

# IDAHO EMSPC MEETING MINUTES

---

December 08, 2006

A meeting of the Idaho Emergency Medical Services Physician Commission was held on this date in the Idaho Room of the Oxford Inn and Suites at 1426 S. Entertainment Avenue, Boise Idaho. Chairman Kim called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

**Members Present:**

Adam Deutchman, M.D.  
Bat Masterson  
Cay Berg, M.D.  
David Kim, M.D.  
Debra McKinnon, D.O.\*  
Hon. Elmer Martinez\*  
Keith Sivertson, M.D.  
Kenny Bramwell, M.D.  
Murry Sturkie, D.O.

**Member's Position:**

American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma  
Citizen Representative  
Idaho EMS Bureau  
Idaho Medical Association  
Idaho Fire Chiefs Association  
Citizen Representative  
Idaho Hospital Association  
American Academy of Pediatrics, Idaho Chapter  
American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter

\*Participated in meeting remotely via teleconference and web conferencing.

**Members Absent:**

Scott French, M.D.  
Curtis Sandy, M.D.

**Member's Position:**

Idaho Association of Counties  
State Board of Medicine

**Vacant Seats:**

N/A

**Others Present:**

Andy Edgar  
Barry Smith, M.D.  
Bill Arsenault  
Bruce Allcott  
Corey Cartwright  
Dan Moynihan  
Dean Neufeld\*  
Dennis R. Godfrey  
Dia Gainor  
Greg Owen  
Jeff Sceirne  
Jim Kozak  
Julie Madsen, M.D.  
Ken Schwab  
Kim Christensen  
Lynn Borders

**Other's Position:**

EMS Bureau Regional Consultant  
Gem County EMS  
Wildland Fire Control & Rescue Services  
Burley Fire Department/ Idaho Fire Chiefs Association  
Deputy Attorney General, Human Services Division, Idaho  
  
EMS Bureau Regional Consultant  
Caribou County Emergency Medical Services  
EMS Bureau Chief  
Canyon County Ambulance District  
Canyon County Ambulance District  
EMS Bureau Regional Consultant  
Canyon County Ambulance Medical Director  
Teton Valley Ambulance  
National Interagency Fire Center  
KCEMSS

Mary Lou Davis	Fremont County EMS
Michele Carreras	EMS Bureau State Communication Manager
Nick Nudell	EMS Bureau Regional Operations Manager
Noell Wolff, M.D.	Bear Lake County Ambulance Services
Patricia Bowen	Idaho EMS Bureau Administrative Assistant
Richard Radnovich, D.O.	Nampa Fire Department EMS Medical Director
Rod Piller*	Kamiah Ambulance
Ron Anderson	Meridian Fire
Ryan Taylor	Burley Fire
Steve Minnis*	Lewiston Fire Department
Tawni Newton	EMS Bureau Certification & Licensure Manager
Tom Allen	Idaho Fire Chiefs Association
Travis Myklebust*	Lewiston Fire Department
Valerie Fend-Boehm	EMS Bureau Administrative Assistant
Vicki Armbruster	EMSAC
Wayne Denny	EMS Bureau System Development Manager

\*Participated in meeting remotely from EMS Bureau Regional Offices via teleconference and web conferencing.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion: Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter, moved and Commissioner Berg, Idaho EMS Bureau, seconded to accept the draft minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously.**

## **Remote Participation by the Public**

Chairman Kim welcomed the audience to the EMSPC and led a round of introductions that included Commissioners, Bureau staff, and attendees. Commissioner Kim initiated the agenda topic by reinforcing the EMSPC's concern with holding open meetings throughout the state to guarantee transparency and allow for public comment. Nick Nudell, Idaho EMS Bureau, introduced the pilot format for remote public attendance of EMSPC meetings. This format includes providing the EMS Bureau Regional Offices with a web and teleconference link to the EMSPC meetings and utilizing Bureau staff to moderate the meetings as resources allow. Commissioner Masterson expressed concern over e-mails he received from Idaho providers who, upon contacting the EMS Bureau, were told they could not participate remotely. Mr. Nudell and Chairman Kim both acknowledged misunderstandings and limitations in the process, but confirmed that the Bureau did not knowingly exclude any individuals from participating in the meeting. Chairman Kim expressed his desire that the Commission continue to provide for remote public participation via the EMS Bureau as interest and resources allow. Commissioner Sturkie acknowledged the Bureau's efforts to reach out to the community through remote public participation on behalf of the EMSPC, something no other Idaho Commission undertakes.

