BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

MINUTES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

BOARD MEETING

February 5, 2009

**Board Members Present**

- Dr. Dennis Allin
- JR Behan
- Comm. Bob Boaldin
- Dr. Joel Hornung
- Rep. Cindy Neighbor
- Dir. Deb Kaufman
- Joe Megredy
- Rick Rook
- Col. Dale Wasson

**Guests**

- Darlene Deck
- Pam Kemp
- Jon Freisen
- Mark Willis
- Jeff Smith
- Kathy Dooley
- Darell Kohls
- Sarah House
- Kerry McCue
- Matt Allen
- Tanner Lucas
- John Holtgren
- Bob Prewitt
- Dave Sterbenz

- Brandon Beck
- Terry David
- Wendy Gronau
- Larry Couchman
- Chris Way
- Randy Cardonell
- Chad Pore
- Steve Isaacson
- Randy Easter
- Michelle Rutherford
- David Stithem
- Grant Helferich
- Rusty Walters
- JR Hatfield
- Mia Simmons

**Staff**

- Robert Waller
- Steve Sutton
- Nicole Bradley
- Patti Artzer
- Carman Allen
- Jean Claude
- Kandagaye
- Camille Nohe

**Board Members Absent**

- Sen. Jay Emler
- Rep. Kasha Kelley
- Comm. Duane Mathes

**CALL TO ORDER**
Chairman Allin called the meeting to order on Friday, February 6th, 2009 at 9:08 am.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The first order of business was to approve meeting minutes from the December 5, 2008, board meeting.

*Motion: To approve December 5 2008, meeting minutes. Moved by Commissioner Boaldin, seconded by Board Member Megredy.*

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

*Planning and Operations Committee*

Chairman Allin called upon Board Member Megredy to give an update on the Planning and Operations Committee. Board Member Megredy explained that the Committee received an update from the Executive Director of the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services (KBEMS) Robert Waller on the Kansas Emergency Medical Information System (KEMIS). Board Member Megredy explained that the pilot project has about eighteen (18) services in the first group, and the next group of 20 (plus) will begin in March. Mr. Megredy also discussed patient tracking, the absence of that ability in the current system, and that the development of a system is necessary. He noted that comments were made in relation to whether a trauma tag, a disaster tag, or other tracking mechanism would be used, and additionally discussion was held whether EMS needed to track a patient and if that started once the patient had been transferred to the hospital.

Board Member Megredy advised the Board that Kerry McCue reported on the Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee (SIEC) and meetings held in December to address concerns and issues with users of the system. Mr. Megredy stated that the SIEC had developed the standard operating procedures (SOP) for the moto-bridges, and two (2) technicians had been hired to help move the project forward and develop exercises to test the system.

Continuing, Board Member Megredy discussed the presentation provided by Sarah House, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program on current EMSC activities. She stated that some of the instructional materials were not ready, and EMSC continues to work with various organizations and agencies on pediatric continuing education. He also remarked that Ms. House reviewed for the Committee a “poison” poster whose purpose is to bring attention to poison threats to children. She also distributed brochures for upcoming conferences in 2009. Lastly, Board Member Megredy informed the Board that the Committee agreed to approved a new EMS Mascot, namely Terry and Traumasaurus.

*Motion: To approve recommendation for statewide mascot, Terry the Traumasaurus, for EMS. Moved by Board Member Megredy, seconded by Commissioner Boaldin. Motion passed*

Board Member Megredy continued by discussing a presentation by Rosanne Rutkowski, KDHE Trauma Program Manager, who discussed the new field triage decision scheme and affirmed the Advisory Committee on Trauma’s (ACT) desire to resolve the issue of patient tracking. Board Member Megredy then gave an update given by Mr. Waller on Medicare issues and Wisconsin Physician Services (WPS) which had been discussed during the February 2009 regular Board meeting. Mr. Waller had stated that a teleconference was held, which was attended by Deb Kaufman, Dale Wasson, Board
staff and Nancy Ratcliff, to assist in resolving inconsistencies and errors in billing practices from WPS. WPS explained its practices, and determined to develop and provide an “explainer” to Kansas EMS to assist in educating all on the current billing standards. Board Member Megredy stated that Board staff would continue to monitor WPS for progress and improvement.

