

# MINUTES

## NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Health Service Regulation  
Office of Emergency Medical Services

Brown Building  
Dorothea Dix Campus  
801 Biggs Drive  
Raleigh, North Carolina

August 9, 2016  
11:00 A.M.

### Members Present

Mr. Graham Pervier, Presiding  
Mr. Jim Gusler  
Mr. Robert Poe  
Dr. Douglas Swanson  
Mr. Terry Barber  
Dr. Jeff Williams  
Dr. James Wyatt, III  
Dr. Elizabeth Kanof  
Dr. Nicholas Benson  
Dr. Kim Askew  
Mr. Kevin Staley  
Dr. Ted Delbridge  
Mr. L. Lee Isley  
Dr. Thomas Brant  
Mr. Donnie Loftis  
Mr. Todd Baker

### Members Absent

Ms. Traci Little  
Ms. Lynn Norwood  
Dr. Edward St. Bernard  
Ms. Annette Greer  
Mr. Bill Atkinson  
Mr. Carolyn Creech  
Ms. Viola Harris  
Dr. Michael Ghim

### Staff Members Present

Ms. Amy Douglas  
Mr. Tom Mitchell

Ms. Susan Rogers  
Mr. Wally Ainsworth  
Mr. David Ezzell  
Mr. Joe Comello  
Mr. Doug Calhoun  
Mr. Mark Payne  
Ms. McKenzie Beamer  
Dr. Roy Alson  
Mr. Chuck Lewis  
Mr. Brad Thompson

Others Present

Mr. Jim Albright, Guilford County EMS, NCAEMSA  
Mr. Bradley Dean, Rowan County Emergency Services, NC Association of Paramedics  
Ms. Paula Vincent, Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center  
Ms. Kelly Jarrell, Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center  
Ms. Lina Varela-Gonzalez, Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center  
Mr. Phil Angelo, Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center  
Dr. Sandra Giller, Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center  
Mr. Michael Vaccaro, Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center  
Mr. Eddie Reynolds, ECU Emergency Medicine  
Mr. Richard T. Benson, II, Wake County EMS/UNC  
Mr. Robert Byrd, Air Medical Group Holdings  
Mr. Kenny Weatherington, NCCCS  
Mr. Joel Faircloth, NCAREMS  
Mr. Tyler Constantine, Mecklenberg EMS  
Ms. Joyce Winstead, NC Board of Nursing

- (1) Purpose of the Meeting: The NC EMS Advisory Council met to hear reports from the Injury Committee, the Compliance and Education Committee and receive updates from the Healthcare Preparedness Response & Recovery program. In addition, the Council met to consider Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center's Level III initial Trauma Center designation.

- (2) Actions of the Council:

Mr. Pervier, chairman of the Council, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

- a) Motion was made by Mr. Isley, seconded by Dr. Delbridge, and unanimously approved that:

RESOLVED: The EMS Advisory Council minutes of the May 10, 2016 meeting be approved as submitted.

- b) On behalf of the Injury Committee, motion was made by Mr. Pervier and unanimously approved that:

RESOLVED: Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center's Level III initial Trauma Center designation be granted effective through August 31, 2019.

Explanation: Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center was reviewed on May 3, 2016 for initial Level III Trauma Center designation in a visit by the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS). Many strengths were noted and no state deficiencies were found.

c) Motion was made by Dr. Benson, seconded by Mr. Loftis, and majority approved that:

RESOLVED: Changes to rule

Explanation: Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center was reviewed on November 2 and 3, 2016 in a combined visit by the American College of Surgeons (ACS) re-verification visit and Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) designation renewal visit. Many strengths were noted and no state deficiencies were found.

(3) Other Actions of the Council:

(a) Mr. Pervier welcomed guests to the Council meeting and announced to the Council and guests

On behalf of the OEMS and the NC EMS Advisory Council, Mr. Mark Payne presented an appreciation plaque to Ms. Regina G. Crawford for her thirty years of service to the State of North Carolina.

