



K A N S A S

DENNIS ALLIN, M.D., CHAIR
DAVID LAKE, ADMINISTRATOR

BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

MINUTES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

BOARD MEETING

October 7, 2005

Board Members Present

Jim McClain
Michael Ryan
Rep. Kasha Kelley
J. R. Behan
Sen. Jay Emler
Joe Megredy
Sen. Chris Steineger
Dale Wasson
Rep. Margaret Long

Board Members Absent

Dr. Allin
Comm. Duane Mathes
Dr. Daniel Caliendo
Comm. Bob Boaldin

Guests

Pam Kemp
Con Olson
Kerry McCue
Terry David
Rosanne Rutkowski
Jeff Smith
Dalene Deck
Mitch Miller
Mike Simmons
John Hultgren
Kaci Mellen

Wendy Cronau
Frank Williams
Ken Keller
Rusty Walters
Rebecca Hill
Jon E. Frieson
Dale A. Cathey
David Stithem
Steve Isaacson
Chad Pore

Staff

David Lake
Steve Sutton
Mary E. Mulryan
Joe Moreland
Jean Claude Kandagaye
Dave Cromwell
Randy Cardonell

CALL TO ORDER

J. R. Behan: Meeting called to order at 9:05.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

J. R. Behan: Are there any additions or corrections to the minutes, if not do I have a motion to approve them? *Joe Megredy:* I move to approve the minutes. *Jim McClain:* Second. *J. R. Behan:* Motion and seconded to approve the minutes of August 5. Any other discussion? All those in favor say aye. Any opposed? Motion passed.

OFFICE UPDATE

David Lake:

- * Good morning. Welcome and thank you for coming to the Manor Conference Center for our meeting today. I would like to especially thank Region III for the refreshments.
- * I express my sincere appreciation to staff for the hard work that goes on every day. I think the staff is doing a tremendous job.
- * I need to introduce the newest staff member to the Board. Randy Cardonell please stand up. I think probably everybody knows Randy. Randy is from Tribune, Kansas. I think you remember when we went to the Legislature and ask to add a position to our Board staff. Our priority was to place this position in Western Kansas to eliminate some travel. Should anyone question whether Randy is from Western Kansas or not, look and see what his watch is set on. It is on mountain standard time. Randy thank you for joining us. He spent most of the first two weeks in Topeka working with Dave Cromwell who was walking him through the process of inspections. He conducted some inspections with Dave. He did some on his own and now he is back out in Greeley County in Tribune. He is actively doing inspections and with the evaluations that we are getting back, we are very pleased with Randy. I appreciate your interest in those services and I very much appreciate the comments that they are sending back knowing that there is someone out there with a rural EMS background. I appreciate what you are doing out there.
- * Randy has been very active in EMS since he has been in Kansas. He has a long health care career. He is an active participant on the Greeley County EMS in Tribune and he also currently serves as the president of Region II, Southwest Kansas EMS. When we offered Randy the job, the first thing he said, does this mean I have to give up my position with Greeley County EMS? I said absolutely not. It is not our goal to take somebody off the role of patient care and I think as it has been proven in some of the evaluations, it means a lot to those services to know there is somebody on the same page with them as an active provider in patient care on a volunteer status as he is. He also asked if he would have to give up his position of President of Southwest Kansas EMS, Region II. And again I said, absolutely not. There isn't any reason to. We work very closely with the Regions. They are very strong partners of ours and I think his leadership was demonstrated because they voted him in that position and I think it is very important that he continue to serve. In some respects that shows our participation and our involvement with those regions and also with ambulance services. I did encourage him to maintain that affiliation with both of those services. He also in the past represented Region II on the Planning and Coordination Council as President. We are encouraging Randy to come back to Board meetings as a member of staff. I think it is important that he is here. Conversations about inspections, etc., are important. I also think that as President of Region II he has every right to continue to sit on the panel and participate in discussions and offer those reports if necessary. That is not a problem for our agency. If that is a problem with the Regions or Greeley County EMS, I am not aware of it.
- * Randy is not the only one in the family with EMS interests. Randy has a daughter, Cassie, who has been active in the Region and also comes to the meetings. She is an EMT and an instructor/coordinator. She is about to graduate

from K-State. His son Brad is a freshman at KU and he also is an EMT-I waiting on the results of his "D" class. They are a very active family in EMS in Western Kansas. Welcome Randy. We are very glad to have you on board.

