



KANSAS

DENNIS ALLIN, M.D., CHAIR
ROBERT WALLER, CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

MINUTES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

BOARD MEETING

August 4, 2006

Board Members Present

J. R. Behan
Deb Kaufman
Michael Ryan
Joe Megredy
Sen. Jay Emler
Comm. Duane Mathes
Comm. Bob Boaldin
Dr. Dennis Allin
Sen. Chris Steineger

Board Members Absent

Dr. Brian Holmes
Rep. Kasha Kelley
Rep. Margaret Long
Dale Wasson

Guests

Pam Kemp
David Stithem
Marvin Van Blaricon
Steve Isaacson
Rob Jones
John Kirk
Jeff Smith
Kendra Tinsley
Rosanne Rutkowski
Ira Hart
Darlene Deck
Chris Way
J.R. Hatfield
Shane Pearson

Chad Pore
Jon Friesen
Gary Winter
Kathy Dooley
Chy Miller
Bob Binder
Gina All
Con Olson
Barb Evans
Kerry McCue
Tammyra Swift
Cathy Moffett
Wendy Gronau
Erin Cook-Wiems

Staff

Robert Waller
Steve Sutton
Patti Artzer
Joe Moreland
Jerry Cunningham
Dave Cromwell
Randy Cardonell

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Behan called the meeting to order on Friday, August 4, 2006 at 9:06 am. The first order of business is the approval of the minutes from the May 5, 2006 Conference Call, and the June 2, 2006 Board Meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Board Member Boaldin, seconded by Board Member Megredy to approve the minutes of the June Board meeting. Motion passed.

Motion: Moved by Board Member Ryan, seconded by Senator Emler to approve the minutes of the May Conference Call. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Executive Committee

Vice Chairman Behan called upon Senator Emler to report on the Executive Committee activities. Senator Emler reported that the Executive Committee discussed the Kansas Emergency Medical Information System (KEMIS) data collection project, and was advised that Board Staff is reviewing the process for hiring a project manager to determine if the contract can be sole sourced or if a request for proposal (RFP) needs to be issued. He noted the project manager would cost an estimated \$50,000 to \$75,000 and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) would provide \$15,000 in rural health options funding. He continued by discussing the KEMIS Steering Committee, and its task to determine the data sets that will be used within the system. Meetings have been scheduled August and September at the KHP training center in Salina.

Senator Emler reported the second item discussed was the 2007 and 2008 Budget. He advised the Board that issues to be determine are Education Incentive Grant funding (EIG), KEMIS, and the addition of 1.0 FTE Examination Manager (at a cost of approximately \$45,000 to \$51,000). He added that Board Staff informed the Committee that the budget must be submitted by September 15, 2006. Therefore, a conference call will be convened at 9:00 a.m. on September 11, 2006. The Board should receive a packet of information which would include any documentation for enhancements. Upon further discussion, the conference call was rescheduled for 9:00 a.m. on September 8, 2006

Senator Emler continued by discussing the Education Incentive Grant program. Specifically, funding and the longer term operation of the program. He reported that there was only \$57,000 of the \$100,000 Educational Incentive Grant monies remaining (as of August 4, 2006), with further requests remaining. Additionally, according to an audit by Board staff, money was returned due to unfulfilled obligations totaling \$9,361.42. The Executive Committee recommended the Board seek additional funding within the supplemental appropriations bill (at a total of \$10,000) and allow that money to be funneled back into the grant program. Continuing, Senator Emler addressed the long term issue relating to EIG funding, and informed the Committee that the Executive Committee recommended convening a sub-committee to review the requirements of the grant program. Under the Board's guidelines it takes a one year commitment, but services are permitted to require additional time commitment in order to receive a grant.

There were no questions by Board members.

Planning and Coordination Committee

Vice Chairman Behan called upon Board Member Megredy to address the Board on the meeting conducted by the Planning and Coordination Committee. Board Member Megredy reported that the Committee received an update from Board Staff on the License Plate project from Dave Cromwell. Mr. Cromwell reported the Staff had received 487 of the 500 needed applications, and stated that the next step is to finalize the legislation in preparation for the Legislative session.