## **National Wildland Fire Coordinating Group/ Limited Request for Recognition**

Commissioner Sivertson began the discussion of EMS support of national fire resources in Idaho by expressing his concerns relating to unrecognized individuals providing EMS at wildland fire in Idaho and invited Dia Gainor, Idaho EMS Bureau Chief and Kim Christensen of the National Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (NWFCG) to provide an overview of current EMS practices in these situations. The Commissioners expressed concerns regarding systems integrations, communications, medical director involvement, EMT scope of practice, public health and occupational medicine. Tom Allen, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association; Bill Arsenault, Wildland Fire Control & Rescue Services; Vicki Armbruster, EMSAC; Bruce Allcot, Burley Fire Department/ Idaho Fire Chiefs Association; and Dr. Barry Smith, Gem County EMS, all testified concerning their experiences with wildland fire issues in Idaho.

Ms. Gainor described the EMS Bureau's "Limited Request for Recognition" process. The EMSPC questioned Ms. Gainor on specifics and again expressed their concern with incomplete systems integration and EMTs in Idaho working outside their Scope of Practice (SoP). Ms. Gainor also provided Commissioners and EMSPC attendees with the charter for the NWFCG. Ms. Christensen updated the Commission on the activities of the NWFCG to develop a scope of care for their managed incidents, addressed EMSPC concerns and answered Commissioners' questions.

Commissioner Berg made a motion that was generally agreed to, but withdrawn in favor of less formal discussion. Wildland fire will be an agenda item for the next EMSPC meeting with the specific purpose of prioritizing within the topic and creating a subcommittee.

**Commissioner Berg, Idaho EMS Bureau, moved that EMSPC continues this discussion at one or more future meetings with the goal to formulate recommendations for issues outside the legal scope of the EMSPC and for rule promulgation.**

**Chairman Kim, Idaho Medical Association, requested the removal of the motion.**

**Commissioner Berg, Idaho EMS Bureau, withdrew motion.**

## **Disciplinary Process Update**

Ms. Gainor updated the EMSPC on the progress of the proposed legislation concerning the disciplinary process and cautioned Commissioners against contact with their legislatures in their state capacity. The EMSPC will receive a copy of the official wording of the proposed legislation as soon as it comes available.

## **Scope of Practice for EMS Providers**

Chairman Kim began the Scope of practice discussion by informing the EMSPC of minor wording changes to the temporary rules requested by the Board of Nursing. The changes did not affect the substance of the rules nor the EMSPC's intent.

Chairman Kim provided background on the Idaho Scope of Practice (SoP) changes being considered and gave an overview of the discussion from the last EMSPC meeting. The Commission agreed to publish SoP as it existed under the Board of Medicine in the new EMSPC

Standards Manual in January while continuing to draft a new SoP. This decision was reached after discussion of the Commissioners' concern over the substantial responsibility of building the new SoP and the desire to allow for public comment and careful consideration of the proposed changes.

**Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, moved and Commissioner Bramwell, American Academy of Pediatrics, Idaho Chapter, seconded to carry the Board of Medicine Scope of Practice into EMSPC Standards Manual v 2007-1. Commissioner Sturkie amended to allow the EMSPC Chairman to work with EMS Bureau to ensure the document does not conflict with current EMSPC draft rules. Motion passed unanimously.**

Medications allowed in SoP by Level:

The EMSPC began a discussion of medications to be allowed at all provider levels by the Idaho SoP.

