



# KANSAS

DENNIS ALLIN, M.D., CHAIR  
ROBERT WALLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

## BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

### MINUTES

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

### BOARD MEETING

June 6, 2008

#### Board Members Present

Dr. Dennis Allin  
J.R. Behan  
Deb Kaufman  
Dr. Joel Hornung  
Comm. Duane Mathes  
Col. Dale Wasson  
Comm. Bob Boaldin  
Mike Ryan  
Joe Megredy  
Sen. Jay Emler

#### Guests

David Stithem  
Jeff Smith  
Gary Winter  
Bob Prewitt  
Chy Miller  
Rosanne Rutkowski  
Derek Sobelman  
Dan Leong  
Ken Keller

#### Staff

Robert Waller  
Steve Sutton  
Patti Artzer  
Chrystine Hannon  
Dave Cromwell  
Carman Allen  
Gina Chard

#### Board Members Absent

Sen. Chris Steineger  
Rep. Kasha Kelley  
Rep. Margaret Long

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### CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Behan called the meeting to order on Friday, June 6, 2008 at 9:04 am.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes from the April 4, 2008 Board Meeting.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Motion: Moved by Commissioner Boaldin, seconded by Board Member Megredy to approve the minutes of the April 4th Board Meeting. Motion passed.*

## COMMITTEE REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

### Planning and Operations Committee

Vice Chairman Behan called upon Board Member Megredy to report on the meeting conducted by the Planning and Operations Committee. Board Member Megredy reported that the Committee was updated on the KEMIS project. He stated that the project was on budget, and the Steering Committee had elected to utilize Panasonic Toughbooks as the hardware of choice. Additionally, Mr. Megredy noted that a demo on ImageTrend software was given recently by Imagetrend representatives, and Board staff is now waiting on Kansas Information Technology for (KITO) for final approval.

Board Member Megredy further reported that Dave Cromwell ( EMS Operations Manger) gave the Committee an update on service inspections, and noted that there were no significant issues outside of a few QA, medical society, and protocols issues. Mr. Cromwell further reported that sixty one inspections had been complete to date, and funding for the license plate project, had been forwarded to the Department of Revenue. The plates should be available in three to four months. Board Member Megredy recognized Dave Cromwell for his efforts on the project.

Board Member Megredy advised the Board that, as part of the KBEMS Strategic plan and promoting EMS as a profession, the Committee discussed whether there was interest in a renewed presence by the Board at the State Fair. Board staff were directed to review the creating of a booth at the Fair. Robert Waller, Chief Administrator, was recognized to discuss the Strategic Plan and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) assessment. Mr. Waller explained that a representative from each regional council and association would be invited to the Board retreat to discuss the plan. Nels Sanddal, with the Critical Illness and Trauma Foundation (CIT), would act as the facilitator. Mr. Waller further discussed the Kansas Emergency Medical Services System Approach to the Future (KEMSSAF) Committee and the finalization of their review of authorized activities in preparation for approval during the August Board meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2008 in Salina.

Board Member Megredy reported that the Committee discussed alternate ways to access and broadcast Board meetings to the public. Board staff was directed to research the item and report to the Board at a future meeting.

Lastly Board Member Megredy advised the Committee of the recently published Statewide Deployable Response Resources Committee Charter and the exclusion of KBEMS from the Charter. Board staff continues to develop a homeland security plan for the Board, to be delivered in December 2008.

### Education, Examination, Training and Certification Committee

Chairman Allin called upon Vice Chairman Behan to report on the meeting conducted by the Education, Examination, Training and Certification Committee (EETC). Vice Chairman Behan reported that the Committee was provided with a request from the Educational Development Task Force (EDTF) for support and approval to develop by-laws for the group. Vice Chairman Behan noted that the Chairman of EDTF would develop a letter to go to the regional councils, educational institutions and

State EMS related organizations referencing participation in the EDTF and addressing the lack of participation. The letter would also request information in reference to Educator Conferences for 2008. He continued by noting that EDTF would be utilized as the reviewers of education examination regulations and directed Board staff to provide those documents electronically to the EDTF and the committee members for review. Also, Vice Chairman Behan noted that Board staff would work with EDTF on recommendations for the definition of “substantially equivalent” in applying KSA 65-6129, and provide the committee an update on regulations from 109-5-1 through 109-9-4 which have been sent to the Committee Chair for review. The Committee also discussed K.A.R. 109-6-4 in reference to continuing education and the clarification of requirements for regaining expired certification more than 2 years after expiration, and K.A.R. 109-6-5 addressing the legal recognition process.