(b) On behalf of the Injury Committee, Ms. Amy Douglas reported on the following items:

- Duke Hospitals and Wake Forest Baptist Hospital were both reviewed for a Level I trauma center designation renewal in November in a joint visit by the ACS and the OEMS. Both hospitals had many strengths and no deficiencies.

(c) On behalf of the Education and Compliance Committee, Mr. Poe reported on the following:

Compliance Update

This information is Agency statistics and activities involving Credentialing & Compliance activities from February 1, 2016 through April 30, 2016.

- 309 Applicants completed National Criminal Background Reviews for the Agency.
- The Agency received 19 formal complaints.
  - ✓ 7 complaints were forwarded to the Eastern Regional EMS Office

- ✓ 9 complaints were forwarded to the Central Regional EMS Office
- ✓ 3 complaints were forwarded to the Western Regional EMS Office

○ These complaints were within the following counties:

Beaufort, Brunswick (two complaints), Buncombe, Caswell, Cherokee, Durham, Greene, Guilford, Johnston, Martin, Mecklenburg, Onslow (two complaints), Robeson, Sampson and Wake Counties (three complaints)

○ Case Review Panel & NC EMS Disciplinary Committee: The Agency's Case Review Panel reviewed 20 cases.

- ✓ Issue EMS Credential: 7
- ✓ Letter of Reprimand: 2
- ✓ Tabled 1
- ✓ Forward for Interview by Disciplinary Committee: 10

○ The North Carolina EMS Disciplinary Committee reviewed 15 cases. Enforcement Actions:

- ✓ Issue EMS Credential: 5
- ✓ Take No Action: 2
- ✓ Deny EMS Credential: 1
- ✓ Suspend EMS Credential: 1
- ✓ Letter of Reprimand: 1
- ✓ Applicant did not attend interview: 5

○ Failure to respond within a reasonable period of time and in a reasonable manner to inquiries during a complaint investigation

○ Any criminal arrests that involve charges which have been determined by the Department to indicate a necessity to seek action in order to further protect the public pending adjudication by a court

○ Current EMS Disciplinary Committee Members.

Dr. Roy Alson  
Mr. Joel Faircloth  
Ms. Carrie Gillilan  
Dr. Elizabeth Kanof  
Dr. Igna Kish  
Mr. Danny West

○ On March 23, 2016, the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) conducted an audit of the Agency's national criminal history review process. The National Identity Services Audit assesses compliance with National Fingerprint File participation standards, as well as federal laws and regulations associated with the use and dissemination of national criminal history record information. This

audit analyzed methods used by state criminal history record repositories, federal agencies, and other authorized entities to administer policies and procedural requirements.

- Legal Recognition Process

- ✓ The Agency issued 249 credentials through the legal recognition process.

- OEMS Credentials

- ✓ The Agency issued 1,237 EMS credentials through initial courses (state written examination).

- ✓ The Agency issued 2,271 EMS credentials via renewal through continuing education.

- ✓ The Agency issues 119 EMS Instructor Credentials (included both initial and renewal).

- Education update:

- Registration for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual North Carolina Paramedic Competition is now open. Preliminary Competition will be held on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Final Competition will be held on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 at Emergency Medicine Today.

- Agenda has been set for the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Emergency Medicine Today Conference. Pre-Conference offerings will begin on September 30 and the Conference will conclude on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

(d) Mr. Will Ray provided the Council with the following Healthcare Preparedness Response & Recovery update:

- Program Update

- ✓ FY16-17 HPP Cooperative Agreement estimate \$6,208,241.00

- ✓ Budget period five application has been approved. Currently awaiting the official notification of award

- ✓ In an effort to improve program efficiencies and alignment, as well as to continue to be good stewards of federal funds, the Statewide Exercise Coordinator position was combined with the Training and Education position. This aligns with the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program guidance. Several of the regional positions noted in the February meeting are still in process of being filled.

- ✓ The final reports for the five regions that received federal technical assistance visits have been submitted to the state for review. The final three regional technical assistance visits have been scheduled for the beginning of June.

