

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: July 21, 2006
10:00AM

LOCATION: Brownsburg Fire Territory Headquarters,
Brownsburg, Indiana

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Miller (Private Ambulance)
Jane Craigin (Hospital EMS)
Rodney Coats (General Public)
Myron Mackey (EMTs)
Tim Davie (Municipal Fire)
G. Lee Turpin II (Paramedics)
William Rutherford, MD (Emergency Physicians)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michael Olinger, MD (Trauma Physicians)
Sue Dunham (Emergency Nurses)
Timothy Schabbel (Volunteer Fire)

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Garvey, Deputy Director
Brad Gavin, Agency Council

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rodney Coats. Chairman Coats thanked officials of Brownsburg Fire Territory for use of the facility.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Brad Gavin and Myron Mackey offered corrections to the minutes of the May 19 meeting. Mr. Mackey offered a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by William Rutherford. The motion passed. The minutes were approved as amended.

STAFF REPORTS:EMS PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION REPORT

First Responders certified this date:	6,170
Emergency Medical Technicians to be certified this date:	314
Emergency Medical Technicians currently certified:	15,575
Emergency Medical Technicians recertified this date:	425
Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians to be certified this date:	17
Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians currently certified:	1,211
Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians recertified this date:	33
Paramedics to be certified this date:	35
Paramedics currently certified:	2,685
Paramedics recertified this date:	99
Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate to be certified this date:	7
Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate currently certified:	105
Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate recertified this date:	8
Temporary Certifications issued:	
EMT-B:	5
Advanced EMT:	0
Paramedic:	1
Drivers Certifications currently certified:	1196

Tony Pagano announced that Sonia Harper from the Training and Certification Division is now on maternity leave.

EMS PROVIDER CERTIFICATION REPORT

ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Basic-Advanced, EMT-I, Paramedic Organization	1
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced, Paramedic Organization	6
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Paramedic Organization	3
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization	1

ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT-Intermediate Organization, Paramedic Organization	2
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization	18
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad	1
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization	16
ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization	2
ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization	2
ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad Organization	1
ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Rescue Squad Organization	1
ALS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization	1
ALS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization	3
ALS Non-Transport, Paramedic Organization	4
Ambulance Service Provider	98
Ambulance Service, BLS Non-Transport	29
Ambulance Service, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization	4
Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT Intermediate Organization, Paramedic Organization	1
Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization	2
Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Intermediate organization	1
Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Paramedic Organization	5
Ambulance Service, BLS Non-Transport, Rescue Squad	5
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization	21
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT-Intermediate Organization	4
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced, EMT-Intermediate Organization, Paramedic Organization	11
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT-Intermediate organization, Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad	1
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization	48
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Advanced-Basic Organization Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad	1

	4
Ambulance Service Provider, Intermediate Organization	1
Ambulance Service Provider, Intermediate Organization, Paramedic Organization	3
Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization	35
Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad	1
Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization, Rotorcraft Air Ambulance	4
Ambulance Service Provider, Rescue Squad	2
BLS Non-Transport Organization	309
BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization	4
BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Rescue Squad	1
BLS Non-Transport, Rescue Squad	87
Rescue Squad Organization	6
Rotorcraft Air Ambulance	15
Total Providers	766

EMS OPERATIONS REPORT

EMS Vehicle Inspections:	172
Provider/Hospital Applications Processed:	95
EMS Provider Visits:	185
EMS Provider Audits:	10
Hospital Visits:	30
Hospital Audits:	09
EMT Tests Proctored	10

EMS Operations Director Sherrie Crain reported that 162 people representing 114 EMS organization attended the recent round of provider forums. Ms. Crain stated that those in attendance heard valuable information regarding EMS activities in the state. They also received excellent information from Janet McCutcheon, Indiana State Department of Health, about the threat of a pandemic and the impact it would have on EMS, hospitals, and utilities. Commissioners Mackey and Gary Miller attended some of the presentations. Ms. Crain added that the EMS section still does not have a secretary.

EMS DATA REGISTRY

Mark Nelson reported that 1,517,394 runs have been processed and that the percentage of compliant providers has dropped to 73% from 87%. Dr. Rutherford asked in the 73% was based on all providers. Mr. Nelson replied yes. Mr. Miller stated that of the 401 providers that are required to report data, only 23 have never reported. Sixty-one percent of the providers have missed at least one month since January 1, 2006. He stated that the agency should take action on the 23 and send letters to the others.

Jane Craigin requested that copies of the letters be sent to the appropriate CEO, government official, or hospital administrator, depending on the provider type. Ms. Crain said that it is possible for staff to send copies to the appropriate officials.

Mike Garvey said that he has learned from the National EMS Directors Association that a national repository of EMS data is being created. It is very important that Indiana have data to add to the national repository.

LEGAL MATTERS

Pending Administrative Cases

Agency Council Brad Gavin gave the commission a list of pending administrative cases.