Board Member Megredy advised continued by discussing the Staff report on the Budget Workshops that were held in each of the six Regions, and noted that there are two additional workshops that will occur during the KEMSA and KEMTA conferences.

Board Member Megredy informed the Board that the Committee discussed EMS staffing levels during disasters and an expanded scope of practice during those instances. The Committee referred the interpretation of the statutes and regulations to Board staff and the Attorney General's Office for an opinion. He noted that the Committee received reports from all organizations, except for the Fire Chiefs Association. Board Member Ryan stated he would contact the Association relating to future participation in Committee activities.

Board Member Megredy continued by discussing the Memorandum of Agreements between the Regions and the Board for certification testing. He expressed concern relating to testing within the six Regions and the operation of the practical skills examination. Specifically, the Committee heard the exam is expensive for the Regions, time consuming, and they are having difficulty in getting participants, i.e., lab assistants and examiners to commit. He noted that the Education and Examination Committee will need to address these issues in the near future.

Board Member Megredy requested that the Planning and Coordination Committee be a part of the ambulance service regulation review. He further suggested that a sub-committee be appointed to work with Board staff on these rewrites. Board Member Behan questioned Robert Waller about the timeline on these regulation rewrites. Mr. Waller advised that the Committee on the rules and regulation time-line and process.

Vice-Chairman Behan thanked Board member Megredy for the report.

Education and Examination

Vice Chairman Behan began his report discussing reports from Board Staff on working groups and the development of Board written tests. He noted that there will preliminary demonstrations of the tests during the Educator Workshops.

Vice Chairman Behan reported that the Committee had received information on a variance provided to Kansas City Kansas Community College (KCKCC) and Mercy Hospital EMS granting a field internship when the ambulance service did not meet all the requirements. He remarked that the organizations had provided updated information to the Committee.

Vice-Chairman Behan advised the Board that the Committee continues to work on the EMT-D Curriculum regarding inserting it as an optional module, and had received a letter from Educator's Society of KEMSA. Also, the Committee had some discussion on the Memorandum of Agreement between the Board and the Regions on the certification exam and agreed to postpone discussion pending further examination of the issue.

Lastly, Vice-Chairman Behan reported that the Committee heard and reviewed four variances. The first was the awarding of an Instructor/Coordinator (IC) certification to a person who is already certified as a Training Officer II. He had taught an initial course that did include clinical and field experience. However, that was not documented as a requirement of the course and he met all of the other requirements. Additionally, the Committee was informed he had not gone through the IC course. The Committee's recommendation was to approve the award of IC certification with the stipulations that he completes the mentor packet (having to be mentored by an established IC), and assist in teaching an EMT class that would start soon. The Committee placed a deadline of completion at December 31, 2006.

Motion: Accept the Committee's recommendation for approval of the awarding of IC certification. Moved by Board Member Megredy, seconded by Board Member Ryan. Motion passed.

The second variance was requested by Hutchinson Community College (HCC) to provide a paramedic course based on their accreditation inspection findings prior to the Commission that grants the accreditation coming to final approval. The Committee recommended approval prior to their official notification, with the understanding that if HCC is not approved for accreditation the class would be cancelled.

Motion: Accept the Committee's recommendation for approval to allow HCC to commence a paramedic course prior to accreditation approval with the caveat that accreditation for HCC was approved. Moved by Senator Emler, seconded by Board Member Boaldin. Motion passed.

The next variance was requested from Barton County Community College (BCCC) requesting the establishment of a pilot program bridge course from RN to Paramedic. Vice Chairman Behan explained that BCCC had submitted a letter outlining the objectives of the program, and noted that the Committee had reviewed the general program concept and operation. Vice-Chairman Behan applauded Barton County, Hays Medical Center, and Ellis County EMS for their efforts in establishing this program.