Commissioner McKinnon spoke in support of adding automated blood glucometry to the EMT-Basic curriculum and SoP. Discussion expressing concern over both the lack of a standard of accuracy for equipment, and sophistication of training needed to accurately interpret results followed Commissioner McKinnon's motion by Commissioners Sivertson and Berg, supported by testimony from Dr. Noell Wolff, Bear Lake County Ambulance Services, and Bruce Allcott, Burley Fire Department/ Idaho Fire Chiefs Association. The motion failed to carry and automated blood glucometry will not be added to the EMT-Basic SoP.

**Commissioner McKinnon, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association, moved and Commissioner Masterson, Citizen Representative, seconded, to add automated blood glucometry to the EMT-Basic curriculum and SoP.**

**In Favor: Commissioners McKinnon and Martinez**

**Opposed: Commissioners Deutchman, Sivertson, Kim, Masterson, Bramwell, Berg and Sturkie.**

**Motion failed to pass.**

EMSPC discussion of medications to be allowed at the Advanced EMT level resulted in the Commission's adoption of the National SoP medication formulary at that level.

**Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter, moved and Commissioner Masterson, Citizen Representative, seconded to adopt AEMT medication formulary as proposed in the National EMS Scope of Practice Model. Motion passed unanimously.**

Should Advanced EMTs be allowed to perform digital and oral tracheal intubation?

Chairman Kim initiated the Advanced EMT intubation discussion by reiterating his concerns with continuing to include the skill. Chairman Kim clarified that LMA or Combitube would still

be options for intubation. The EMSPC agreed that digital and oral tracheal intubation was a difficult skill and required advanced training and stringent medical oversight. However, several Commissioners expressed concern over taking away a skill from Idaho EMTs without providing an option for agencies to continue the practice with additional training and an appropriate level of medical oversight.

Greg Owen, Canyon County Ambulance District, asked a question regarding training and responded to Commissioner's questions. Dr. Noell Wolff, Bear Lake County Ambulance Services, and Dr. Barry Smith, Gem County EMS, testified in favor of withdrawing digital and oral tracheal intubation from the Advanced EMT SoP. Rod Piller, Kamiah Ambulance, testified to support maintaining the skill as part of the Advanced EMT SoP. Mark Anderson, Kooskia Ambulance, and Bill Spencer, Syringa General Hospital, submitted letters to the EMSPC also in support of maintaining the skill in the Advanced EMT SoP.

Several motions were made with amendments to clarify the EMSPC's intent of removing digital and oral tracheal intubation from the Advanced EMT scope of practice while allowing the option for Advanced EMT agencies to continue the skill if they meet the EMSPC established standards.

**Commissioner Masterson, Citizen Representative, moved that oral intubation be removed from AEMT-A Scope of Practice.**

**Commissioner Sivertson, Idaho Hospital Association, amended motion to provide an exception through a waiver process including conditions for training.  
Chairman Kim requested the amendment given as a motion.**

**Commissioner Sivertson, Idaho Hospital Association, moved to remove oral, digital and nasal tracheal intubation from AEMT-A and create a waiver process that will allow oral, digital and nasal tracheal intubation which requires compliance with EMSPC standards to be developed. (as amended)**

**Commissioner Masterson, Citizen Representative, moved that oral, digital, nasal tracheal intubation be removed from A-EMTA Scope of Practice.  
Commissioner Bramwell, American Academy of Pediatrics, Idaho Chapter, amended motion so these skills can be optional skills for A-EMTA.**

**Commissioner Kim, Idaho Medical Association, amended and Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter seconded: Oral, digital, nasal tracheal intubation can be performed by A-EMTA when the agency meets or exceeds the standards established by the EMSPC.  
Motion passed unanimously.**

Should EMT-Ps be allowed to perform oral tracheal intubation with paralytics?

Chairman Kim provided a brief background of the topic. After clarifying that the draft National Scope of Practice will not allow Rapid Sequence Induction at the Paramedic level, the EMSPC

discussed several options. The EMSPC's intent is to support the national SoP in Idaho with the option for agencies to adopt paralytic assisted intubation if the agency meets or exceeds the standards established by the EMSPC. Greg Owen, Canyon County Ambulance District, and Travis Myklebust, Lewiston Fire Department, testified in support of the motion.

