

Ambulance Service Advisory Board
C/o Rhode Island Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908
(401) 222-2401

Educational Standards Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2015

A meeting of the Educational Standards Committee of the Ambulance Service Advisory Board convened on Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 1000 at the RI Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill Providence, RI 02908. This meeting was held in accordance with Rhode Island open meetings law.

Agenda

1.) Establishment of Quorum

Sufficient members were in attendance and a quorum was established.

2.) Call to Order

Chairman DeMello called the meeting to order at 1012. The following members were present:

Michael DeMello

Jason Umbenhauer

Ray Medeiros

John Potvin

David Savastano

Sean Thompson (Proxy for John Pliakas)

3.) Announcements- Introduction of Membership

4.) Review/Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by John Potvin; Dave Savastano seconded the motion. The motion passed.

5.) Review of Minutes

None available

6.) Correspondence

No Correspondence

7.) Old Business

a.) Cardiac/AEMT

Discussion ensued over the department of health's intention to utilize the AEMT educational guidelines as the foundation for the Cardiac program and the use of the National Registry AEMT exam as the testing method. Mayor Polisena of Johnston expressed his concerns as to whether the National Registry is the best option to test graduates of initial training programs, and has spoken with community leaders any significant additional costs that may be incurred with this change that may burden already financially stressed communities. Mr. Paul Valetta of the RISAFF expressed support with improving education, however still is concerned about long term impacts that may affect service delivery levels, or any upgrades or downgrades in EMT-Cardiac level of care, and any associated costs. Mr. Dan Beardsley, Representing the RI League of Cities and Towns expressed concerns about significant cost impacts, and if a fiscal note previously requested from Health had been completed. Mr. Beardsley expressed concern that due process was not being followed since the fiscal note has not been completed. Mr. Beardsley also stated he would be happy to assist Health in preparing the fiscal note. Ray Medeiros also commented on potential costs and the current NREMT pass rate. Jason Umbenhauer provided some perspective on the potential cost of having future EMT-Cardiac's maintain National Registry AEMT certification in order to have a valid RI EMT-Cardiac license, stating that at an average of 10

hires per year, the initial cost per year would be \$70, and would be \$700 per year after 10 years. An official fiscal note still needs to be prepared as each community will have different numbers of personnel. Mr. Al Peterson expressed that he is willing to help on the project. Chairman DeMello reiterated that refresher programs would still be state authorized. Chairman DeMello asked those in attendance if at least a change in the current outdated Cardiac curriculum is acceptable without using the National Registry yet, upon which those in attendance stated that would be acceptable.

b.) Accreditation Program Update

Chairman DeMello asked Jason Rhodes for an updated on the number of entities that had applied for state EMS accreditation as a teaching institution for EMT courses. Mr. Rhodes stated approximately 6 entities submitted applications, which have been given provisional Letters of Review while review and site visits are conducted for each application.

8.) New Business

a.) Instructor Nomenclature

Brief discussion on beginning to update and formalize instructor positions to match those required in accreditation. Jason Umbenhauer will draft a proposal for this item.

b.) Other items of interest to committee members

Jason Rhodes handed out a National Registry report for RI detailing pass rates for the EMT level.

9.) Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by John Potvin; the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 1148.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Potvin
Secretary Pro Tempore

