

**Board Meeting Minutes  
June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**APPROVED**  
**8/7/2015**

**Board Members Present**

Dr. Joel Hornung - Chair  
Dir. Chad Pore – Vice-Chair  
Mr. Dennis Franks  
Comm. Ricky James  
Dir. Deb Kaufman  
Chief Shane Pearson  
Dir. John Ralston  
Dr. Martin Sellberg  
Sen. Oletha Faust-Goudeau

**Guests**

Terry David  
Rosa Spainhour  
Dan Hudson  
Kerry McCue  
Eric Voss  
Jeb Burrese  
Rod Pace  
Jeri Smith

**Representing**

Rice Co. EMS  
Kiowa County EMS  
KU Hospital  
Region I/Ellis Co. EMS  
Concordia Fire/EMS  
Butler Co. CC  
Region VI EMS  
Arkansas City EMS

**Staff**

Joe House – Exec Dir  
Curt Shreckengast – Dep Dir.  
Dave Cromwell  
Wendy Gronau  
Carrie Doud  
Chrystine Hannon  
Suzette Smith  
Ann Stevenson  
Nance Young

**Attorney General Staff**

Sarah Fertig

**Board Members Absent**

Rep. Broderick Henderson  
Comm. Keith Olsen  
Sen. Mitch Holmes  
Dr. David Kingfisher

## Call to Order

Chairman Hornung called the Board Meeting to order on Thursday, June 4, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

The first order of business was to approve the April 3, 2015 minutes.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Director Ralston made a motion to approve the April 3, 2015 minutes as provided; Director Kaufman seconded. No discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.*

## COMMITTEE REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS

### Planning and Operations Committee

Chairman Hornung called upon Chief Pearson to give the Planning and Operations Committee Report. Chief Pearson reported to the Board:

- The EMS Board has received a contract for a booth at the State Fair. Ambulance Services will be encouraged to participate and commit to a twelve hour shift where they will display their ambulance and provide personnel.
- Board staff will be distributing coupons to the approximately six thousand students attending the state fair from numerous high school marching bands. The coupons will invite the students to stop by the booth to obtain information on the Education Incentive Grant.
- Dave reported approximately 98 ambulance service inspections have been completed this year. 12 of those services have received outstanding inspections.
- K.A.R. 109-2-6 is now at the Attorney General's office and should be back and published in the Kansas Register for the sixty day comment period by the August board meeting.
- Region III and MERGe announced they will be providing medical support for the Symphony in the Flint Hills on June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- KEMSA reported several of their board members were delegates to participate with EMS on the Hill in Washington D.C.
- KEMTA reported they may be changing their conference to February for next year.

### Education, Examination, Training and Certification Committee

Chairman Hornung called upon Director Kaufman to give the EETC Committee report. Director Kaufman reported to the board:

- There are approximately 242 attendants that need to transition.

- A BLS examination contract has been offered again to the vendor. The vendor is waiting for the contract and approval from the Office of Procurement. Director House and Deputy Director Shreckengaust will be following up with the vendor and Procurement office to secure the contract extension.
- Jason Bolt has resigned as the chair for EDTF. Chad Pore gave a short history to the committee of the EDTF. There are volunteers to assist with the committee so it was decided to take this opportunity to re-group and see what the regions think about this process and also get a report on what EDTF has been working on to bring it back to the next meeting.
- The committee discussed regulations 109-5-1 and 109-5-2. Additional language changes will be made by Deputy Director Shreckengaust to 109-5-1.
- The committee discussed Kansas Continued Competency which is moving forward with four regulation changes to 109-5-1a through 109-5-1d.
- K.A.R. 109-8-1 is also moving forward with language changes.

#### New Business

- The committee discussed the educator I-C candidate process. Barton County Community College and Johnson County Community College are willing to do a pilot program utilizing the performance appraisal for instructor/coordinator classes this summer. A motion was brought forward to approve the I-C performance appraisal as a pilot for the upcoming I-C courses.

***Director John Ralston made a motion to approve the performance evaluation for provisional educators to be included as part of the mentor packet. Chad Pore seconded. The motion carried.***

- Chad Pore presented a report to the committee on the TO1 pilot course he taught. He came back with information as a follow up to the course. The students had some suggestions for him.
- The committee discussed that there are state regulations limiting the TO class to 21 hours so the committee will research regulation 109-10-1f to see where to go once the report comes back.
- Wendy Gronau will begin working on the process for gathering information for pilot courses. We need to know what qualifies as a pilot course, the application for the course including justification, documentation for the course, course delivery, reasons for the course, and then follow up at intervals.
- Field education inspections and audits are progressing well per a report from Inspector James Reed. Some items continue to be an issue such as rosters and certificates of attendance. Staff will continue to work with services to clear those up. Because of some of the items that have come up, it is recommended that a letter be

- sent to the I-C's and program directors for education that addresses the requirement for Kansas certification, ALS testing notification, clinical and field internship parameters within the syllabus and course schedules, assuring that clinical and field internship agreements are current and valid, and the use of rosters for initial courses of instruction. The intent of the letter is to bring attention to those requirements.
- There have been visits from educational staff to Region 2 EMS, Region 6 EMS, Barton County Community College TO II Class, and the regulations meeting in Salina. The Field Operations day for Hutchinson Community College is scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - Wendy Gronau was welcomed by the committee as the new manager of education and credentialing.