**Commissioner Sivertson, Idaho Hospital Association, moved and Commissioner Masterson, Citizen Representative, seconded, that the EMSPC interpret the National Scope of Practice model to prohibit EMT-P paralytic assisted intubation and that the EMSPC adopt the National Scope of Practice model specific to oral, nasal, and digital tracheal intubation with the option to include paralytic assisted intubation when the agency meets or exceeds the standards established by the EMSPC.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **EMSPC Statutory Immunity**

Corey Cartwright, Idaho State Deputy Attorney General, Human Services Division, provided a short overview of Idaho code relating to statutory immunity for the EMSPC. Mr. Cartwright also responded to several questions from the Commissioners.

## **EMS Agency Transfer of Care**

Commissioner McKinnon presented the agenda topic on behalf of the Idaho Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA) and initiated the discussion with a brief description of the topic. The IFCA's desire for the EMSPC, Commissioner McKinnon continued, was to create guidelines for the EMSPC Standards Manual that would require development of standing orders or procedures for the transfer of care between agencies, with consideration to the continuity of care of the patient. Chairman Kim reminded the EMSPC and audience that the EMSPC draft rules do reference the off-line medical supervision plan which includes "scene management for multiple EMS agencies anticipated to be on scene concurrently," which could be interpreted to include transfer of care. However, Chairman Kim also pointed out that the EMSPC's intent is not to dictate specifically to the local medical director.

Tom Allen, IFCA, testified in favor of continuity of care and answered questions by Commissioners. Discussion resulting from Mr. Allen's testimony led to a motion by Commissioner Sivertson. Due to limited time, Chairman Kim restricted further questions and testimony to the motion. Jeff Sceirine, Canyon County Ambulance District (CCAD), Bruce Alcott, Burley Fire Department/ IFCA, and Julie Madsen, M.D. CCAD, testified against the motion. In result of Dr. Madsen's testimony, Commissioner Sivertson amended his motion. Richard Radnovich, D.O. Nampa Fire Department, testified in support of the motion. Ron Anderson, Meridian Fire Department, testified in favor of withdrawing the motion. The EMSPC tabled further discussion until the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Chairman Kim apologized to attendants for limited time allowed for this topic and invited interested parties to attend the January meeting.

**Commissioner Sivertson, Idaho Hospital Association, moved to instruct the EMSPC Chairman to correspond with the Board of County Commissioners of Canyon County that**

**a problem concerning transfer of care which adversely affects patient outcome has been brought to the attention of the Commission and that the Commission recommends that the Board establish a single EMS Medical Director for Canyon County.**

**Commissioner Sivertson amended motion to read “an *alleged* problem...”**

**Motion carried forward to January 12, 2007 EMSPC meeting:**

**Commissioner Sivertson, Idaho Hospital Association, moved and Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter, seconded to instruct the Chairman to correspond with the Board of County Commissioners of Canyon County that an alleged problem concerning transfer of care which adversely affects patient outcome has been brought to the attention of the Commission and that the Commission recommends that the Board establish a single EMS Medical Director for Canyon County.**

**Commissioner Martinez, Citizen Representative, moved and Commissioner McKinnon, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association, seconded to table this debate until the next meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**

## **Future Meeting Schedule**

EMSPC will meet monthly through March, and then bi-monthly. Future meeting dates are January 12<sup>th</sup>, February 9<sup>th</sup>, March 9<sup>th</sup>, May 11<sup>th</sup>, July 13<sup>th</sup> with the option of cancellation. Meeting time will remain 9am-5pm and be convened at the Oxford Inn and Suites, unless unavailable. Please contact the EMS Bureau if interested in participating remotely.

## **Adjournment**

**MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Bramwell, American Academy of Pediatrics, Idaho Chapter, and seconded by Commissioner Berg, Idaho EMS Bureau, to adjourn the December 08, 2006 Idaho Emergency Medical Services Physician Commission meeting at 5:17 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.**

---

David Kim, M.D., Chairman  
Idaho EMS Physician Commission