MINUTES

NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
ADVISORY COUNCIL

Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Health Service Regulation
Office of Emergency Medical Services

Brown Building
Dorothea Dix Campus
801 Biggs Drive
Raleigh, North Carolina

November 8, 2011
11:00 A.M.

Members Present

Mr. Graham Pervier, Presiding
Mr. F. Wayne Ashworth
Dr. William K. Atkinson
Mr. Terry Barber
Ms. Kathy Dutton
Dr. Herbert Garrison
Dr. Michael Ghim
Ms. Carolyn Hughes
Dr. Steven E. Landau
Mr. R. Keith Lovin
Dr. Brent Myers
Mr. Robert Poe
Ms. Susan M. Safran
Dr. Douglas Swanson

Members Absent

Mr. Bob Bailey
Dr. Nicholas Benson
Dr. Michael Chang
Dr. Elizabeth Kanof
Mr. Carl McKnight
Dr. Donna Moro-Sutherland
Mr. Tony Seamon, Jr
Dr. Dennis A. Taylor
Mr. Stephen E. Taylor
The Honorable William Wainwright

Staff Members Present

Mr. Danny Allen
Mr. Doug Calhoun
Ms. Shelley Carraway
Ms. Regina Godette-Crawford
Ms. Heather Majernik
Mr. Todd Messer
Mr. Tom Mitchell
Ms. Susan Rogers
Ms. Mary Beth Skarote
Mr. Brad Thompson
Mr. Carl Van Cott
Ms. Julie Williams

Others Present

Ms. Renee Godwin Batts, NC Community College System
Mr. Robert Bednar, Carolina Air Care/NC Academy of Physicians Assistants
Dr. Brendan Berry, Wake Med
Mr. Ronnie Cashwell, ITS
Mr. Greg Chapman, Center for Prehospital Medicine/Carolinas Medical Center
Mr. Daniel Cheek, UNC Carolina AirCare
Mr. Lenny Cooper, Rowan County EMS
Mr. Bradley Dean, Rowan County EMS
Dr. Ted Delbridge, Pitt County Memorial Hospital
Mr. Joel Faircloth, NC Association of Rescue and EMS
Mr. Tony Fernandez, EMSPIC
Mr. Joe Fraser, EMSPIC
Mr. Sean Gibson, Wake Med
Mr. Shawn Griffin, Carolinas Medical Center, North East
Mr. Eric Hawkins, MEDIC/Carolinas Medical Center
Mr. Dale Hill, Capital RAC/WakeMed Health & Hospitals
Mr. Shorty Jones, Johnston Ambulance Service
Mr. Gordon Joyner, NC Association of Rescue and EMS
Mr. Sean Kaye, EMSPIC
Ms. Mary Anne Nolan, Carolinas Medical Center North East
Mr. Chuck Owens, Greenville Fire-Rescue
Mr. Joe Penner, Mecklenburg EMS
Ms. Debbie Poe, Blue Ridge Medical Transport
Ms. Rhonda Reeder, EastCare
Mr. Michael W. Smith, Durham County EMS
Mr. Kent Spitler, Gaston College/NC Association of EMS Educators
Mr. Chris Thompson, Wilson County EMS
Mr. Danny West, NC Association of Paramedics/Charlotte Fire Department
Mr. Dereck Willis, ITS
Ms. Joyce Winstead, NC Board of Nursing

(1) Purpose of the Meeting: The NC EMS Advisory Council met to hear reports from the Compliance and Education Committee, the Injury Committee and to hear a Hospital Preparedness update. In addition, the Council met to consider the recommendation for Carolinas Medical Center Northeast Level III designation renewal.

(2) Actions of the Council:

Mr. Pervier, chairman of the Council, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

(a) Motion was made by Mr. Ashworth, seconded by Dr. Garrison and unanimously approved that:

RESOLVED: The EMS Advisory Council minutes of the August 9, 2011, meeting be approved as submitted.

(b) Motion was made by Mr. Ashworth on behalf of the Injury Committee and unanimously approved that:

RESOLVED: The NC EMS Advisory Council accept the recommendation of the NCOEMS staff and the Injury Committee that Carolinas Medical Center Northeast Level III trauma center designation be renewed until November 30, 2015.

