tina Butt.
Ed O'Farrell
Hugh Garner
Suzan Henke
John Zartman
Rita Herrington
Lindi Holt
Rod Bosley

Staff:

Tony Pagano
Michael Garvey
Robin Stump

Guests:

Myron Mackey, Commission Member
Tony Hartman, Elkhart General Hospital
Emery Garwick, Methodist Hospital, Lake County
Jacqueline Schmidt, Ohio Twp Fire Dept
George Schulp, Superior Ambulance
Jim Floyd, St Vincent's Hospital
Pam Mullins, Masimo

OLD BUSINESS

Tony brought everyone up to speed on the last commission meeting. The Education Committee did not take any recommendations to the Commission. The next meeting the Education Committee will be introducing the updated material on pulse oximetry, morphine and cardioversion. The Education Committee is responsible for developing training guidelines for these changes.

As the analysis of the EMS code was taking place it was determined that our committee structure is not being done exactly per statute. The statute calls for one committee, the EMS Advisory Committee, and not an Education Committee or an Operations Committee. Staff will be working on that change which must be approved by the

Commission and the Governor's office. Another change is that the District Managers will be reviewing the Training Institution Applications from now on. The majority of training institutions are either providers or supervising hospitals already so the district managers already deal with them on that level. Tony will continue approving all EMS courses. When you call the office, ask for Tony for people problems, including education issues. The District Managers should be contacted for operational issues including training institution certification.

The 2006 Emergency Response Conference is coming along very well. Program is set and it looks very exciting. Preconference sessions include a two-day NIMS course, a cadaver lab, and an EVOC Instructor's course. The American Heart Association will be meeting the two days prior to our conference. Dates: 9/14 for pre-conference and the conference runs from the 15th through 17th. Randy Mantooth who played Firefighter John Gage on the television show emergency and Mike Smith are the featured speakers.

Lindi Holt is requesting guidance from the Education Committee on direction for the Critical Care Paramedic program. We have two very distinct thought processes on the Committee. She sent an e-mail presenting options. One of the suggestions from the committee was to develop some type of training guidelines and the other is to do nothing. The State's medical directors also want some type of training guidelines developed; however, Lindi is reluctant to develop such a program due to the fact that there are programs currently in place to deal with this issue. Committee members need to notify Lindi as to their wishes regarding this training. Discussion followed.

The outcome of the discussion was that a decision has to be made as to direction. Motion by Steve Garrison, second by Steve Grammer to table the study until the new EMS Advisory Committee is seated. Motion carried unanimously.

John Zartman discussed what has been done thus far regarding the test construction committee. All the tests will probably increase by twenty-five questions. The amount of time to take the test will remain the same. This is effective as soon as the tests are printed and dispersed.

NEW BUSINESS

Pam Mullins, MASIMO, presented a multi-media program on pulse oximetry. Presentation included information regarding what pulse oximetry is and how Masimo figures into the discussion regarding a training curriculum. Working with MASIMO to develop a training curriculum could be a positive issue. It was determined that the training curriculum could not endorse one product over another.

Steve Garrison mentioned that a curriculum appears on the Internet. Go to Google and type Pulse Oximetry. It's five pages. Steve will e-mail Tony and he can forward it to his mailing list of committee members.

Steve Garrison volunteered to put together objectives for pulse oximetry and a training program and then forward it to the rest of the Committee. If the majority approves, it can go to the Commission in May.

Tony said that he has had several comments on the EMS Primary Instructor Program. It is largely thought that it has become way too hard for a person to become a PI. Something needs to be done: but, what? Discussion included the problems of folks not wanting to take the pre-tests of the EMT basic written and practical. Many folks simply don't want to take these tests. Other distracters include the time frame and the logistics of matching the time requirements and the objectives of the internship program. Motion by John Zartman to revise the Primary Instructor program to allow the training institution discretion for the internship program instead of making it take a complete basic EMT course to complete and that the pretesting must be done prior to the administration of the PI exam instead of prior to entry into the PI course. Seconded by Ron Parsons. Motion carried unanimously.

It is recommended that the following textbook be used in the PI course. "Fundamentals of EMS Education" This textbook meets all current requirements by the DOT objectives and is very well written therefore decreasing the requirements and cost for the program to use the current required textbooks, "Teaching EMS, by Parvensky (Mosby), and "Instructional Methods in Emergency Services", by McClincy (Brady).

Tony sent out an email to the Committee members about streamlining how we conduct business. Rita Herrington discussed recent streamlining activities by the American Heart Association. She suggested that we might want to look at paperwork. Tina Butt suggested looking at reciprocity. Why couldn't a separate reciprocity test be developed based on differences to Indiana's program? Comment by some present that other states do not hold up to Indiana when it comes to course standards and the way they do practical testing.

Good of the Order

Comments from Mike Garvey stating that we need to shift more responsibility to the Training Institutions.

EMS Week -- May 14-20.

The next scheduled meeting is August 7, 2006 same time, same location.