The last item on the agenda was regulation reviews. Board Member Megredy remarked that based on public hearings and review, many of the changes requested were made (according to the meeting held in October of 2008 with service directors, regional representatives, and associations). He stated that the regulations were ready to move into the official state phase for approval and implementation.

**Motion: To approve the final draft of 109-2-1 through 109-2-8, and forward those regulations to the Department of Administration and Attorney General's office. Moved by Board Member Megredy, seconded by Representative Neighbor.**

**Education, Examination, Training and Certification Committee**

Chairman Allin called upon Vice Chair Behan to give a report on Education, Examination, Training and Certification. Vice Chairman Behan stated that the Committee heard a report from Mr. Chad Pore in reference to the Educator Development Task Force (EDTF) meetings in December 2008 and January 2009. The EDTF had changed their meeting schedule from a one day a month scheduled to meeting for 2 days quarterly. This was done to facilitate more meeting time and to help offset some of the fiscal burden associated with monthly travel. Mr. Pore also noted that there was discussion held on the inability to remove date references to exams in KAR 109-8-1 and that is the reason the EDTF has decided not to pursue rewriting the request for proposal (RFP) for instructor coordinator (IC) and training officers (TO) initial courses. Since, the current exam is outdated and would require teaching a course rather than teaching a candidate to pass the exam. He noted that discussion also occurred in reference to the inconsistency between the required number of intubations as prescribed in KAR 109-11-4 and the number of intubations as prescribed in the KS EMT-I enrichments adopted by reference in KAR 109-10-1. Vice Chairman Behan noted that the Committee determined to change the number of intubations required by the KS enrichments to be the same as that identified by KAR 109-11-4.

**Motion: To change the number of intubations required by the KS enrichments to be the same that identified by KAR 109-11-4. Moved by Dr. Hornung, seconded by Representative Neighbor. Motion passed**

Continuing, Vice Chairman Behan discussed KAR 109-10-1 and noted that the Committee recommended changing the regulation to indicate the new date that the Board approved the use of the KS enrichments.

**Motion: To change KAR 109-10-1 to indicate the new date that the Board approved the use of the KS enrichments. Moved by Vice Chair Behan, seconded by Board Member Kaufman. Motion passed.**

He noted that KAR 109-10-1 will be sent to Department of Administration (DoA) for review, then to the Attorney General’s office.

Vice Chairman Behan informed the Board that the Committee was asked to review the changes made to the non-renewal survey and make any comments to facilitate getting the survey out to non-
renewals by April 1. There were a total of thirteen (13) attendant’s certifications that were surrendered due to inability to verify continuing education. He noted that Board staff was in the process of sending the non-renewal survey to those attendants who were scheduled to renew. Vice Chairman Behan also drew attention to discussion held over the auditing of exam processes, and specifically what will be audited to improve processes for all, especially internal processes. He also noted a proposal made by Chy Miller, Hutchinson Community College (HCC) that all 6 attempts at the NREMT exam be evaluated and adopted, and discussion was held in reference to the Scope of Practice implementation committee meeting. He explained that the Committee was advised that a completion date was needed to include in the RFP. The consensus reached was to move the implementation date for the scope of practice from January 1, 2010 to January 1, 2011 to allow a vendor ample time to develop the necessary resources.

Vice Chairman Behan informed the Board of the regulations that will be up for public hearing March 4, 2009 (KAR 109-5-1, KAR 109-5-2, KAR 109-5-3, KAR 109-5-6 KAR 109-6-3, KAR 109-15-1 and KAR 109-15-2). The audience questioned where they could access these regulations. Board staff indicated that they could be access through the Kansas Register. Ms. Nohe advised that the Register only posts a summary of the regulations and that most agencies posted the regulations on their websites. Mr. Behan requested that the regulations be posted on the KBEMS website.

