**MINUTES**

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

**BOARD MEETING**

August 5, 2005

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**Board Members Absent**

Rep. Kasha Kelley
Sen. Jay Emler
Dr. Daniel Caliendo

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Dr. Allin:** Meeting called to order at 9:10.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Dr. Allin:** Approval of the minutes? Any additions to them? **J. R. Behan:** I move that we accept the minutes from last meeting. **Jim McClain:** I second. **Dr. Allin:** Any discussion? All those in favor say aye. Any opposed? Minutes approved.
OFFICE UPDATE

David Lake: Good morning. Welcome to all. Once again I think it is very important that I share with you all how much I and the Board appreciate your interest and participation in Kansas EMS. That is how we stay on top of things and how everybody knows what is going on.

EMS has suffered some losses again since we met last.

- Bob Orth passed away on June 18 in Garden City after a long battle and struggle with breathing and respiratory problems. There were several of us that attended his funeral. I had the privilege of being asked to say a few words and I did. It was a very nice service.
- Two weeks ago a very strong supporter of EMS, Representative Judy Showalter, from Winfield passed away. Judy had been in the Legislator for several years. Judy became an EMT in 1975 and she worked at Winfield EMS as a volunteer and also as a full time attendant from 1976 to 1993. In 1993, she and Dale went to nurses training together and became nurses and then she continued to be a strong supporter of health care and EMS. She also owned some businesses. She did a variety of things. As far as we are concerned, the most noticeable to us was the impact that she had on EMS.
- Last week Emporia Fire lost a long time attendant. 26 years in the Fire Department and an EMT, Terry Kramer. Bob told me that Terry got sick a couple of months ago and had just been off work a couple of months when his sickness got him. Terry was a guy that I knew because his daughter and my daughter went to school together at Emporia and Terry’s wife worked in the school system there and was a great aide to my daughter in deciding to pursue education. Terry was a good guy.
- Overland Park Fire lost a strong public safety person in Michelle Brenner this past week. Michelle’s husband Jerry is a training officer with Overland Park Fire and had recently moved back to Kansas. We had worked with Jerry not to long ago in some variances on becoming a training officer and an instructor coordinator from some of his previous training.

They are all going to be sadly missed by not only their families and a host if friends, but by public safety, all of us, EMS emergency providers statewide.

Region II is providing the refreshments for today and we did cut back on those a little bit. The summer has been busy since we met last time.

Plans for implementation of on-line renewal are 99% completed. Jean Claude assures me that it is going to happen and I have full faith in Jean Claude. As a matter of fact the ball is now in AccessKansas’ court. They have all the information from us. They are working on their final screens and everything. We have the renewal forms ordered. Just a brief summary on how that is going to happen: Everybody is going to get a renewal form just like they always have before. There will instructions in there that encourage you to renew on-line and how to do it, or you can still submit the paper form that comes in the mail just like we always have. Chrystine Hannon has assured me that by early or mid September those renewal forms will be going out. I was asked the question yesterday: Will on-line renewal speed up the process on getting the card? It is kind of hard to say. It probably will, but there is an important factor in there. When you renew on-line and if it accepts it and you are successful in the renewal process, you can print out a receipt that will show that on this date and at this time you have successfully completed
on-line renewal. Until a card gets to you in the mail, that would be acceptable to us. On the other hand, the person that asked me the question said that their department requires them to have a card by December 31 and the instructions in the renewal says that if you need a card by the end of December, you need to renew by December 1st. About the middle of December it gets real busy and we take them in the order by which they come into the office. That is the only fair way to do it. This year the on-line renewal will be limited to renewing individual attendants. Groups of attendants will not be allowed this year, but possibly next year.

June 10 and 11, KEMSA had the first two days of their Service Director Training Program in Clay Center. The final day is the 18th of August in Overland Park at the Last Blast Annual Conference. There were 20 participants in that workshop.

Johnson County Community College and Region V have cooperated and held TO I and TO II training programs since we met last.

Joe Moreland facilitated a PIER Training Program here in Topeka. It was one of those things that was very well received, very good information, there is a lot of interest in that. I know that Joe and I were disappointed that there were not more people who participated. It was a small crowd.