Vice Chairman Behan further reported that Board staff provided the Committee with information on the certification of 17 year olds and the assessment test to be provided to 17 year olds. Board staff stated that the issue of the assessment exam for 17 year olds had been discussed with the National Registry, and the process is being finalized. Continuing, he also provided the Board with information presented by the Chief Administrator on the denial of background check authorization by the Legislature. The Chief Administrator, with Board approval, would request re-introduction of the language during the 2009 Legislative session. Vice-Chairman Behan also reported on a survey that was developed by the Board Staff to collect data from those individuals not renewing their certification (this effort was noted in the 2005 Kansas Board of EMS Strategic Plan). A cover letter explaining the reason for the survey and containing a link to the online survey were mailed on April 30, 2008. The survey reported that 846 attendants did not renew their certification during the 2007 renewal cycle, with approximately 10 percent of the surveys returned complete and approximately 20 percent returned undeliverable.

Lastly the Committee reviewed a variance request from Hutchinson Community College (HCC). HCC requested a variance for Richard Sigle to attain I/C status without attending an I/C course. The Committee recommended denial of this request. The Attorney General’s Office stated that there must be proof of hardship for a variance to be approved. The requestor indicated that there was no hardship in this case, other than the hardship caused by outdated regulations.

***Motion: To deny the variance request for Richard Sigle to obtain I/C status without attending an I/C course. Moved by Commissioner Mathes, seconded by Board Member Kaufman. Motion passed.***

### Executive Committee

Chairman Allin called upon Commissioner Bob Boaldin to report on the Executive Committee, who in turn asked Robert Waller, Chief Administrator to give a report. Mr. Waller advised that he provided the Committee with an update of the KRAF grant and those services whose grant applications had been filled, accounts created, and those pending.

Mr. Waller further reported that the Committee was updated on the EMS Planning Contract Committee meeting held between KBEMS, KDHE, and representatives from the EMS regional councils regarding the development of a “best practices” template to assist EMS services in the development of their emergency response plans. The template being developed would assist the services in integrating the plan into day to day operations instead of “separating” all-hazard response from “normal” operations. Mr. Waller reported that the Committee was provided information on the final budget figures for FY 2008/2009. The only difference between the requested KBEMS budget proposal and

“Final Approval” was the addition of a proviso to direct the EMS regional councils to provide a written report detailing and accounting for all expenditures and receipts of each council during each fiscal year.

Mr. Waller continued by providing a legislative update. Mr. Waller explained that although 2008 SB 512 passed, the Board needs to define “substantially equivalent” to finalize the certification process. Also, the new language removes the requirement that a paramedic coming from out of state must become an EMT-B before they request to become certified as a paramedic. The language also addresses the regain issue. Lastly, the bill directs the Board to develop and adopt a formal list of graduated sanctions for violations of Article 61-65. Continuing, Mr. Waller discussed 2008 SB 438, which prohibits employers from terminating any employee because the employee serves as a volunteer EMT, and noted the bill may require some language clean up. He also discussed 2008 HB 2617, which allows a law enforcement officer to request a certified attendant, authorized under medical protocols, to conduct a blood draw. He explained that language requested by KBEMS was not approved and discussed issues that may need to be addressed in the future. Mr. Waller stated a letter would be sent to the service directors advising them of medical protocols that need to be written in relation to dealing with the blood draw, and advised the services that they need to sit down with their law enforcement agency and discuss the language.

Continuing, Mr. Waller reported to the Committee on the initiation of the STEMI Initiative. The new community-based initiative implemented by the American Heart Association (AHA) was developed to improve systems of care to treat STEMI patients. The focus of the initiative is to increase the number of patients with timely access to primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), also known as angioplasty (a procedure in which a tiny wire is inserted into the blocked area of a person’s artery and a balloon is inflated to re-open the artery and restore blood flow to the heart). He remarked that KBEMS, AHA, and KDHE have selected Region II (SW) as the pilot/model to begin the project. A presentation would be made to the regional council on June 18, 2008 in Meade. The STEMI Steering Committee would also make presentations on June 10, 2008 to the Kansas Hospital Association, and Western Plains Regional Medical Center (Dodge City, KS).

