

EMSAC General Session Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2008

COMMITTEE MEMBER ATTENDEES:

Nick Albers, Air Medical Member
Tom Allen, Fire Department Based Non-Transport Member
Vicki Armbruster, Volunteer Third Service Member
Diane Barker, Consumer Member
Denise Gill, Idaho Association of Counties Member
Gary Gilliam, Third Service Non-Transport Member
Dennis Godfrey, County EMS Administrator Member
Mark Johnson, Private Agency Member
David Kim, Idaho Chapter of ACEP Member
Scott Long, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association Member
Catherine Mabbutt, Board of Nursing Member
Travis Myklebust, EMS Instructor Member
Tim Rines, Career Third Service Member
Murry Sturkie, DO, Idaho Medical Association Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

James Ackerman, EMT- Paramedic Member
Randall Baldwin, EMT-Basic Member
Lloyd Jensen, Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatricians Member
Thomas Kraner, Committee on Trauma of the Idaho Chapter of ACS
Ken Bramwell, Emergency Pediatric Medicine Physician Member
Karen Kellie, Idaho Hospital Association Member

VACANT MEMBER SEATS

None

EMS STAFF ATTENDEES:

Chicoine, Kay	Larsen, Neeki
Cramer, John	Mink, Marcella
Denny, Wayne	Neufeld, Dean
Edgar, Andy	Newton, Tawni
Fend-Boehm, Valerie	Pierson, Russ
Freeman, Barbara	Thrasher, Carolyn
Gainor, Dia	

Other Attendees:

Davis, Mary Lou – Fremont County EMS
Hiller, Nanette – Idaho Hospital Association
Rich, Steve – Office of Highway Safety, ITD

Discussion	Decisions/Outcomes
General Business	
	Motion to approve the minutes was seconded and carried.
Exams Standards Manual	
<p>Wayne Denny presented an overview of the new Exams Standards Manual. Before the reorganization of the Bureau last summer, each region had its own exam process and there was not an Exams Standards Manual. The purpose of giving exams is to attest to the knowledge and abilities of candidates with assurance because of exam standardization. The new computer adaptive written exam process also necessitated standardization.</p> <p>EMS Standards Manual Contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Idaho Designated Certification Examinations • Candidate Examination Eligibility • Computer Based Written Examinations • Mobile Computer Based Written Examination Candidate Registration • Examination Procedures for Mobile Computer Based Written Examinations • Host Sites for Mobile Computer Based Written Examinations • Practical Skills Examinations • Candidate Registration for Practical Skills Examinations • Examination Procedures for Practical Skills Examinations • Host Sites for Practical Skill Examinations • Practical Skills Examined • Appendices <p>Vicki encouraged the members to become familiar with the document. It is well written. Goal is to enable candidates to get to an exam. Neeki Larsen is looking at getting a scholarship</p>	

<p>program created.</p> <p>The cost for all written exams is the same for mobile and set authorized exams sites and is payable to Pearson Vue. Test results can be available in as little as 24 hours.</p> <p>Suggestion to delete the reference to “computer based written” to just “computer based.”</p>	<p>Motion to recommend that the Bureau adopt the Exams Standards Manual was seconded and carried.</p>
--	---

National EMS Educational Standards Development: Status & Implications for Idaho

<p>Presentation by Tawni Newton about the overview of Idaho’s implementation of “EMS Agenda for the Future”.</p> <p>The EMS Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach was released in 2000 with five components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National EMS Core Content (Released in July 2005) • National EMS Scope of Practice Model (Released in September 2006) • National EMS Education Standards (To be completed fall 2008 & released by NHTSA spring 2009) • National EMS Education Program Accreditation • National EMS Certification <p>The State of Idaho intends to follow the implementation process for the new <i>National EMS Scope of Practice Model’s</i> four EMS provider levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Medical Responder • Emergency Medical Technician • Advanced EMT • Paramedic <p>The EMS Physician commission is creating Idaho specific scope of practice for all provider levels, which will closely align with the national standards and may exceed them with Idaho specific enhancements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education on Idaho specific EMS laws, agency and system requirements will be developed and integrated into the new initial training programs. • Stand alone modules will need to be provided for reciprocity/transition 	
---	--

<p>applicants. (Safe Haven, POST/DNR, Air Medical Utilization/LZO, Scope of Practice enhancements).</p> <p>The lead organization endorsing and assisting with state implementation has recommended that “States should enact and implement scopes of practice that are nationally uniform for each profession and based upon standards and models developed by the national policy advisory body.”</p> <p>Idaho is ahead in many areas. The Bureau has already made a grid of scope of practice for each level. A Gap Analysis will need to be done. There aren’t many changes in the two lower levels (First Responder and EMT). More discussion will be needed for the Advanced and Paramedic levels.</p> <p>Reciprocity issues will need to be addressed with the transition. Reciprocity applications have increased to 77 in the last 9 months compared to a few per month in previous years.</p>	
<p>Neeki Larsen presented an overview about the need for accreditation of EMS courses in Idaho. Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a consistent, objective mechanism for program evaluation • Process of self-evaluation, peer site visitation, and commission review • Defines minimum standards for educational programs and resources • Assures quality of education in place • Ensures public and student protection • Allows federal student loan use <p>NREMT Board Communiqué states that “on November 14th, 2007 the NREMT Board of Directors ‘unanimously passed the motion to require applicants for national paramedic certification to graduate from a nationally accredited educational program after December 31, 2012.”</p> <p>NREMT Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors states, “the current evidence supports requiring accreditation at the paramedic level. We may revisit the issue of accreditation at other (EMT) levels at a later date.”</p> <p>The Institute of Medicine (IoM) report recommends requiring accreditation only at the</p>	

paramedic level. The NREMT motion only affects the paramedic level. The *EMS Education Agenda for the Future* calls for accreditation at all levels.