* Also since we met last time I have made a major decision in my life. I'm sure most of you probably know by now. I am going to retire from KPERS effective December 1. I began my EMS career in April of 1967 with Great Bend Fire and Ambulance. That is 38 years that I have been an active provider and actively involved. I am soon to be 62 years old. I have assured members of the Board and anybody that would like some assistance in any endeavor, in working with the Legislature, Budgetary, or whatever, to just ask. When I accepted the job in February of 1999 there were five active bills in the Legislature to eliminate the Board of EMS. Two of those were to consolidate the Board into a major public safety agency. That was kind of the standard thing for a while. There were three bills that were introduced by Legislators who had issues with some function of the Board of EMS in some capacity. My first task was to visit with several Legislators and explain what our goal is and what we are trying to do. What we have done in the last seven years has been the result of a lot of dedicated people with EMS and a lot of hard work on the part of that dedication. We have accomplished a few things in the last several years that I am glad I was able to be a part of. I want to express sincere appreciation to the Kansas EMS community for the way you guys have come together and worked together. This is my last official meeting.

* The KEMSA conference was held in Overland Park. It was the largest KEMSA conference ever. It was very successful. Thanks to KEMSA for the quality learning experience. Keep up the good work.

* Mary Mulryan and I attended the Rural Health Conference in Washington, D. C. Mary went and represented the AED component of the grant we received and I was with Dick Morrissey and Chris Tilden representing the Rural Health FLEX Program. It is a mandatory grantees meeting and they build that money into that grant and tell you that you have to come to it. The weather was beautiful. Mary's husband went with her. They got a tour of the White House and the Capitol Building. Comm. Boaldin made the arrangements. Both tours were VIP and very informational. My meeting schedule didn't allow me to attend. It was a very good meeting. What is exciting about that meeting is that everyone there is a rural health provider at some level. Also what is important to us is how HRSA and the Federal Government look at the involvement of EMS providers in Kansas. They are recognizing the EMS profession as a key and primary component of the rural health care system. To invite us to the table and support the things that we do is very rewarding. EMS nationwide has come a long way recently.

* With regard to the Rural AEDs we are working right now on the last year of the current year cycle. We will be distributing 54 AEDs in the not to distant future. We are basing the distribution on those people who submitted applications over the last few years that we weren't able to address. We are making sure that everybody that has requested at anytime in the three year history of AEDs with us is going to receive something. If you look in our budget submission, Mary developed a map that shows where all the AEDS have been placed in Kansas through this program and it is pretty impressive.

* Mary has also developed another map in the budget that shows the placement of new attendants through the Education Incentive grant program. That is also pretty impressive. We are hoping when the Legislature looks at our budget and sees those kinds of things that it will display how important those programs have added to the rural health component.

- * The Executive Committee and the Investigations Committee have both met by teleconference in September. The Executive Committee met in order to approve the final budget that was submitted. We did submit the budget. We asked for two enhancements: Continuation of the Education Incentive Grant and another \$200,000 for the implantation of a statewide data collection project. The news that we have gotten since is not all that positive with regard to our enhancements. There are issues that are going to be facing the Legislature again this year. One of education and one of Medicaid. I expect that when we get our Division of the Budget recommendation that the enhancements will not be in there. Which means we will go to them and appeal and try to impress upon them the importance of those projects to rural health and to EMS and hope that through that effort and testimony with Legislative Committees that we can accomplish those things and get them included in our budget.
- * I was invited to participate in the graduation and pinning ceremony for Garden City MICT class. That was especially rewarding because that was the class that they put on pretty much by Telenet. We have established a consortium of Community Colleges that included Colby, Garden, Dodge and Liberal. Pratt and Great Bend thought at one time they might be a part of that, but when it came down to the first class, Seward County, Garden and Dodge were the only participates. They started a second class most recently and once again those are the only three schools in it. We had hoped to get Colby included in that.
- * I met with the KAC Board earlier this month. Talked about our Legislative agenda and talked with them about the regionalization of the MERGe project for a local response to a tragedy. Surprisingly enough they were not very familiar with that, but they seemed to be very interested in it when I gave them some of the very basic details of what we are trying to accomplish.
- * Mary Mulryan and I met with Mike McNulty from the Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) last week who is in charge now of the Bioterrorism Project and they have earmarked a like amount of money for this year for those regions to continue in that process if they contract and consent to continue with that regionalization concept. Terry David gave a presentation to North Central EMSC Conference last week and a there was a lot of interest in that project.
- * We started on-line renewal Thursday, September 29, 2005. Friday we mailed out renewals. If your certificate expires December 31, you should have your renewal papers in the mail. We mailed them just like we always have. If you don't have it or know people who didn't get it, there is a rather large stack of them that have returned to our office. You need to make sure your address is current with us. They can go on-line and renew without that paper if they know there new identification number. Steve and I were the first ones to renew on-line. It was very quick and very easy and error free. We have had to date 34 people that have renewed on line.
- * In closing, thank you all for what you do for EMS.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Executive Committee—Mr. Jim McClain