Motion: Accept the Committee's recommendation and approve the establishment of a pilot program bridge course from RN to Paramedic for BCCC. Moved by Board Member Megredy, seconded by Board Member Wasson. Motion passed.

The next variance was also from Barton County Community College (BCCC) requesting to conduct a paramedic course via interactive television. Vice-Chairman Behan remarked that the Board had approved a variance similar to this previously to Barton County and Junction City. He noted that there has been no interactive television endorsement courses conducted for some time and those instructors do not have that endorsement.

Motion: Accept the Committee's recommendation and approve conducting a paramedic course via interactive television for BCCC. Moved by Board Member Boaldin, seconded by Senator Emler. Motion passed.

[Investigations](#)

Chairman Allin reported the Committee processed 7 cases. The Committee closed cases pertaining to operations, and reviewed two felony applications. One was denied, and one was approved for certification. Additionally, the Committee reviewed three patient care issues. The Committee will attempt to reach an agreement with the provider surrounding patient refusal on the first case, tabled the second due to insufficient medical records to review the case, and will meet in a closed session to deliberate after having heard from the attendant as part of the appeals process of a denial to challenge certification.

[Office Update](#)

Chairman Allin recognized Chief Administrator Robert Waller, for an office update. Mr. Waller provided the Board with a Power Point presentation on Data Collection, Budget, and Education Incentive Grants. **(Attachment A)**. Mr. Waller introduced Deb Kaufman from Sheridan County EMS as the newest Board Member, and reported on the MOA. He noted that all Regions had signed, except

Region III. He continued by discussing the success of the KBEMS List Serve, the vacant Education Manager position, and informed the Board those attendants holding an I/C Certification will now be able to renew both their attendant and IC certifications online.

Regarding the KEMIS project, Mr. Waller informed the Board that Board Staff had completed the preliminary stage regarding recognition from the Kansas Information Technology Office, and is in the process hiring a project manager. He continued by discussing federal funding available for the project to purchase software and hardware for selected services through the KEMIS Steering Committee. He noted that the next meetings for the KEMIS Steering Committee were scheduled for August 24 and 25, 2006 and September 18 and 19, 2006 at the KHP training center

Mr. Waller also provided an update on the budget for 2007 and 2008. He stated that State Operation expenses remain the same as well as Regional Funding. He reemphasized the additional funding available for the Education Incentive Grant funds (totaling \$9,361.42 in refunds), and additional funding transferred from KDHE and the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) totaling \$100,000 and \$77,000 respectively. The funding specifically would finance the portion of the project manager costs, the Steering Committee, and the Budget Model workshops. He noted that automatic emergency device (AED) funding may be available, however the Congress has not finalized the federal budget. He also discussed the Board tele-conference call to finalize the 2007 and 2008 budget, and the issues to be discussed by the Board (i.e. increasing Educational Incentive Grant funding, KEMIS on-going costs, and the additional of 1.0 FTE Examination Manager, and any other Board initiatives).

Senator Emler remarked that one of the requests discussed during the Executive Committee was to increase Regional funding. He suggested that there be good documentation on the costs associated with the Regions and therefore substantiating the increase in the funding. Mr. Waller reported that KBEMS staff had asked and acquired a fiscal update on funding transferred to the Regions from the Board. The information would be included in the tele-conference packet to aid the Board in finalizing its Budget decisions.

Chairperson Allin directed the Board to consider other initiatives to present, not just budgetary considerations. Board Member Megredy directed Staff to compile a summary of programs that were eliminated, reduced, and revised due to budgetary reductions. Discussion continued regarding the conference call, and the eligibility and obligation of the student relating to the Educational Incentive Grant program. He noted that there was some discussion during the Executive Committee meeting about the cost per student and whether the Board would expand the program to part-time or full-time attendants rather than just volunteers.

Chairman Allin recommended the Board create a sub-committee to review the policies and procedures relating the Education Incentive Grant. Senator Emler asked if the information would be available by the October meeting. Chairman Allin stated the Committee, similar to the Committee that created the policy, would gather to review the program.