Probationary EMT Certification Issued

A Probationary EMT Certification #60827 has been issued to Paul V. Moore. Commission members expressed concern over Mr. Moore's lengthy criminal history and wondered what he had done to convince staff that he has changed. Mr. Garvey stated that the infractions occurred 15 to 20 years ago and he felt that Mr. Moore was trustworthy. Ms. Crain stated that Mr. Moore was now in the ministry, has been a foster parent, and had adopted children.

Ms. Craigin suggested that the agency research and consider developing an impaired professional program to offer oversight, assistance, and counseling to troubled EMS personnel.

Mr. Gavin stated that the information on the issuing of the certification was for information only and there was no action for the commission to take.

NEW BUSINESS

National Registry Certification Exams

Mr. Pagano reported that when the National Registry moves to computer based testing beginning January 1, 2007, the agency will no longer pay for initial certification exams. He said that the cost will be \$100.00 for the Intermediate and \$110.00 for the Paramedic. Mr. Miller stated that paying for examinations with Hoosier Safety money would be a good use of the funds. Mr. Garvey said that he would report back to the commission on that possibility. Ms. Craigin responded EMS may be the only profession that has no fee for licensure or certification. In the long run the paramedic will make more money because he will get his certificate back quicker and can go to work sooner.

Criminal History Statement Review and Request

Steve Auch, EMS Division Chief, Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD), addressed the commission concerning the Criminal History Form. Chief Auch files the in-service reports for approximately 700 to 800 IFD personnel. He is concerned that, regarding minor criminal history of many years ago, documentation which the agency requests may not be available. IFD Merit Law prevents the hiring of anyone who “has been convicted of an offense which is a felony under Indiana Law.” He is proposing that in lieu of the criminal history forms, IFD provide the agency with a document signed by the Fire Chief of Indianapolis. The document will quote the pertinent section of the Merit Law and IFD hiring and termination practices.

Discussion included a statement by Mr. Gavin that the rule requiring a criminal history statement applied to individuals not the provider organization. If the provider files a statement that proves to be false, the commission can not take action against the individual since he did not file the statement. Mr. Miller agreed that something is needed from the individual. Mr. Garvey pointed out the wording of the criminal history statement has been changed so that if an infraction has been previously reported and no other infractions have occurred, documentation does not need to be resubmitted. Chief Auch said that he was unaware of that change and the new wording would certainly help.

Mr. Garvey suggested that perhaps it is time to rethink the wording of the criminal history statement to insure that the agency receives the information it needs about past offenses while not requiring documentation of long-past, minor, youthful indiscretions. He stated that staff will work with IFD to find a solution that serves the needs of both agencies.

Draft Rule Language

EMS District Manager, Robin Stump presented the commission with LSA #06-10, Emergency Medical Dispatch, and LSA #06-11, 836 IAC 1,2,3, and 4. She said that changes in the promulgation process will make the time line longer for the rule making process. The process includes submitting proposed rules to LSA (Legislative Services Agency), publication in the Indiana Register, a public hearing, a final vote by the commission, approval from the State Attorney General, the Governor, and the Secretary of State. Each of these steps takes at least 45 days. The proposed dispatch rules are currently on the agency website and the proposed general rules will be.

Mr. Garvey stated that there is a very small window of opportunity for EMS personnel to offer suggestions on the proposed rules and encouraged everyone to check the website, look at the rules, and send him any comments as soon as possible.

2006 Emergency Response Conference

Mr. Garvey reported that plans were moving forward for the conference and confirmed that Randolph Mantooth of the TV series "Emergency" fame will be a speaker for a general session and be present in the vendor hall.

EMS COMMISSION RULE WAIVERS:

Provider Waiver Requests

Gibson County EMS, Princeton, 836 IAC 2-1(h), requiring that the paramedic response include both a paramedic and an EMT:

EMS District Manager Rebecca Blagrave presented a request from Gibson County EMS to allow it to use a firefighter or First Responder with a paramedic on some responses from its Owensville station. The request cites lack of county tax money to support overtime pay when the scheduled employee is not available to work. Without the waiver, on those occasions when an EMT is not available, per rule the paramedic would not be able to make a paramedic response.

Staff's recommendation is to approve the waiver.

Mr. Miller stated that using a lack of funding as a reason for the shortage of personnel does not carry any weight with him. If the county wants paramedic coverage they should be willing to pay for it. Ms. Craigin asked if it is possible for the agency to determine how many EMTs are certified in a particular area. Mrs. Blagrave responded that a list of EMS personnel can be generated by county but the list would include certified personnel who have no intention of working in EMS and would be of little value. Dr. Rutherford questioned if the current rule is in place because having an EMT/Paramedic crew has been shown to impact patient outcome or because that is the way it has always been.

Mr. Miller offered a motion to grant the waiver for 1 year with the exception that the replacement be a certified First Responder. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mackey. The motion passed.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN'S REPORT and DIRECTION:

2006 EMS COMMISSION MEETING DATES

Thursday, September 14, 2006 (Conference Meeting)

Friday, November 17, 2006 (Location will be announced later)

Mr. Garvey announced that the agency was looking to rekindle the effort to create an Indiana EMS Association. The EMS system in Indiana needs an association of EMS personnel for its own improvement. Mr. Garvey invited everyone to share their ideas with him.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved: September 14, 2006