- * We have two meetings to report on. The first was the teleconference meeting September 12 at which time the committee adopted on behalf of the Board the budget in the total amount of

\$1,090,859 which is nearly identical to the amount of the 06 Fiscal Year. As stated we also recommended the consideration of two enhancements, \$200,000 for Education Incentive Grant Program and also \$200,000 for data collection.

☒ In regards to that we also have a recommendation for Legislation to make it very clear that the Board has the authority to develop and administer a data collection program. There is some minor reference in the current statute. Is that right Mary Feighny? **Mary Feighny:** Yes, but it is not very clear so we decided to make it “Crystal Clear”. Then we will have regulatory authority to have a regulation for that. **Jim McClain:** So that is a recommendation for legislation at this point.

☒ We also discussed on-line renewal as David mentioned, it seems to be going well.

☒ David, any further comment on National Scope of Practice? **David Lake:** I would just encourage everyone to access the final draft from our webpage and read it and see what you think. Draw your conclusions about where it is going nationally. It has gone to NITSA for their approval.

☒ We also had some discussion on the new testing program from IO Solutions. **David Lake:** The first meeting is October 11, next Tuesday in Salina. The group will set down and start establishing standards.

☒ We had a brief discussion on the Administrator’s position and I believe there is a memo in our packets pertaining to this. **David Lake:** You have a memo in your packet on the process. Dr. Allin and I have talked on several occasions on how we would like for that to go. I put that in there and asked for your comments back to us on what you think about that process. Basically in a nutshell, the Executive Committee will serve as a screening group and they will meet and determine some kind of standards and then look at those applications and make recommendations to the full Board for an interview process.

Jim McClain: That is all I have to report.

Planning and Coordination Committee—Joe Megredy

☒ All 13 organizations were represented yesterday.

☒ Terry David gave us a report on the Statewide MERGe project which each region is receiving \$14,500 this year. He presented us with a matrix of the progress. For the most part there are two phases. Phase One is pretty much complete with Region II who still need to schedule some training. There is still some indication that the Regions are struggling a little bit with their ability to commit staff and resources to their neighbors. I think there have been some discussions on some partnerships with neighboring regions to accomplish that goal. It sounds like all six regions are still pretty interested in this project and will work with Terry in the future.

☒ We talked about our strategic plan.

☒ We reviewed three brochures that were developed by Board Staff and approved those. There will be a little modification to them. Updating, etc. The intent is to be made available to new attendants. They just educate on who the Board of EMS is, who the Regions are, etc.

☒ Two other goals in the strategic plan that we discussed. One is access to and information of Air medical transport. I think it was determined that goal might already be completed and has been worked on and developed through the Regional Trauma Councils and I think Board staff if going to verify that with each of those regions and make sure. So that particular goal may be completed.