- ✓ At a recent national meeting, the proposed HealthCare Preparedness Program capabilities update was released. Consolidation of eight capabilities into 4: planning, operational coordination, continuity of health care delivery, medical surge.

- Operations Update

- ✓ A number of healthcare preparedness regions have supported planned events across the state to ensure assets are appropriately deployed to mitigate medical surge events, as well as use the opportunity to exercise deployable resources and teams.
  - ✓ The Office of EMS staff completed a three day awareness training on the National Mobile Disaster Hospital the week of May 5. Agency leadership is engaging with strategic planning to improve cost effectiveness and maintain operational readiness of this asset.
  - Special Projects - Ebola preparedness and response
    - ✓ CONOPS has been drafted in preparation for a regional and state virtual table top exercise in June.
    - ✓ Contract scopes of work are being developed to ensure funding is able to be passed through to lead hospitals to support high consequence pathogen preparedness.
  - Horizon
    - ✓ The CDC has reallocated public health emergency preparedness funding to combat Zika virus. The funding announcement for states should be released this week. At this point, DPH has facilitated readiness meetings with OEMS and NCEM to ensure state agencies are briefed on the current threat and readiness efforts here in NC. Current information for North Carolina can be found at <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/zika/> There have been no locally acquired cases, all reported cases currently were acquired in US Territories or abroad.
- (e) Dr. Winslow gave the following Medical Director update
- Reviewed 119 protocols/procedure modifications
  - Have two new Medical Directors
  - Approved one non-traditional practice setting
  - Presented data at a National Conference on RSI/Airway safety information
  - Gave one Medical Director update
  - Had a presentation and discussion with the Hospital Association over how EMS can help with sepsis recognition early treatment
  - EMS is giving antibiotics to open fracture trauma patients which is helping hospitals with some of their core measures
  - Will be meeting, next week, with the Medical Board about extending scope of practice with ketamine and kalbitor, which is used for patients with hereditary angioedema.
- (f) Mr. Tom Mitchell gave the following agency update
- We are in the process of filling the Assistant Chief position. Application packages have been submitted to personnel.
  - In regards to the Community Paramedicine pilot program, funded by the General Assembly in Session law 2015-241, the original proposal and pilot project was slated to end June 30, 2016. An extension has been proposed through the Division and the Department to extend through the fiscal year of 2017, which would allow the project to run through June 2017, with a reporting date of 3/1/2017.

- Initial funding for the project was \$350,000, with \$210,000 of that money allotted to New Hanover by the General Assembly. The remaining \$140,000 was awarded to Wake County and McDowell County.
- At the August, 2016 Advisory Council Meeting, the OEMS will provide a presentation on the Community Paramedicine pilot project and will have some preliminary data to present.
- Contracts are in place with all of the agencies. To date, one agency has requested a draw-down of funds for their project.
- The proposed rules the Council voted on at the February meeting will go before the Medical Care Commission on May 20, which will then allow us into the process of rule making
- Fiscal note for the rules has been completed and has been approved by the Office of State Budget and Management
- Once approved by the Medical Care Commission, the rules will be published for public comment
- The new rules primarily impact the new EMT level changes, as well as changing our trauma rules to mirror the ACS standards
- EMS Week will be celebrated May 15<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>, with EMS for Children day on the 18<sup>th</sup>. We should all be sure to recognize the people who care for us in our time of need. Paperwork has been submitted to the Governor's office to issue a proclamation.

#### Other Business

- Mr. Pervier reported to the Council that he, Vice-Chairman Dr. Benson and OEMS Chief Tom Mitchell discussed utilizing everyone's valuable time and to add to the meetings a discussion on current issues with EMS that might be of interest to many. These presentations would not be long, perhaps ten to fifteen minutes. The Council will let everyone know, in advance, what the topic of discussion will be and will get this information out to the general EMS public so, if they wish, they can join in on the meeting and discussions.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:33 am.

Minutes submitted by Susan Rogers