Steve Sutton and I attended the North Central Region State Directors Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. I think that was a meeting that was very beneficial to us because the two primary topics at that conference were the National Registry’s move toward CAT testing and the National Scope of Practice. The second draft of the National Scope of Practice is out. I have some copies if anyone would like to look at that. I would encourage you to go to the website and access the second draft and see what you think. They do still identify four levels of certification. They are eliminating the advanced practice paramedic and they are putting in an advanced EMT position in there. Each of those four levels have a designated scope of practice for their level and that is the cap for those scopes. They are very insistent that if you adopt this scope of practice you don’t allow people at an EMT level to do more than that. It is very restrictive.

Steve is going to the National State Training Coordinators Meeting in San Antonio in September and I know the National Scope of Practice is on their agenda, as well as CAT for National Registry.

The State Director’s meeting is in October in Orlando and they do not have an agenda yet for that. The state directors, especially in rural communities have real issues with both of those things.

Joe and Dave Cromwell from our office presented a program to the Allen County Commissioners. There was some issues identified there with an inspection and we agreed that we would work with them any way that we could to help them resolve some of their issues. They invited us down. They requested that we provide them with a technical assistance program to look in depth at their service.

At the end of June my daughter got married in Overland Park.

I had a meeting with KDHE regarding Pandemic Flu. There is a real threat that the world is going to have a Pandemic Flu. We need to be thinking about what our plan of action will be regarding this issue.

Kansas City Kansas Community College—I participated in their advisory committee meeting. They introduced the new program director and Dr. Allin is on that committee also and they kind of outlined their plans for future training endeavors at the institution. They do have a new program director that they hired from South Dakota.
Region II had their annual meeting in Sublette. It was very well attended and a very good meeting. They had an excellent program presentation that night.

This past month we have had special meetings of the Executive Committee and the Investigations Committee. They went well.

At last I would like to remind you about the October meeting. In October, the Thursday committee meetings will be at Landon State Office Building. On Friday, the Board meeting will be at the Capital Plaza. That is also noted on the schedule on the Website.

I want to commend the staff in the office for the tremendous job they are doing. There are a lot of things going on and we are short handed.

Dr. Allin: Questions for David? Committee Reports, Jim-Executive Committee.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**Executive Committee—Mr. Jim McClain**

Jim McClain: I have two meetings to report on. The first was a special meeting July 20, 2005 when we met with the President of ImageTrends and two of his wiz kids. Extremely bright, but very young. A very good meeting. Also there was Greg and Mark from KDHE.

Region IV is going to be serving as a pilot project for ImageTrends package. Training starts next week and you have in your packet a position paper. A proposal for seeking state funds to finance a statewide data collection. We will be offering that as an enhancement to the 07 budget request. A great deal of yesterday’s meeting was also dealing with the Data collection project.

Mary Mulryan gave a report on the Education Incentive Grant. About 10%, or about $20,000 has been obligated so far out of the $200,000 that was allocated.

There was discussion of the FY 07 budget. Two enhancements were suggested: To continue the Education Incentive Grant Program. The first year was very successful, 300 or thereabouts attendants trained. The suggestion is that the request be made for another $200,000 enhancement to the budget for 07. Also a suggestion was made that we request $200,000 for the Data Collection. The proposal for the Data Collection Project is for just less than $160,000, but the thought was that there will be some unforeseen costs. That was the suggestion of the members present at the Executive Committee Meeting. Before the next meeting of this Board, David must submit a proposal including the enhancements. The Executive Committee would be willing to act on behalf of the Board if that is your desire in a special teleconference or the entire Board could be included. We have volunteered our services again and that usually worked in the past.

David Lake: As we have done in the past, the full Board will be provided with a copy of the Budget that we will submit for your review and comments. As Jim said, in the past you have authorized the Executive Committee to meet in special session and authorized us to submit the budget as drafted.

Jim McClain: Would you prefer to take action on that at this time, Mr. Chair?

Dr. Allin: I guess our two issues that lend itself to motion are where we would like to see the budget enhancements as recommended by the Committee. Scholarships and Data Collection. If there is something else that someone wants to talk about as far as enhancements, I guess this would be the time.
to do it. The other thing would be the approval of the Board for the Executive Committee in a teleconference to approve the specifics of the budget, or we could put the whole Board together by teleconference. It would be whatever you want to do. I guess the first issue is on enhancements. We need a motion to approve the recommendation of the Executive Committee, or suggestions of other enhancements or discussion on that subject.