**Executive Committee**

Chairman Allin called upon Commissioner Boaldin to give an update on the Executive Committee. Commissioner Boaldin called upon the Executive Director, Robert Waller, to give an update on the Executive Committee.

Mr. Waller provided an update on the following bills:

- SB 48 - Enhanced wireless and VoIP 911 service amendments, collection and disbursement of certain funds.
- SB 59 - Primary seat belt law, penalty
- SB 87 - AN ACT concerning public agencies; relating to disclosure of certain records; administrative procedure; judicial review
- SB 2191 - Income tax credit for certain services by volunteer firefighters or volunteer EMS providers.
- SB 2168. AN ACT concerning firefighter; switchblades.

Mr. Waller stated that the EMS related bills had not been introduced. He continued by discussing 2009 HB 2109 and the presentation made by Dr. Porter-Williamson and John Carney presented the Uniform Care Act and language regarding advanced directives. Although no action was taken, the bill provides the Board the opportunity to amends its regulations in relation to DNR and living wills.

**Investigation**

Chairman Allin recognized Colonel Dale Wasson, Investigation Chair, to report on cases reviewed.

- 2008-038– Scott Fleming I/C. The complaint alleges Mr. Fleming failed to provide appropriate instruction of an EMT-I course. This case was withdrawn, and would be placed on the April 2, 2009 agenda.
2008-072 – EMT. Respondent filed an application to renew his EMT certificate and marked YES to the felony question. Respondent is currently on probation. The committee denied Respondent’s renewal application.

2008-073. Respondent filed an application for initial EMT certification and marked YES to the felony question. Respondent appeared before the committee. Respondent completed all requirements of his conviction was released from probation. The committee approved respondent for certification.

2008-074 – MICT. This case was involves theft of drugs from the ambulance service. An emergency order to suspend Respondent’s MICT certificate was issued until a full investigation is completed. The completed investigation will be provided to the committee at the April 2, 2009 committee meeting.

Budget/Office Update

Executive Director Waller gave an update on the current budget cuts that are taking place across the board. Mr. Waller explained that the budget had a proposed three (3) percent reduction for FY 2009. The three (3) percent reduction would include both operation, regional, and grant funding, and includes transfers those funds to the State General Fund. He noted that discussion on FY 2010 had not begun, but the expenditure limit remains at the same level as FY 2009.

Larry Couchman of Riley County EMS/ Mercy Regional presented the Kansas EMS video funding partly by the KBEMS Revolving and Assistance Fund (KRAF) grant program. Copies of the video will be distributed to all 171 services in the state.

The Board introduced Battalion Chief Rick Rook as the new board member. He is replacing Chief Mike Ryan. Chief Ryan was awarded a plaque in recognition of his service to the Board and EMS in Kansas.

Public Comment

Chairman Allin called upon Thor Martin, from Argonia EMS. Martin commented on the KRAF Grant process, and the time-line requirements to provide data. Chairman Allin and Executive Director Waller will be discussing the issue.

Chairman Allin then called upon Pam Kemp, Region IV. She also spoke on the simplicity and the clarification process for grants. She spoke on the funding issues, and that regional funding should be a priority.

Chairman Allin called upon Mick McCalum and Sherry McCool from KANAAMS. They discussed Air-Med regulations regarding staffing requirements.

Election of Officers

The Board held the election of officers. The Board took nominations for officers, and nominated the following:
Chairman- Dr. Dennis Allin  
Vice Chairman – Mr. JR Behan

Motion: Retain Dr. Dennis Allin as Chairman and Mr. JR Behan as vice chairman. Moved by Dr. Joel Hornung, seconded by Board member Megredy. Motion Passed.

Executive Session

There was no executive session this meeting.

Motion: To adjourn the board Meeting at 10:32 a.m. Moved by Dr. Hornung, seconded by Vice chair Behan. Motion passed.

__________________________  April 4, 2009  
Approved