

AMBULANCE SERVICE ADVISORY BOARD

C/O Rhode Island Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908
(401) 222-2401

Meeting Minutes of the Ambulance Service Advisory Board June 20, 2012

ASAB Member Attendees:

Sam Adams
Leo Kennedy
Norman Manville proxy for Michael J. McGrane
Raymond Medeiros
Thomas P. Caito
Russ McGillivray
Kenneth Williams
Michael DeMello
John Pliakas
Nelson Pedro proxy for Nicholas Dominick
Al Galinelli
Louis Parente
Randall Watt
John Potvin
Shea Gregg
Lynn Palmisciano

Representing:

DOH – EMS
Providence County Paid
Providence County Volunteer
Paid EMT Union Appointed
Washington County Volunteer
Kent County EMS
DOH – EMS
RI State Fire League
Emergency Nurses Association
Hospital Association of RI
Bristol County Fire Dept.
Private Ambulance Service
Newport County EMS
Paid EMT Union Appointed
American College of Surgeons
Rhode Island Medical Society

- A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 1311hrs by Leo Kennedy, Chairman.
- A motion was made by Robert Loyd and seconded by Thomas Caito to approve the agenda, the motion carried.
- A motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2012 meeting was made by Samuel Adams and seconded by Randall Watt, the motion carried.
- Correspondence – One item received by Chairman Kennedy which will be discussed under new business
- Announcements -EMS Pride Award, Dr. Williams presented Captain Michael Morse of the Providence Fire Department with an award for his captivating journalism.
- The Governors Office still has not approved any Board appointments.

Committee Reports:

- **Educational Standards** – Mike DeMello gave a verbal report of the Subcommittee meeting. The committee presented revised Cardiac Psychomotor Skill Sheets for approval. A motion was made by Thomas Caito to accept the sheets as presented; the motion was seconded by Randall Watt, the motion carried.
- **Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMS-C)** – Verbal report by Lynn Palmisciano, the last meeting was cancelled. The committee is looking for more involvement outside the Metro area. The goal is to provide more training.
- **Medical Affairs** – Verbal report by John Pliakas – the committee has not met, there is one pending case. There is also one case (case number 07036) which is in process at HEALTH.
- **Rules and Regulations**– A motion was made by Al Galinelli to accept the minutes of the Rules and Regulations Committee as presented, the motion was seconded by Randall Watt, the motion passed. Randall Watt made a motion to amend the Minimum Equipment List to make the central line kit optional, provided that the capability to provide intraosseous access was available; the motion was seconded by Raymond Medeiros, the motion carried.
- **Legislative- No Report** – the committee did not meet, bills that have potential implications H7578 and H7459, S2361 has been passed and is awaiting regulation.
- **EMS Dispatch Taskforce** – The committee did not meet.
- **Controlled Substances Working Group** – The group did not meet, waiting on the Pharmacy Board.

Introduction of Dr Fine, Director, Rhode Island Department of Health

Chairman Kennedy welcomed Dr. Fine and introduced him to the membership. Dr. Fine stated that he began in EMS as an EMT and that he was looking to be very involved in EMS. Dr. Fine is looking for collaboration and stated that we should be proud of our accomplishments. We have cut mortality from stroke by 50% and that our next challenge was the cost of healthcare. The floor was opened to questions and answers with the Director.

Robert Loyd asked what Dr. Fine thought our direction was and how we could collaborate. Dr. Fine stated that he would like a letter with actions items that could be worked on following each meeting.

Chairmen Kennedy asked Dr. Fine what his thoughts were regarding intoxicated patients. Dr. Fine stated that we need a healthcare system as opposed to a healthcare market.

Robert Loyd stated that we need more contact with the Director, to which Dr. Fine agreed.

John Vernancio from the audience stated that one of the complexities of EMS is that ambulances only get reimbursed when they transport.

In closing the Chair asked Dr. Fine his thoughts on the make up of the Board to which Dr. Fine stated he thought many of the advisory boards were too large.

Old Business

- RIEMS Electronic Data Project update- Jason Rhodes states Marisa has been appointed as the PHEMS Coordinator. The contract for the e-PCR has been awarded to Image Trend. It will take collaborative effort to make this work smoothly and there should be much more information for the September meeting.
- Strategy for National EMS Culture for Safety review – Jason Rhodes reported that this is a project that will benefit patients and providers alike. A sub-committee of Sam Adams, Russ McGillivray, and Randall Watt will review the document and make recommendations. The document will be e-mailed to the full board.
- Status of the Burn Protocol Change – the Board has approved the changes. In the spirit of collaboration Jason Rhodes is working on providing Director Fine with more information.

New Business

- QA/QI Toolkit approval – Robert Loyd made a motion to accept the toolkit as presented, John Potvin seconded the motion, which carried. Bob Loyd stated that in addition to the letter being sent by HEALTH the Board should recognize Devin Tasi for his contributions. The Board felt an EMS Pride Award was in order and Robert Lloyd took an action to send an email to Dr. Williams recommending the award. Dr. Fine stated that QA/QI is the bridge to the future.
- EMT Recertification in Departments without licensed ambulances – Evolved out of EMR. How to account for recertification fees for EMT's who work for non-licensed services. Jason stated that there is a category called non-service organization which has waived fees but no licensed ambulances. After several minutes of discussion it was determined that the complainant would be informed that they fit the non-service category.
- Committee Appointments- Postponed until new board appointments are made.
- Protocol Updates – Information only, as updates will be made only once a year.
- Rapid Sequence Intubation – Proposal for a pilot received from Chief Seltzer which will be reviewed by HEALTH

Good of the Order

- Committee Meeting Dates – EMS-C will be meeting on July 12th and the next Board meeting will be held on September 20th.
- Dr. James Macdonald the head of the board of Medical Licensure and Discipline was introduced.
- Hospital Communications are being revised and at some point the Hospital Nextel's will go away and the 800 MHZ radio system will be utilized instead.

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1430 on a motion by John Potvin and seconded by Lynn Palmisciano.

Respectfully Submitted

John H. Potvin, Secretary