Comm. Boaldin: Mr. Chair, I would like to make a motion that we approve the enhancements as recommended. Comm. Duane Mathes: I second. Dr. Allin: Is there any discussion? All in favor say aye? Any opposed? Motion passed.

Dr. Allin: I guess the next issue would be do you want to hear the specifics of the budget as a Board or do you want the Executive Committee to actually approve the specifics that David presents. What is the desire of the Board on that?

Mike Ryan: I would move that the Executive Committee handle the budget. Dale Wasson: I second. Dr. Allin: Okay. Any discussion? All in favor say aye? Any opposed? Motion passed.

Jim McClain: I have another item of two.

- We also discussed possible Legislative Issues for the next Legislative Session. Two topics were suggested as possibilities. The authority to levy fines which we do not have at this time, as well as the possible regulation of non-transporting first response agencies. No decision is required at this meeting, but those are two possibilities that will be discussed.
- We also received an update on the National Scope of Practice the vacant positions of Staff, interviews will be conducted this coming week for the EMS Specialist for Western Kansas.
- We concluded the meeting with a demonstration of a paperless board meeting by a representative or the Board of Nursing staff. They conduct their meetings without paper via a means of laptops for each Board member.

David Lake: I visited with Jean Claude about that this morning and he had some thoughts about the presentation yesterday. I would like some feedback from you. If we can figure out a way to do a pilot project of that, if there are some of you who would be interested in receiving this paper packet in a CD format for your computer, let us know. I don’t know if we can get it by October, but maybe by December we can at least let some of you try it and see how you like it. Please let me know. (Dr. Allin, J. R. Behan, Duane Mathes responded immediately with approval to try this.)

Jim McClain: That is all I have to report.

Planning and Coordination Committee—Joe Megredy

- Joe Megredy: We met yesterday. Everybody was there except for Region V and the Fire Chiefs Association.
- The Regions are all working on the MERGe Program and Educator Workshops.
- Region I and II do have some upcoming test sites.
- Jerree Forbes has resigned from Region III and Jerry Jo Deckert has resigned from Region II.
Region V had some meetings with Blue Cross to talk about some issues and completed TO I and TO II programs.

KEMSA is working on their annual conference which is coming soon. They have renamed their educator award in memory of Don and Don’s wife will be there at the conference to give that presentation.

KEMTA is working on their conference in March and have a Board meeting August 13.

MARC has finalized their coop purchasing program and have gone with Alliance Medical and will be beta testing their tracking project next Wednesday.

The Fire Chiefs weren’t present to give a report.

The Firefighters have completed their school in Eureka, they will be in Hays next weekend. It sounds like they have a pretty full schedule for the remainder of the year for their fire schools.

Gene Kraus was present to give an update from Emergency Management. He just reviewed again with us a number of internet sites they have. He talked to us a little bit about regionalization of the ODP funding which will be happening next year and their conference will be in September.

We had a presentation by Cynthia Wentworth from the PIER program that David talked about. She came and gave us an update about what that program is and I think feels pretty strongly that she can help the Board with its strategic plan and accomplishing some of those goals. We will be meeting with her on Wednesday prior to our next Board meeting at the Board Office to discuss that and try to understand a little bit better. I don’t understand it at all.

We had an update from Terry David on the MERGe Project. It sounds like that is on track. I think the goal is to have the training completed by the end of October. He issued out a number of dates to everyone there for those Regions to get signed up. I will look forward to hearing an update in October.

Not much going on with our workgroups. The Public Safety Committee and the Homeland Security, David did say that the inoperable radio that KDOT is working on has went up in Southeast Kansas and that affects parts of our Regions V and VI.

Dr. Allin: Questions for Joe?

Investigations—Dr. Allin

Dr. Allin: We had a long meeting. We had nine cases. Some went back four years. We either closed or did consent agreements. We are in our new era of the investigations committee.