- ✱ The other one that we had some discussion on was a degree program for service directors. For EMS management. We had discussion about whether there was interest with the Community Colleges or not. I think the service director's workshop taskforce is willing to get together and look and see if there is some interest in this and what they need to do.
- ✱ Each Region reported on their activities. The last two months they are all making progress with MERGe. Region I is offering the Last Chance Seminar in the first part of November. Region II has hired Kathy Dooley for their Regional Director and Capitol Day is scheduled for February 1. Region III reported that Terry David has been appointed as the Interim Director and will serve in that capacity for 6 months. Region IV is looking at hosting TO1 and TO2 programs. Pam talked about her data collection project that they are doing. It is up and running and they have input about 1200 calls so far. Region V has their educational conference in Lawrence, November 5 and an upcoming paramedic refresher and PHLIS program. Region VI reported on their website and they are on track to begin testing applicants in the near future.
- ✱ We heard a report on KEMSAs program and they talked about the success of that. 365 people attended that.
- ✱ Firefighters association reported on Regional Schools.
- ✱ Gene Krause talked to us a little on Emergency Management and updated us on their response to the Hurricane Disaster and basically what they were doing. They are sending a 14 member team into the Mississippi area.

Investigations—Joe Megredy

- ✱ We heard seven cases yesterday. Five of those cases were new. We were able to close four of the seven. We tabled one. It is a pretty extensive case. It involves in the neighborhood of 14+ complaints. We tabled that so that Dr. Allin could participate in that discussion in December. This case involves things such as abuse, falsification of records, forgery, poor instruction and inadequate training, missing equipment, battery types of issues, so it is pretty involved and pretty extensive and we felt we needed us all there to discuss it.
- ✱ Our goal is to work out consent agreements if we can and avoid going to hearings. We had a number of those cases that we were able to close because the consent orders had been met. Three of those were protocols violations and self reports and we accepted the local action on those cases.
- ✱ Two other cases, one involved narcotics for personal use. That person tested positive for opiates. We instructed the AGs' office to issue a summary order to revoke that certification and that person has 15 days to request a hearing.

Sen. Emler: Mary, one question that came up yesterday in regard to this particular case was notification and whether or not we have a good address. I think the consensus of the committee was that sending it to the last known address, similarly to a driver license issue, is sufficient, but we weren't quite positive, so what is your input? **Mary Feighny:** Last known address is sufficient. **Sen. Emler:** Because it is their responsibility to advise us what their correct address is. Okay, thank you.

Joe Megredy:

- ✱ The last case was a little disappointing. We offered a consent agreement to the individual and it backed us into a corner. He refused to sign the consent agreement and asked to

appear before the committee to talk about his case. We decided to grant him that request and then decide what direction we will take with that.

Education and Examination—J. R. Behan

We had a very lengthy meeting. We heard reports from Steve as usual.

- ✳ One big item is on-going reports from Hutchinson Community College complying with our variance stipulated back in April. We had a pretty lengthy report from them and I think the committee was glad to hear some of the things they had to say, especially from Dr. Denton. He has been working with them and they are getting most of their problems addressed. Chy Miller has taken over as the program coordinator there. We took in quite a few reports about their program. There are still four students from this last class that have not tested yet. Everybody else has at least tested. Whether or not they passed, we really don't know all of them for sure. Dr. Denton is doing follow up with most of those students employers.
- ✳ We received a report from Joe on the status of our regulation review and they should be ready about October 28 and then go to the 60 day public comment period at which time we will have a couple of hearings and move forward with that, so those are on track.
- ✳ We talked about the elimination of the EMT-D certification, whether or not to approve any more additional EMT-D courses and we decided to table that until we can look into a couple of things a little bit further. I think there is a letter in your packets this morning from the Educators with their position on that.
- ✳ We did listen to two variances, one that we will need action on. It was a variance from Coffeyville Community College to add distance learning to their program provider. They want to do a course the length of a semester and offer credit for that in continuing education. It will be under their program provider. They would need to report back in the June of 06 meeting and the period of time that was identified in their proposal was indefinite which needs to be changed. *Jim McClain: I move that the recommendation of the Education Committee be approved. Dale Wasson: I second. J. R. Behan: Any other discussion? All in favor say aye. Opposed? Motion passed.*
- ✳ Our second variance was also from Coffeyville Community College about their proposal to have IO Solutions to write the Paramedic exam. We had a good discussion with lots of input, but there are still some questions that people have. We do want to have the staff or David to write a letter to the KOA and ask their position on programs that they accredit. Signing off on their skills or what their position on that end of it would be. One of the big reasons why we didn't move with IO Solutions last time was that we don't have any way right now to test Paramedic skills since we are using the National Registry. We will be back on top of that in December.