Explanation: Carolinas Medical Center Northeast in Concord, NC, was reviewed on July 29, 2011 with a visit by the NC Office of EMS. This hospital provides trauma care for adults and pediatrics. The hospital demonstrated numerous strengths.

(f) Motion was made on behalf of the Child Abuse Reporting/Ad Hoc Task Force and unanimously approved that:

RESOLVED: The OEMS develop an educational packet for each System so that each System can understand the State Statute for reporting child abuse and options available.

Explanation: Dr. Myers reported that an Ad Hoc Task Force was established at the August 2011 EMS Advisory Council meeting to examine child abuse reporting by EMS personnel and how it needs to be handled across the state. G.S. 7B-301 states that any person or institution who has cause to suspect that any juvenile is abused, neglected, or dependent, as defined by G.S. 7B-101, or has died as the result of maltreatment, shall report the case of that juvenile to the director of the department of social services in the county where the juvenile resides or is found. The report may be made orally, by telephone, or in writing.

(3) Other Actions of the Council:

(a) Mr. Pervier welcomed guests to the Council.

(b) Ms. Crawford presented a certificate to Carolinas Medical Center Northeast for its Level III trauma center designation renewal. The certificate was received by

Shawn Griffin, RN, Trauma Program Manager and Mary Anne Nolan, RN, Emergency Department Director.

(c) Mr. Pervier reappointed Ms. Susan Safran as chair of the Compliance and Education Committee and reappointed Mr. Wayne Ashworth as chair of the Injury Committee.

(d) On behalf of the Compliance and Education Committee, Ms. Safran reported on the following items:

- Ms. Kim Sides gave an update from the EMS Disciplinary Committee. The Committee has interviewed 48 individuals since January 2011;
- The chemical dependency and recovery rehabilitation program brochure was released in October 2011. No individual has been admitted into the program as of this time;
- EM Today and Disaster Medical Preparedness conferences were held in Greensboro in October and were a huge success. 2011 Paramedic competition champions were Mark Kirk and Jeffrey Penninger from Cabarrus County EMS;
- Credentialing tests will be updated November 17, 2011 to be compliant with the 2010 American Heart Association guidelines. The first test to be affected will be December 3, 2011. All levels of testing have been updated;
- A new educational institution application is available for respective educational institutions with the intent of sending the application out six months prior to date of renewal;
- Several revisions to the education reports in the Credentialing Information System (CIS) are being reviewed;
- Paramedic transition courses that are required for current National Registry Paramedics are being worked on with intention to have at least three options from which to choose;
- Discussions are underway by OEMS staff on potential revisions of the educational rules;
- Mr. Messer reported that templates for initial and con-ed educational guidelines have been built by OEMS staff to be utilized as building blocks in development, and the Education Team is to coordinate integration of the new guidelines with representatives from OEMS, NC Association of EMS Educators and NC EMS instructors;
- Mr. Donnie Sides provided the Committee with an update on OEMS rules; and
- Dr. Swanson reported that the EMS Committee of NCCEP has been reviewing NCCEP documents referenced in rule. A series of state meetings have been completed across the state and an update provided at EM Today. The subcommittees have continued to look at any changes to these documents. Final votes are being collected and recommendations will be turned over to the NCCEP Board for final approval for potential changes. An implementation date of March 1 is projected.

(e) Mr. Ashworth, chair of the Injury Committee, reported on the following:

- The EMSC safe pediatric transport course is now available online and can be accessed at www.ncems.org/pediatric-transport;
- Gaston Memorial Hospital has applied for a Level III initial designation and submitted their RFP in September 2011. A site visit is scheduled for December 2011;
- A letter was sent to Cape Fear Valley Medical Center in September 2011 from the OEMS recognizing them as a practicing Level III trauma center. Their onsite consultation should be coming up soon;
- Cleveland Regional Medical Center's level III state renewal designation site visit was completed in November 2011 with the report being brought back to the Advisory Council in February 2012;
- Brenner's Children's Hospital, which is a part of Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, received a two year extension of their Level I Pediatric Trauma Center verification by the American College of Surgeons; and
- Several trauma rules that have been pending have now been pulled back from the Department for further review due to Senate Bill 781 which requires annual rules review.

