

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

May 8, 2018
11:00 A.M.

Members Present

Mr. Graham Pervier, Presiding
Mr. Robert Poe
Dr. Douglas Swanson
Mr. John Grindstaff
Dr. Jeff Williams
Dr. Kim Askew
Mr. Kevin Staley
Dr. Ted Delbridge
Ms. Viola Harris
Mrs. Carolyn Creech
Mr. Todd Baker
Mr. Jim Gusler
Dr. Bill Atkinson
Mr. Jim Albright
Dr. Edward St. Bernard
Mr. Edward Wilson

Members Absent

Ms. Lynn Norwood
Dr. Bryant Murphy
Dr. Jay Wyatt
Dr. R. Darryl Nelson
Dr. L. Lee Isley
Mr. Chuck Elledge
Ms. Dianne M. Layden
Mr. Donnie Loftis

Staff Members Present

Mr. Tom Mitchell
Ms. Susan Rogers
Dr. James “Tripp” Winslow
Mr. Wally Ainsworth
Mr. Todd Messer
Ms. McKenzie Beamer
Mr. Roger Kiser
Mr. Chuck Lewis
Mr. Dale Sutphin
Ms. Paige Stevens
Mr. Brad Thompson
Ms. Melynda Swindells

Others Present

Mr. Joel Faircloth, NCAREMS
Ms. Joyce Winstead, NC Board of Nursing
Mr. Greg Chapman, CMC
Mr. Joshua Lloyd, CMC/Mecklenburg EMS
Ms. Gail Grindstaff, Weaverville
Mr. William Mitchell, Paramedic, Gaston EMS
Mr. Steven Grant, Temp Solutions
Ms. Teresa Everett, Temp Solutions

- (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 Mission Hospital’s Level II Trauma Center renewal 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 Dr. Delbridge, seconded by Dr. Swanson, and unanimously approved that:

RESOLVED: The EMS Advisory Council minutes of the February 13, 2018 meeting be approved as submitted

- b) On behalf of the Injury Committee, motion was made by Dr. Askew and approved with one abstention that

RESOLVED: Mission Hospital’s Level III Trauma Center designation be renewed effective through February 28, 2019.

Explanation: Mission Hospital was reviewed on February 6, 2018 with a visit by the North Carolina Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS). Many strengths were noted and no deficiencies were found.

(3) Other Actions of the Council:

- (a) Mr. Pervier welcomed guests to the Council meeting and advised the Council that Temp Solutions will give a presentation, after the meeting adjourns, to the Council to explain the additional paperwork needed by the state from Council members.
- (b) Mr. Pervier thanked Dr. Askew for agreeing to continue as Chair of the Injury Committee as well as to Co-Chair the Advisory Council
- (c) On behalf of the Injury Committee, Dr. Askew reported on the following:
 - Moses Cone will be undergoing a site visit, along with the American College of Surgeons, in early August
 - Mission Hospital had a site review on February 7th as a Level II trauma center. Some highlights of that visit are:
 - ✓ Trauma surgeons are Board Certified in both trauma and critical care
 - ✓ There is orthopedic traumatologist
 - ✓ No state deficiencies
 - ✓ Last visit, weakness was the Trauma Medical Director was serving a dual role; that has been corrected
- (d) On behalf of the Compliance and Education Committee, Mr. Robert Poe report on the following:

Compliance

- Compliance unit has improved the criminal record check review process for EMS applicants
- A review update of the criminal record check is currently underway; after 30 days has expired, provide information regarding criminal history, applicants are sent to the Case Review panel for consideration. The Case Review panel can then choose to track the cases further; they can issue the credential if it is a new applicant; they can take no action if they deem necessary on an existing credential; or they can refer the case to the Disciplinary Committee for an interview and final recommendation
- If referred to the Disciplinary Committee, the Disciplinary Committee will then make a final recommendation to Chief Mitchell based on the information provided
- In March and April of this year, there were 81 cases heard by the Case Review panel. These cases involved various offenses:
 - ✓ 32% were DUI
 - ✓ Some violent and drug offenses
 - ✓ Only 2% were related to patient care

- ✓ 58% referred to the Disciplinary Committee
 - ✓ 22% of the cases were sent back to the Case Review panel to track further
 - ✓ 20% of the cases the Case Review panel decided to take no action on
 - ✓ 17% investigations/summary suspensions were heard by the Disciplinary Committee; these are broken down into several offices, 37% sexual offenses, 17% drug offenses, 6 summary suspensions were issued, 6 final revocations were issued and no action was taken on the final 5
- OEMS is currently completing a major SBI security project concerning the storage of fingerprints cards
 - A review and update of criminal records check policy is currently underway
 - In the process of interviewing and hiring a Compliance Specialist position
 - Expansion of live scan fingerprinting will begin in early fall of 2018
 - OEMS is a member of the Governor's DUI task force