### Executive Committee

Chairman Hornung called upon Dennis Franks to give the Executive Committee report. Mr. Franks reported to the board:

- A legislative update of the 2015 Session found no changes since April.
- Dr. Jacobsen with the Medical Advisory Council presented a report to the committee but noted the meeting did not have a quorum. Therefore, the action items listed below were tabled until the July meeting.
  - The Flex EMS update
  - The proposed DEA regulation changes to eliminate standing orders for controlled substances
  - The I-Gel airway
  - The privatization of CARES

### Old Business

- The KRAF grant is still in the process of completion.
- Director Joe House attended the Regulatory Revision Meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup> and shared that some areas of note were the AEMT level of certification and education issues, accountability at the individual and board level, and the need for strong, quality local medical direction. Director House requested these items be presented to the Board for inclusion in the strategic planning later this year.

### Public Comment

- Ron Marshall with the Kansas Hospital Association and Kansas Hospital Education and Research Foundation (KHERF) discussed with the committee changes occurring in rural health care. Specifically, the problems critical access hospitals are experiencing making ends meet due to changes in healthcare and the impact on rural health needs. Mr. Marshall noted there is grant funding available for meetings to bring together key players to address potential changes. KHERF is seeking EMS representation from the regions to participate in these meetings. Changes that have

been discussed include development of emergency departments for 12 and 24 hour observation.

### Investigations Committee

Chairman Hornung called on Director Pore to give the Investigations Committee report.

Director Pore reported to the board:

- The committee reviewed 14 cases: 1 from 2013, 1 from 2014 and 12 from 2015.
- A few items were cleared from the consent agenda. One was a complaint of falsification of patient care reports due to inaccurate blood pressures. The investigation did not find evidence that a violation actually occurred. Another item was for reciprocity that was denied to an individual who had received disciplinary action in Texas because he did not comply with our investigator's request for documentation.
- There were two cases from April that were discussed where action was taken on individuals and there were cases on the service that were tabled and left open with some requests of the service to provide follow up. Director House was asked to send a letter to the service to update their inter-facility transfer policy regarding the use of the term "stock solutions". The policy was updated and the case was closed this month. The second case involved a service where the patient care reporting system automatically signed the crew's names to all their reports when they clock out at the end of the day. The committee was concerned the attendant may not have actually read the report. Director House sent the service a letter and the service changed their system so it does not automatically sign the reports. This case has been closed.
- A complaint was received from a hospital that an agency took too long for an inter-facility transfer. The investigation determined there is not sufficient evidence to support a violation. The case was closed. Director Pore did note that inter-facility transfers continue to be a big issue facing EMS.
- There were several complaints against one agency where an attendant was practicing outside of the scope. The attendant attempted to start IVs on multiple occasions after the class had ended. There was a lot of confusion by the attendant as to when the class actually ended and the committee felt there was no accountability. As corrective action, the committee is requiring the attendant to put together a presentation and present at two educator workshops in the next 12 months. If the attendant does not comply, they will receive an automatic 90 day certification suspension. The case against the agency has been tabled and opened for further investigation. The Committee asked the investigator to reopen the case as the Chief received a complaint that more AEMT's were practicing outside the scope of practice by administering medications on transfers that aren't approved on the medication list. The investigator was asked to reopen the investigation on the agency dating back to January 1, 2014.
- The committee discussed three cases out of an agency: one against the agency and two against individuals for practicing outside of the scope of practice. Two EMT's

transported patients with antibiotic drips. The committee accepted local action, which was to send out information to the entire department on scope of practice.

- The last three cases dealt with a medication error on a pediatric cardiac arrest where the wrong dose of Epinephrine was administered. After a very thorough investigation by the service, changes were implemented in multiple organizations throughout the county to prevent future occurrences. Since this was a first time offense, the committee accepted local action and closed those cases.