Mr. Waller also presented information to the Committee on the Veterans and Paramedics Transition Act. Board staff has been working with Senator Klobuchar from Minnesota, Congressman Moran, and Senator Roberts on federal legislation to allow a better transition from military services to civilian technician. For Kansas, this was addressed through the passage of 2008 SB 512 in relation to moving from accreditation to equivalency. The issues that have not been resolved are the requirements that the soldiers seeking MICT certification must come from an accredited program, and have an Associates degree. Also, the issue of funding being directed at the development of transitional curriculum as opposed to recruitment and retention efforts must also be addressed upon introduction and debate the bill. Board staff will advise the Board when and if the bill is introduced in Congress.

Mr. Waller further discussed the regulatory review process. He explained that the process would start internally with Board staff identifying which regulations needed to be reviewed. A committee of Board staff, Board members, and reviewers (service directors or educators), and the Attorney General’s office would be convened to review the development of language for, review and preliminarily approval by to the Board before it is forward to the regional councils for their review. Once final Board approval has been met the language starts the official state regulatory review and approval process.

***Motion: To accept the regulatory review process to be used by each Committee in the review and approval of regulation process . Moved by Senator Emler, seconded by Commissioner Boaldin. Motion passed.***

Lastly, Mr. Waller advised the Board that the representatives from the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) had contacted the Board office and asked if the Board of EMS requires, recommends, or endorses the use of animals in its educational curriculum for intubation or chest compression training. Mr. Waller will stated that a response is being developed Senator Emler recommended responding that this is not an issue for KBEMS.

### **Budget/Office Update**

Chairman Allin called upon Robert Waller, Chief Administrator, to give a Budget/Office update. Mr. Waller reported that an e-mail was sent out to the Board members to set a date for the strategic plan one day meeting.

### **Advisory Committee on Trauma**

Chairman Allin reported that there is a self assessment of the trauma system being conducted by the American College of Surgeons (ACS) as the facilitator on October 25 and 26, 2008. He also discussed the Kansas Hospital Association's (KHA) development of templates for transfer agreements between hospitals on trauma patients, and updated the Board on the a trauma outcomes performance improvement class sponsored by the Kansas Trauma Program's Society of Trauma Nurses, in Salina on September 12 ,2008 . Dr. Allin also discussed the process to award a ATLS scholarship. The contact is Debbie Hall at KHA. He also noted that the annual trauma meeting of the executive committee is scheduled November 7, 2008 in Salina.

Chairman Allin further reported that when reviewing run reports via trauma registry, it was noted that run sheets were received and completed 66 percent of the time upon arrival, and the issue of information being obtained in a timely manner by the emergency department (ER) must be studied and addressed.

Chairman Allin requested that Dr. Hornung discuss the Medical Director Program and the meetings. Dr. Hornung advised the Board that the committee (made up of several agencies and associations) is initiating a statewide medical director's education program and are in the process of finalizing a survey to be provided to all the medical directors for their input. He remarked that the development of the survey was to ascertain the level of knowledge a medical director possess and, how education on EMS operations could be better provided and obtained (through internet or CME meetings or listserv). The group is reviewing an online program created by the Critical Illness and Trauma Foundation (CIT) of which the state can purchase an open subscription to provide any medical director access. Chairman Allin thanked Dr. Hornung for his work on this project.

### **Public Comment**

Chairman Allin recognized Jason Bolt (Stafford County EMS Director) as the EMS Representative on the Committee for Emergency Planning and Response Committee (CEPR) who discussed KBEMS representation on the Committee. Senator Emler advised the Board that they now have a seat on the Committee.

### **Executive Session**

There was no executive session.

*Motion: To adjourn the Board Meeting at 11:30 a.m. Moved by Vice Chairman Behan, seconded by Commissioner Boaldin. Motion passed.*

The Investigations Committee meeting will be conducted at 11:30 a.m.

*Robert Wall*

August 1, 2008

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Approved