(f) In the absence of Mr. Bailey, Ms. Mary Beth Skarote provided the Council with the following Hospital Preparedness report:

- Applications for the Regional Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) grant awards have been received from all eight Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) and reviewed. After initial revisions, six of the eight RACs have received final approval to proceed with proposed projects;
- ASPR Hospital Preparedness Program and Center for Disease Control (CDC) Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) are undergoing an alignment process to assure the integration of public health and health care capabilities to improve health preparedness in our State. There will still be two separate programs but strides will be made for comprehensive integration of planning and development of the two programs;
- ASPR (Hospital Preparedness Program) and CDC (Public Health Emergency Preparedness) will be conducting a combined site visit for North Carolina on December 5-7, 2011. This concept is new and supports the grant alignment process, taking place for FY12 funding of federal grants;
- Portions of the SMRS were deployed in response to Hurricane Irene in August. In that deployment, two state medical support shelters were opened in Cumberland County and Pitt County utilizing personnel from Duke RAC, MidCarolina RAC, CapRAC, and Metrolina RAC. One Ambulance Strike Team from Triad RAC was also deployed. Activation of the OEMS Support Cell in support of staff at the ESF-8 desk in the State EOC provided good feedback;
- Plans are in place to hold the first North Carolina SMRS Steering Committee meeting in January 2012;
- Funding from ASPR has now been awarded for an Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP)

with total award slightly over $300,000. The grant period will run from September 30, 2011 through June 30, 2013;

- Regional Advisory Committee Emergency Response and Recovery Coordinators (RERRCs) have begun the rollout of Regional ESF-8 Response plans. A joint memorandum endorsing multi-disciplinary support of the rollout by NC Emergency Management (EM), Division of Public Health, and OEMS for distribution to all local/regional EM, local Public Health, and local EMS systems and hospitals was developed and is currently being distributed;
- OEMS has coordinated the review of the North Carolina Radiological Emergency Response Plan (REP) with Division of Public Health (DPH) and Radiation Protection Services (RPS) and the Division of Social Services (DSS);
- The revised North Carolina Burn Surge Plan is in the process of being updated to be NIMS-compliant with a target date for distribution to North Carolina hospitals, RACs, and OEMS of January 1, 2012. A survey for all North Carolina hospitals to determine their preparedness to handle burn surge events is in development. A NIMS-compliant planning template, to assist in the development of hospital-level Burn Surge plans, is also a part of the planning effort this year; and
- Planning continues to focus on the development of the State Mortuary Operations Response Team (SMORT) and associated fatality management capabilities. Since June 30, 2011, OEMS and PH completed the development of a full-time Fatality Management Coordinator/SMORT Leader position within the Division of Public Health.

Agency Update:

Ms. Crawford reported on the following:

- The General Assembly has reconvened. The DHHS Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet and may request additional information as they continue to review DHHS roles and responsibilities;
- Nadine Pfeiffer, Assistant Chief – Health Systems, is currently assisting the Division in Planning and the development of the annual State Master Facilities plan. Heather Majernik, Education & Credentialing Manager has agreed to assist with trauma site visits ensuring the continuation of trauma program initiatives during this period;
- Danny Harbinson has announced his retirement as WRO Manager effective December 31, 2011;
- Ann Marie Brown, CRO Regional Manager, resigned effective November 7, 2011. Eddie Jordan, Regional Education Specialist, has been named to serve as interim manager until a permanent replacement can be appointed;
- Agency vacancies and pending retirements have been forwarded to the Department for posting; and
- Lead the Wave project funded by the Duke Endowment has been launched. A total of $1,750,000 will be made available to North Carolina EMS Systems through this program to purchase 12-lead ECG and

waveform capnography equipment for permitted in-service EMS vehicles responding to 911 events. It is the goal of this grant to assure that every permitted in-service North Carolina EMS vehicles responding to a 911 event has a 12 lead ECG and capnography device. All equipment has been ordered and is currently being distributed to the end-users.

The next Advisory Council meeting will be held at the Brown Building, Dorothea Dix Campus, on Tuesday, February 14, 2012. In respect to people's time, Mr. Pervier suggested the start time for Committee meetings may be adjusted from meeting-to-meeting depending on the amount of material to be discussed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Minutes submitted by Julie Williams