### Office Update

Chairman Hornung called on Director House to give the office update. Director House reported to the board:

- Wendy Gronau resigned her position on the Board to accept the Education Manager position. The office of appointments is working to fill the Board vacancy for an attendant. They have received three applications so far.
- Director House re-contacted House Speaker Merrick to ask him to name a representative to replace Vern Swanson.
- Director House wanted to make the Board aware of three items from the NASEMSO meeting he attended in San Antonio:
  1. The Interstate Compact update
    - Colorado was the first state to pass the Interstate Compact.
    - Virginia failed to pass for reasons unknown at this time.
    - Missouri did attempt to get approval this session and failed. They plan to bring it back next session.
    - In Texas the compact was introduced without the EMS office knowing about it. After a lot of positive comments, it is expected to pass this session.
    - The Interstate Compact is in the Committee on Federal and State Affairs in both chambers and will stay alive at least through the next session.
  2. Oklahoma State University and the State EMS office from Oklahoma developed a budget generator tool designed specifically for rural EMS services. They have made the tool available to any service that requests it. Director House will post a link to their website on the BEMS website.
  3. The EMS Compass Initiative
    - Develops EMS performance measures across country that will eventually be recognized as standards.
    - They have received over three hundred performance measure items.
    - There will be 10 public comment webinars scheduled from June 15<sup>th</sup> to June 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Three ambulance services failed to renew their permit by April 30<sup>th</sup>. On May 1<sup>st</sup> all three services were notified by phone to stop their operations. Each did stop and

- executed their established mutual aid agreements until they were able to get their renewals resolved.
- All the regulations that were voted on last meeting went into effect May 1, 2015 and are now updated on the agency website.
  - Director House said internally staff will be looking at the regulations with a new set of eyes due to turnover to ensure we as an agency are getting what we say we need in order to function. The focus will be on consistency. This will hold our agency more accountable for following our own regulations.
  - BEMS provided a letter to Kansas University Medical Center in support of the Paul Coverdale Stroke Grant which has helped with the Northwest Kansas Heart and Stroke Initiative.
  - Director House discussed the possibility of a furlough and the impact on the agency. The majority of the week has been spent trying to figure out what our plan will be for operations starting Sunday. A proposed list of essential and non-essential personnel was sent to the Director of Personnel Services for approval. The Director will be meeting with staff at 10am on June 5<sup>th</sup> to make them aware of how the furlough will work. The anticipated impact for the agency is a delay in processing applications and a significant delay in receiving answers to questions.
  - Director House commended Sedgwick County EMS professionals and Cowley County Community College for their part in helping a terminally ill patient realize his dream of becoming a paramedic. Unfortunately, he passed away before he was able to complete the coursework. Kyle's family was presented an honorary certificate and roll call certificate during his funeral on February 10<sup>th</sup> of this year.
  - The National EMS Memorial Service is in Colorado Springs and the Weekend of Tribute starts on June 25<sup>th</sup> in Littleton, Colorado and will conclude on the 28<sup>th</sup> in Colorado Springs. The National EMS Memorial Service is on Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. There will be a national moment of silence to include 30 seconds of radio silence during the memorial service. This will be the last year the service will be held in Colorado Springs. Next year it will be moved back to Virginia.
  - Those in attendance were invited to the Great Overland Station from 5:00pm-7:30pm this evening for a reception that chronicles the history of fires in and around the City of Topeka. The guest speaker has been a certified EMT providing medical and fire response in Topeka for 29+ years.

### Public Comment

Chairman Hornung called for public comment.

- Terry David reported that Congressman Huelskamp has joined the EMS caucus. He joins Representatives Yoder and Jenkins who were already on the caucus. Representative Pompeo is the only one not on the caucus but they will continue their efforts to recruit him. Mr. David also said the Field EMS bill has been re-introduced

last week in the U.S. House of Representatives and a couple of senators for re-introduction on the senate side. If passed, EMS would be put under Health and Human Services which could take a serious look at funding for treatment. There is a form letter on the NAEMT website to send to our congressional representatives. Terry encouraged everyone to send this letter in support of the bill. EMS would benefit financially and politically on a national front if the bill passes. And finally, Mr. David reported that the first class of The Principles of Ethics and Leadership Program will be taught here in Kansas in Hutchinson in June of this year. The majority of the cost of tuition and books will be covered by FLEX money from the Department of Health and Environment. The FLEX money is primarily to assist rural and frontier EMS providers. Five people will be trained as instructors.

- Director Pore received an email that EMS1 has a columnist doing a story on people who have been in EMS for more than 30 years, but aren't common names we have heard about. If anyone knows of people in their communities who have been in EMS for over 30 years, send an email to Director Pore or EMS1 to share the story.
- Mr. Franks asked Director House to put together data by region on which facilities are non-volunteer versus volunteer. He then asked the Director to see what the top three concerns are by region.

***A motion to adjourn was made by Director Ralston to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Franks seconded. The motion carried. Dr. Hornung adjourned the meeting at 3:44pm.***

The next meeting will be on August 7, 2015.