The cases ranged, as they always have, everything from patient care to a question of unprofessional behavior to staffing issues and there is always an I/C issue. I think the main thing that we want to do differently, and I do want to share with you all about the investigations committee, is that we seem to have developed a bit of a history of just “sort of” giving cases to the AGs office. They don’t really get a resolution out of the investigation committee, so what our goal is going to be with these cases and what we did yesterday is that if we feel like something has been investigated to the point of a resolution, we are going to give it to the AGs office with very specific instructions with what to do with it. At that point we will consider it out of the investigations committee instead of these cases just hovering around, in and out of investigations committee for two or three or four years. That was our plan. I think it seemed to work well yesterday.
Most everything we will try to do by consent agreement. If parties refuse to sign a consent agreement that is acceptable to us, then we will move through to the next phase with the AGs office on disciplinary action. Like I said, hopefully we got a start on that yesterday. We only had one case that was tabled and that was because it was ten minutes after six and we never started it. We tabled nothing from this meeting. Are there any questions for me about that process?

The only other thing I will point out is that you all have letters in your packet regarding the issue in Seneca. This was a case that was in the investigations committee. A case that we closed and the information can be talked about now because it is a closed case. It has not only hit the newspapers, it has hit U.S. Senators Offices. There has been a lot of letter writing about this case. What you see in your packet is an article from the reporter that was actually at our meeting yesterday. You see her response to the memo that David Lake wrote that went to Congressman Moran and Moore and Sen. Roberts, as well as the Seneca City Administrator, the Topeka Capital Journal, and the Governor’s Office. It was a case that we felt like the Board had to make some reaction to. Some individuals were portraying that the investigation committee wanted to take actions that the Attorney General’s Office and David were blocking. That is exactly what did not happen. We wanted to clarify our position and I think the article that came out was a pretty factual account about what happened.

**Education and Examination—J. R. Behan**

J. R. Behan: We ran over but we got through everything. We only have one variance this time.

We heard some reports from Steve regarding his normal stuff. The Educator Workshops this year will be September 24 in Hays, October 1 in Hutchinson and November 5 in Lawrence.

We did hear an update on our ongoing work with Hutchinson Community College on their paramedic program. Jerree Forbes has resigned and that was kind of one of the stipulations when we granted the variance last April was that he was going to run the program. He is not there now and we have heard from the Dean who has assured us that they are going to continue to take care of business. I have asked her to come back again. I think it is important that we are informed at all times of what is going on as well as the people who attend the meetings. They will be back in October.

We do need action on the regulation review that Joe has been working on. This is the first set of regulations that mainly deal with Education. They have been done. There has been input from some of us. He has been out to the Regions and we are ready to move forward. Keep in mind that we just need to approve these to keep them moving forward and there still will be some comment periods and public hearings. The regulation start from 109-1-1 to 109-13-1. I think everybody received a copy of these. We do need approval to keep moving those on to the next step. Dr. Allin: Is it the Committee’s recommendation to approve them as they are at this point? J. R. Behan: Yes, with the understanding that there will be some time for comment. There are some concerns about some days, number of days to do things, and stuff like that. We can take care of that in the comment period. But yes, it was our recommendation to approve them. Comm. Boaldin: I so move. Dale Wasson: I second. Dr. Allin: Any other discussion? All in favor? Any opposed? Motion passed to carry the regulations forward in the process.
Under new business we heard a report from Industrial Organizations Solutions which is the colored spiral bound notebook that everybody got. Their presentation dealt with writing an exam. We heard last time from the National Registry and their move to CAT testing and the pros and cons against that. This time we heard from IO Solutions who does work with other states in writing EMS exams as well as Pre-Employment Exams for Law Enforcement and Firefighting. They have a large list of people that they work with. They had a very dynamic presentation. We heard from Chad Legal and Steve Warner, the two people who head that organization up. They had a very good presentation. We think they are very user friendly and are willing to do about anything that we want them to do. It is going to be our recommendation to adopt it. What they will do for us if we choose them is that we will help them pick subject matter experts and they will write an exam specific to our curriculum but also to the Kansas Enrichments that we have mandated to be included in courses. They will do that for all of the levels of certification. They do have computerized testing if that is what we want to do. They also have written pencil and paper exams if that is what we want to do. They are able to upload all that data into their system and give us back reports as far as individual instructors, by class, by sponsoring organization, etc. It’s something that we are not going to be able to get from the National Registry. The other thing is that if we do choose IO Solutions, it is not going to preclude anybody that is National Registered or Certified in another state from getting certified in Kansas. The policy that we adopted two meetings ago as far as legal recognition will take care of that. Does anybody have any other comments that I didn’t say about IO Solutions? (Discussion Points: There will be no practical exam for the MICT level. There cost will not increase. They could be ready by as early as May of 06 if we wanted to try to do some trial testing, but by sure by January 1, 07. There would not have to be a contract to bind us for any duration.) Joe Megredy: I would move to accept the committee’s recommendation to work with IO Solutions to develop Kansas specific certification exams for all levels except for Paramedics. Comm. Boaldin: I second. Dr. Allin: Any discussion? (Discussion follows regarding IO Solutions vs other testing, whether National Registry or in-house developed.) Joe Megredy: Mr. Chairman, I would like to amend my motion to include all levels of certification instead of all but paramedics. (More discussion follows regarding the reports available and whether there needs to be a regulation or statute change.)