Education Update

- Presentations have been selected, and the office is in the process of confirming with the speakers, for the annual EMS conference slated for this fall.
 - Accredited institutions are as follows:
 - ✓ 26 accredited to date; that is 4 more than last meeting
 - ✓ 14 in Letter of Review process
 - An update on transition to computer bases testing will be provided by Mr. Todd Messer at this meeting
- (e) Mr. Todd Messer gave a power point presentation on computer based testing. The highlights are as follows:
- Student passes course
 - Student receives email from Continuum to complete applicant statement
 - Upon completion of applicant statement, Continuum sends email to Castle Worldwide, computer based testing contractor
 - Castle then send email to applicant to register for exam; link is sent with passcodes. Applicant must schedule 4-5 days before date
 - Increased testing due to increased testing sites and times
 - There is a cost of \$68.00 for each exam attempt
 - Upon payment, email and instructions to site, etc. are sent
 - No staff members from OEMS or instructors from schools involved; therefore, no conflict of interest
 - Testing transmitted to Continuum every 24 hours
- (f) On behalf of the HPP program, and in the absence of a HPP program manager, Mr. Tom Mitchell gave the following report:

- HPP application in the amount of \$6,023,997.00 has been submitted and reviewed by our federal project officer. We expect an NOA (Notice of Award) in late June or early July for the budget period of 7/1/2018 to 6/30/2019
 - Contracts for lead hospitals associated with the Health Care Coalitions have been developed and are under review by the Department with an effective date of 7/1/2018
 - Over 80% of the total HPP budget will go to regional coalitions and statewide projects used by staff and Regional Healthcare Coalitions; ie, training exercise programs, volunteer, registry, Serv NC etc.
 - HPP site visit is scheduled for the last week in August with our federal partners to look at what we are doing within the Hospital Preparedness Program
- (g) Mr. Roger Kiser gave a power point presentation on the deployment of the MDH (Mobile Disaster Hospital). The highlights are as follows:
- September, 2017 – Hurricane Irma hits Florida
 - ✓ Fishermen’s Hospital in Marathon Key is flooded completely
 - ✓ MDH deployed; 12 tractor trailers used to transport
 - ✓ Lab, x-ray, 5 bed ED and 6 bed inpatient
 - ✓ Fully operation within 10 days
 - While in Florida, Hurricane Maria hits San Juan, Puerto Rico
 - ✓ No power in San Juan two weeks after hurricane
 - ✓ Aided PREMA (Puerto Rico Emergency Management Agency)
 - ✓ Language was not a barrier; although they could not speak English, they did understand it
 - ✓ 18 days in San Juan EOC. They had no planners, just responders. Our responsibility was to teach PREMA ICS and structure
 - ✓ Delivered supplies to mountain area, hardest hit
 - St. Croix, USVI
 - ✓ Partnered with US Emergency Management, Virgin Island Emergency Management and Meridian HealthCare in Hackensack, NJ to get a surgical suite to St. Croix. Meridian HealthCare has a mobile surgical unit and trailer with 6 post-op and pre-op beds
 - ✓ The hospital in St Croix is a three level hospital built in the early 70’s. The second and third floors were condemned due to damage from the hurricane.
 - ✓ North Carolina also supplied a surgical unit
- (h) Dr. Winslow gave the following Medical Director update
- Approximately 99 counties’ protocols have been approved
 - OEMS has been supplying naloxone to agencies to help in the fight against the opioid epidemic
 - Meeting with the Medical Board in May with regards to the ketamine scope of practice

- (i) Mr. Tom Mitchell gave the following agency update
- New staff: Dale Sutphin, Communications Director, Howard Mabry, Budget Officer. Waiting for approval from HR to make an offer to a new HPP manager. The HPP assistant manager position has been posted. The Compliance Specialist position is in the process of being filled, as well is the Western Regional Specialist
 - Designated trauma centers will be presented their certificate at the STAC meetings
 - Cape Fear Medical Center was presented their certificate approximately two weeks ago at the STAC meeting and it was received very well
 - Based upon the Advisory Council's approval today, Mission Hospital's trauma certificate will be presented at the STAC meeting in July
 - Community Paramedicine rules are going before the Medical Care Commission on Thursday, May 10, for final approval. Then they will go to rules review commission in June for July implementation.
 - The Ambulance Standard rules that began 1/1/2018, which stated standards for ambulances after July 1st deadline, is quickly approaching. Any truck purchased after 7/1/2018 must be built to the CAAS standard or NFPA 1917 standard. Contracts signed date will determine to what standard the vehicles must be built.
 - CBT (computer based testing) is moving forward
 - Portal for EMS providers to report violence against personnel is also moving forward.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:59 am.

Minutes submitted by Susan Rogers