

**AMBULANCE SERVICE ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 15, 2004**

**PRESENT:**

**Kevin O'Connell**

**Barbara Greenwood**

**David Savastano**

**Ron Gilchrist**

**John Vernancio**

**John Perry**

**Charles Aldrich**

**Robert Crouse**

**Robert Lloyd**

**Dan Halpren Ruder**

**Ken Williams**

**Thomas Kilday, guest**

**D. Parker, guest**

**John McCaughey**

**Peter Leary**

**Selim Suner**

**1. Establishment of Quorum**

**Chairman Crouse announced that sufficient membership was**

**present to establish a quorum.**

**2. Call to Order**

**The meeting was called to order at 1312 hours.**

**3. Announcements Introduction of Membership**

**The members introduced themselves.**

**4. Review/Consent Agenda**

**A motion to accept the agenda was made by R. Gilchrist and seconded by D. Halpren Ruder**

**The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

**5. Minutes of September 29, 2004**

**The minutes were reviewed. On a motion by C. Aldrich and seconded by S. Suner, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes.**

**6. Correspondence:**

**A letter from M. Wieting, Chief education Officer, American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons will be addressed under New Business.**

**7. EMS Pride Awards**

**K. Williams suggested that the Board commend the excellent job done by EMS personnel during EMS week in the form of a**

**press release.**

## **8. Committee Reports**

### **A. Educational Standards**

**The meeting minutes were accepted on a motion by P. Leary and seconded by K. Williams. The Board voted by a unanimous voice vote to accept the minutes of November 5, 2004.**

### **B. Nominations Committee**

**C. Aldrich was nominated to the position of Vice Chairman.**

**B. Greenwood was nominated to the position of secretary.**

**Both members accepted the nomination and were each approved to their position by a unanimous voice vote.**

### **C. Medical Affairs Committee**

**No recent meeting.**

### **D. Emergency Medical Service for Children (EMS C) Committee**

**A survey was sent to all EMTs 10/2004 regarding EMS C activities.**

### **E. Rules and Regulations Committee**

**No recent meeting.**

## **F. Emergency Medical Dispatch Committee**

**No recent meeting**

## **G. Legislative Committee**

**Verbal report by D. Halpren Ruder. A motion was made to accept the report by C. Aldrich and seconded by J. Vernancio. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

## **9. Old Business**

**No old business was discussed**

## **10. New Business**

### **A. National EMS Scope of Practice Model**

**P. Leary reported that the intent of this model is to streamline practices and ease reciprocity across state lines. Of note, there is no recognition of the intermediate level.**

**Also, this has been the source of much discussion and contention across the country.**

**The final product of this model is yet to be determined. There are 4 suggested levels as follows:**

**1. Emergency Medical Responder Essentially a "first responder"**

**2. Emergency Medical Technician Basic level, prohibited from endotracheal intubation and EOA.**

**3. Paramedic Corresponds to current Paramedic curriculum.**

**4. Advanced Practice Paramedic Practices in a largely rural setting; performs well**

**baby checks, immunizations. Practices under medical control. Considered a spring**

**board to Physician Assistant (PA) or Nurse Practitioner (NP).**

**P. Leary advised the Board that he will need to respond to federal officials in a timely manner to pass judgement on this.**

**In turn, Board members expressed concern about the specific skills and who should be allowed to do what. It was also recognized that there is little data available in the EMS community regarding "Best Practice". Several members expressed concern that**

**the Board be asked to support this model with such little chance for review.**

**A Motion was made by K. Williams to support P. Leary in writing a response to**

**federal officials and especially to support an intermediate level.**

The motion was seconded by K. O'Connell. With a voice vote, the motion passed with only 2 nay votes by C. Aldrich and R. Lloyd.

## **B. Pending Legislation**

P. Leary presented a synopsis of 4 Bills, all currently without tag numbers or sponsors.

1) Bill # 1 established the authority for the director of Health to designate trauma centers. This is an addition to existing legislation of trauma system plan and and was suggested by the ACS in their review of the state Trauma System planning. A motion was made by P. Leary that the Board support this measure and was seconded by K. Williams. The voice vote passed with an abstention by J. Perry and a nay vote by D. Savastano.

2) Bill # 2 would permit the use of EMTs to provide emergency medical services in a hospital emergency department or a free standing emergency care facility.

The pros and cons of this issue were debated. On the pro side, members reported

difficulties in EMTs remaining current in their skill practice

and that hospital work would provide a much needed opportunity to maintain competencies. In addition, several members suggested the EMT would provide an answer to the nursing shortage in many Emergency Departments.

On the Con side, there was a strong opinion that EMTs could not be a substitute for the care of a skilled Emergency RN and that the EMT would have to practice under the supervision of an RN, thus creating another level of supervision, not really an improvement in the patient care delivery model.

The following motion was presented by K. Williams, " The Ambulance

Service Advisory Board has review Bill #2 and found it acceptable provided there

is no reduction/depletion in the staffing ratios of nursing personnel."

This motion was seconded by S. Suner. The motion was defeated on a 7 5 voice vote

with the following results:

S.Suner	Yes	C. Aldrich	Abstain
K. Williams	Yes	J. Perry	No
K. O'Connell	Yes	D. Halpren Ruder	No
P. Leary	Yes	J. Vernancio	No
R. Lloyd	Yes	R. Gilchrist	No

<b>B. Greenwood</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>D. Savastano</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>J. McCaughey</b>	<b>No</b>

**Bill # 3 Relates to Peer Review Boards and Quality Assurance Activities. The Bill suggests**

**that the proceedings from such activities shall not be subject to discovery or**

**admissible as evidence in any case. A motion was made by R. Lloyd to support**

**this Bill as written and seconded by K. Williams. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**

**Bill # 4 Would expand funding sources for the emergency medical services for children.**

**A motion was made by J. Vernancio to support this Bill with a second by R. Lloyd.**

**The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

**C. Update on Trauma Systems Development Program**

**D. Parker provided an update on the program and described the work being done by the**

**ACS in developing the designation process. He also described the eventual return**

**to the EMS community for assistance with protocols and sentinel event reporting.**

## **D. Update on Hospital Preparedness**

**T. Kilday reported on current practices with regard to hospital diversion.**

**In several instances, officials at the Department of Health have met with**

**CEOs of frequently diverting hospitals to identify what steps are being taken to avoid**

**diversion and to clarify the surge plan of individual hospitals.**

**There is a concern that**

**with the onset of flu season there may be a need to cancel all diversion.**

## **E. AAOS Professional Rescuer CPR Training Program**

**The Board reviewed a letter from M. Wieting regarding acceptance of the AAOS Professional Rescue CPR Program to satisfy the CPR requirement for EMT**

**training and licensure. A Motion was made by R. Lloyd and seconded by C. Aldrich to**

**accept the program in satisfying license requirements. The Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

## **11. Adjournment**

**A motion was made by C. Aldrich and seconded by J. Perry to adjourn the**

**meeting. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. The**

**meeting was adjourned at  
1512 hours.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Barbara Greenwood, RN  
Secretary**