Dr. Allin: I believe that the motion must remain in conjunction with what the committee recommends which does not include the paramedic exam. Is there any other discussion? All in favor of the original motion say aye. Any opposed? Motion Passed to have IO Solutions develop exams except for the paramedic level.

J. R. Behan: We did hear two variance requests. One of them we had to table. We just didn’t have the right amount of information. We tabled that and we will work with the individual and try to figure out what our next step will be. One variance we do need some action on is that of Barton County Community College requesting to do another Instructor Coordinator Course. This one mirrors the last two that we have approved with a couple of minor exceptions and they are included in the request under special considerations. Chy told us yesterday that mainly those special considerations are things that have come up in the last classes that they want to be able to deal with as far as logistical type things, get sign offs by appropriate people and things of that nature. So it is nothing mission critical, just some housekeeping things. He also included some surveys from the last courses which was nice, so it is our recommendation to approve the course. Jim McClain: I move that we accept the committee’s
Recommendation.  Comm. Boaldin: I second.  Dr. Allin: Any discussion?  All in favor say aye.  Any opposed?  Motion passed to grant the variance to Barton County Community College.

AED Updates

David Lake: In year two of three so far we have $11,000 left but there is one major function left that has to come out of that. In receiving this grant, as with most all federal grants, there is a mandated required annual grantees meeting that they hold in Washington, D.C., and the last couple of years they have held it with all HRSA grants. Rural Health Options, the EMSC program, Trauma Program, the AED program, all of those, and that is coming up later this month and Mary Mulryan and I are participating in that event. I am going as one of the representatives for the Rural Health Options and Mary is representing us in the Rural AED Program. But there will be some money left as there has been in the last few years. We will identify how many AEDs we can purchase. We will purchase them and go back to those agencies and make some available. We also earlier this summer were notified with the award of our year three of the three year grant which is really the fourth year that we have done this for a total of $139,799. We are currently in the process now of identifying the recipients for those. We are doing that based on the large number of requests that we received last year. Our priorities are who has asked for some that haven’t received any and based on their priorities trying to meet all their needs so that everybody that has requested over the three year period will benefit from the program somehow. That is where we are at. We have so far in the four year period received a total of $828,027 in AED monies. That is the update and status of that project.

I am going to ask for permission to talk about a couple of other things that aren’t on the agenda. They are informational updates.

We are co-hosting with a group out of KDHE called “Kansas Drunk Driving Prevention Office”, along with Johnson County Med Act and us a project called “Teaming up to save Teens” that will be held in Lawrence on the 22 of September. It kind of falls in with the PIER Project. It is giving some ideas to people. How and what they can do in their communities to support a teenage drinking and drunk driving awareness. A lot of us over the years have done the DUI Consequence scenarios, etc., and this is going to capitalize on this. Plus there will be other ideas that people have done. If you are interested it is all going to be free and we are working on continuing education through our Program Provider Agreements. September 22 in Lawrence.