FY 2006 Budget Update

David Lake: You have the spreadsheet in front of you for the Budget and you can see that through the month of September, three months into the year, ¼ of the way into the fiscal year, we have expended 26% of the budget, so we are on track. Our Insurance premiums will not start arriving until mid-November. We are seeing some agency income with attendant renewals. We are on track with the budget. I will answer any questions that you might have.

Rural Health Options

David Lake: The Board of EMS is included in the next Rural Health FLEX Grant just like it has been for the last five or six years. As I mentioned before, the view of EMS in HRSA and Rural Health is very well recognized, identified, and supported. Our working relationship with Health and Environment and the Rural Health FLEX program will continue. That is one of those budgets, that federally, at the national level once again is being very closely reviewed because they are looking for places to free up some funding for the unplanned emergencies that have happened recently. I believe that the relationship with Rural Health and KDHE will continue as long as the federal funding is available.

Advisory Committee on Trauma

Rosanne Rutkowski: Good morning. Just a couple of highlights on the Advisory Committee on Trauma.

- ✿ I think it was mentioned at the last meeting that each of the six regional trauma councils have written a plan and submitted it to the ACT. They reviewed that and did recommend that they be approved. There were some recommendations that will go back to the regions with those plans.
- ✿ One of the outcomes of that is there was a lot of reference to the Trauma Registry that we have and the things that we are expecting out of that.
- ✿ We do have an epidemiologist on board now at KDHE and he can work on the Trauma Registry which is wonderful. He is still working with me on developing benchmarks for the Region in addition to the 58 that we currently have. What we are doing is providing back to the hospitals an individual report of how they have met a benchmark. We will do that for each of the hospitals and then we will also do a regional report. We are hoping to try to get data back out of the Registry and make it very useful.
- ✿ It has been five years since we have had the registry so we need to renew the contract. We need to re-bid. We want to move into a web based system. The current vendor that we have is Digital Innovation, Inc. You have in your packets this morning an invitation. We are bringing Digital Innovation to our state and what I want them to do is to download the web based trauma registry that they have, but they also have a pre hospital database too, and it could be possible that with the re-bidding process we could get the pre hospital web based in the bid also.
- ✿ Please come to the Public Library on October 21, 2005 to view a demonstration of the system.
- ✿ We do have a couple of appointments on the ACT that were out for renewal or appointment. Pam Kemp was reappointed to her position as a Rural EMS Administrator and then Bob Prewitt, was appointed as a KEMTA representative.

David Lake:

- ✿ You have a meeting schedule in your packet for next year. For some reason October is a real conflict with Pozez Education Center and with Landon. Please look at October 2006. We have scheduled this meeting to be held in Salina at the Kansas Highway Patrol Academy. If that is problematic for you as a Board, let me know. You may remember, in the past we have had a meeting in Wichita, we have had a meeting in Garden City and we have had a meeting in Hays. If there are concerns with Salina, let me know and we can deal with it if it's not going to work for you.

- ✳ The second item is we have some money left from our AED grant that is dedicated for Training so we are going to again send money to each of the Regions in the approximate amount of \$1900 to use for training, equipment and CPR. A percent of that grant has to be used for training and this is the best way to expend the excess savings from the cost of AEDs diminishing over the past four years.

(General discussion between Senator Emler and David Lake regarding CPR and AED training to be conducted for the Kansas Legislators. Pam Kemp suggested maybe training could be done in conjunction with Capitol Day in February. Senator Emler suggested speaking with Jeff Russell of Legislative Services to get something set up. David thought possibly to get the AED vendors to participate.)

(Joe Megreedy inquired about the Flight Map that Dave Cromwell is working on.)

Other New Business

Jim McClain: I move that we adjourn the meeting. Sen. Emler: I second. J. R. Behan: All in favor? Any opposed? Meeting adjourned.