Mr. Waller advised the Board that the next Board meeting would be held in Salina at the KHP training center on October 5 and 6, 2006. Lunch would be provided for the Board in the cafeteria. He noted that Committee times would be changed to the following: Planning and Coordination 9:30-11:15; Education and Examination 12:00-2:15; Executive 2:30-3:45; Investigations 4:00-6:00. Board Members will need to make their room reservations.

[Advisory Committee On Trauma](#)

Chairman Allin reported that the Advisory Committee on Trauma (ACT) addressed the designation of hospitals, and the involvement and consultation from the American College of Surgeons to establish verified trauma centers. He noted that a webcast for this consultation was held on July 31, 2006 to explain the verification process of 12 hospitals who participated in the program. He continued by discussing the web-based trauma registry, the twenty hospitals who participated in the training, and the Board's system (KEMIS) and its ability to interface with the trauma registry. Chairman Allin reiterated that ACT and the trauma registry were very interested in KEMIS to help solve some of those data issues.

New Business

No new business.

Public Comment

Chairman Allin recognized Jon Friesen, Region III EMS Chairman. He explained that a letter had been provided to both Chairman Allin and Mr. Waller about the Regional Board of Director's decision to not sign Memorandum of Agreement regarding testing. He stated that due to the desire to counsel candidates on why they did not pass the practical exam, reworking paperwork processes, and the selection of examiners. Mr. Friesen noted the issue of counseling candidates comes from a desire on behalf of the board of directors to help facilitate for students a more positive testing experience and the understanding of why someone has failed. He continued to discuss the paperwork process and the belief from the Region that it remains cumbersome and prone to errors.

He continued by discussing four problems (from a Region III standpoint). The first is the Regional process of conducting a test, and the notion that the Region is "responsible" for the exam. He reiterated the Region is merely a subcontractor, and should a Region choose not to sign the Memorandum of Agreement to test as Region III has done, it then places that region in a position of being held out as being obstructionist or not being willing to provide for those attendants within the Regions. The second problem is a lack of qualified examination staff and site coordinators. Mr. Sutton asked Region III not to use a particular site coordinator. However, the Region had no other individual to operate the intensive examination process. He remarked that the process had come to the point of consuming Regional funding and responsibilities to the State. He continued by stating that the third was the lack of funding for the examination process. Mr. Frieson stated that the reason that the Regions have the exam was because KBEMS does not have the funding to conduct the exam, and the Regions pass that cost on to the candidates. However, the Regions continue to lose money in operating the exam. Lastly, he said that the exam has distraction the Regions from their original mission which is educational training for ambulance services and attendants in the area.

Chairman Allin thanked Mr. Frieson for his comments and recognized Chy Miller from Hutchinson Community College (HCC). He remarked that HCC supports Region III's decision not to sign the MOA. He noted that the decision does have a major impact for the HCC because of the number of enrolled students in fall classes. He emphasized that because of negotiations between Region III and KBEMS Staff were not a fair or accurate representation of what the Board feels to be necessary. Mr. Miller inquired as to why Mr. Waller did not address the reasons why Region III did not sign the MOA or a discussion of the key elements during the Education and Examination Committee. He directed the Board to take and maintain an active in the upcoming MOA negotiations.

Chairman Allin recognized Cathy Moffett from Alliance Medical. She informed the Board of donated AED from Kansas City area hospitals to the police department during the period of June 29, 2006 to July 28, 2006. She noted that the department has a 41 second response, and that is significant to


the community. Ms. Moffett confirmed that there will be a meeting October 24, 2006 at Johnson County Community College (JCCC).

Chairman Allin thanked the Board, Board Staff, and the public for their participation.

Motion: To adjourn the Board Meeting. Moved by Board Member Boaldin, second by Senator Emler. Motion passed.

Attachments may be requested from the BEMS office at 785-296-7296.

Attachment A—Presentation presented by Robert Waller to the Executive Committee



October 6, 2006

Approved