Graduate Certification: Specific guidelines for someone who has successfully completed a class and before they gain certification by notification that they have passed their test, they can still continue to be in the back of an ambulance as long as they are individually monitored by someone of that level or higher. They can’t be back there by themselves, but they can be back there with someone else. In the past two weeks we have had a request to look at how an attendant from Nebraska had been hired on here and was in a mode between knowing if they had passed the test or not and they had completed the Nebraska class. Chrystine Hannon, Mary Feighny and myself set down and tried to decide how we might address that. We came up with an application for Graduate Certification for someone who has completed an out-of-state class. They have to provide us with information comparing that out-of-state class to the in-state class. If the out-of-state meets the requirements of the in-state curricula, then we would grant them the Graduate Certification under the same guidelines until they receive their permanent certification card.
Rural Health Options

David Lake: This will be brief. We are right in the middle of the fiscal year and we are starting to look at what we will be doing next year. Some areas that have been funded through Rural Health Options are:

- educational monies for Trauma,
- the PIER program,
- Community Assessment in Concordia,
- other community assessments.

Advisory Committee on Trauma

Dr. Allin: We met yesterday as a subcommittee to approve the Regional Plans of all six regions. The plans gave a lot of good information, but mainly they showed the ACT, who meets again on the 24th, how much work we need to do to get the right information to the Regions.

- One thing we will be looking at will be the Trauma Registry, which has to be re-bid because that contract is up next June. Interestingly enough the same organization that is doing our data collection is also looking at the Trauma Registry which, if it worked out, would be better than trying to do a lot of interfaces.

- We also need to work with a subcommittee of the Advisory Committee on Trauma to decide how we are now going to take this information that we started to collect in the Trauma Registry and how do we start to disperse that information. What we were talking about yesterday was first giving information on outcomes on things like transfer times on Trauma patients back to individual hospitals so that they can start to benchmark themselves. Start to try to deliver information back to the hospitals. The reason we want to start with hospitals is because clearly by looking at the Regional Trauma Plans, they are going to have to extend some of the data that is in the Trauma Registry. We want to be able to give the hospitals better feedback on the data they are supplying us.

- We have a grant from HRSA that is mainly for Public Information. I guess the other thing that we will be talking about a lot is EMD training. If there was anything that came out in the Regional Trauma Plans, it is the relative lack of training by Emergency Medical Dispatchers. Some of that may be due to lack of trainers or lack of finances, but what was disappointing to me by reading through those plans, was some of it is through a lack of will of dispatch centers to even want to do it. It’s kind of amazing to me that they are dispatching ambulances, they are dispatching medical personnel, yet they feel as though they are going to be under some increased responsibility and medical legal liability if they have this training. I would think if something negative happened and you could trace it back to how dispatch occurred or what kind of instructions were given, the first thing that would put you in increased liability is that you have not trained the people who are doing the dispatching. That is something we are going to have to work through.

- Our hospital verification base. We are to the point now where we know what we want the Level III criteria to be. There is going to be a meeting on the 10th as far as the process. That’s it.
Other New Business

Jim McClain: I have an item under general information I want to share with you. I received an e-mail that encouraged me to put a certain number in a cell phone. On last night’s channel 13 news, AMR was the featured service, there is a movement underway. It’s called ICE. (In Care of Emergency) To put that in your cell phone memory. To have a next of kin’s phone number programmed in your cell phone under that acronym. What encouraged me to mention it here, the broadcast story closed by saying that the Missouri Board has endorsed the idea, but that Kansas has taken no action. I thought I should at least mention it. (A little discussion from Ken Keller, AMR.) It was recommended by the Board to research this and bring it back to the October Board meeting.

Dr. Allin: The KU Hospital is participating in the study of Polyhem which is basically a blood substitute. What they have done is taken blood and taken the hemoglobin out of the red blood cells. By a polarization process, the Polyhem, they have stabilized the hemoglobin in fluid without red blood cells, so there is no blood product in there. The thought is that this stuff has a shelf life of one year, so you don’t have to type and cross it. There is no RH or ABO incapability issues. The reason that I was on is because this is a no-consent study. Basically we will be using this on Traumatized patients coming to KU. It will be randomized to get this in the field. You won’t be in a position to refuse or to consent. That is why the FDA and our own subject committee puts a lot on the requirement of public notification. Douglas County has said they do not want to do a no-consent study at all. It will probably be beginning sometime in October and I am excited about it. If this works out, in a Trauma situation this will replace blood in the first eight hours of the trauma. We just won’t use blood.

Dr. Allin: I move that we adjourn the meeting. J. R. Behan: I second. Dr. Allin: All in favor? Any opposed? Meeting adjourned at 10:48 am.