EMSAC asked for a clarification of the differing recommendations by IoM and other guidebooks. The EMS Education Agenda for the Future is the current (most recent) “play book.”

The Chairman of the NREMT Board of Directors states, “This is an important step forward for the discipline of paramedicine. Every occupational group that has evolved and gained credibility as a profession has done so through strengthening their educational and credentialing systems. We know that this change will be a challenge, but the Board feels confident that accreditation will improve paramedic education and ultimately the quality of care that patients receive in the out-of-hospital setting.”

Since the NREMT Board is not going to require accreditation for the other EMT levels, the State of Idaho needs an alternative source of state level accreditation for the other EMT levels.

EMSAC will be involved in assisting the EMS Bureau with the implementation process of the *EMS Education Agenda for the Future*.

Associated tasks and decisions on the horizon:

- Rule changes
- Stand-up an accreditation body
- Instructor preparation/requirements
- Transition of existing providers
- Timeframe (deadline 2012)

Resuscitation of Education Subcommittee

How does ICEE fit into this?

The ICEE project was the Bureau’s important attempt at gathering the educators from institutions of higher education, colleges & universities, and proprietary schools and should have included those who teach health occupation courses in high schools. The Bureau knew it would need to consider accreditation because of the EMS Agenda for the Future. ICEE’s first task was to help draft the accreditation standards and define what accreditation would look like if a state had to set up its own accreditation system.

<p>ICEE has labored diligently for the past two years and has provided a model for state accreditation. The Bureau asked about ICEE's interest in becoming a non-profit accreditation body. They are still interested in structure development and specialty course delivery and would like to continue. The Bureau was forced to discontinue funding to ICEE, due to budget constraints.</p> <p>There are still many unanswered accreditation questions and there is a need to re-establish the EMSAC Education Subcommittee. Does Idaho want to follow national accreditation policies or do we want a state specific accreditation? This will be the first topic for the Education Subcommittee. The national accreditation system is only for paramedics. ICEE took the national paramedic standards and modified them to work for the other levels. This is a time bomb topic. Idaho instructors and organizations are currently teaching Bureau approved courses that will not be in compliance with the paramedic accreditation national standards.</p>	<p>A motion to immediately re-establish the Education Subcommittee, seek membership from EMSAC and establish a liaison relationship with ICEE was seconded and carried.</p> <p>Members: Nick Albers, Tom Allen, Vicki Armbruster, Diane Barker, Denise Gill, Dennis Godfrey, Cathy Mabbutt, Travis Myklebust (Chair), Murry Sturkie, Mark Johnson. Denise Gill suggested including high school health care occupation professional to be an ad hoc member of the new subcommittee.</p>
--	--

EMSC Subcommittee Report

<p>HRSA updated 7 of the 10 EMSC Performance Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ data collection revisions ○ definitions given to on- and off-line medical direction ○ pediatric equipment looked at per 'patient care unit', not agency <p>The new pediatric education requirements for all levels of EMTs will be included in the new Certification Standards Manual effective September 2007.</p> <p>155 agency surveys have been returned (81%) response rate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on survey responses, 40 pediatric backboards and 25 jump kits are being distributed to agencies • 33 hospital surveys have been returned, only 4 more needed for 100% • Hospitals received a Broselow Tape or pediatric bike helmet for responding 	
---	--

<p>Bids have been received to conduct 5 EPC Instructor courses and should be awarded by Monday. Classes potentially could start within 6 weeks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued discussion at next Subcommittee meeting: How to keep new instructors training the courses How to market the courses Should we add specific hours/content in Basic EMT training for pediatrics <p>A brochure regarding new pediatric recertification requirements and educational opportunities available will be sent out via the Idaho EMS listserv.</p> <p>Neeki Larsen reported on the newly formed Idaho Simulation Network (ISN)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ISN will coordinate courses for simulation training and help ensure that simulation is available to all levels of pre-hospital and hospital providers This may create an opportunity to get SimBabies incorporated into EPC courses <p>Poll of EMSAC members who use the EMS listserv was about 50%. Suggestion to provide a link on our Website to the listserv.</p>	
--	--

Licensure Subcommittee Report

Ada County Paramedics – Upgrade from ALS 2 to ALS 1 [02-02]

	<p>A motion to recommend approval of Ada County Paramedics upgrade request was seconded and carried.</p>
--	--

Grants Subcommittee

<p style="text-align: center;">Dedicated Grant Rules Revision</p> <p>Bureau processing sampling of actual applications with new scoring criteria for task force to evaluate recommended revisions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FY08 Training Grant Program</p> <p>Available funding \$63,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 55 awards made at 57% of priority 1 eligible amount - total \$53,859 2 awards rescinded because Letter of 	
--	--

Intent/Notation not returned by due date – 12/31/07 – total \$1,283

- Notification of unused funding, if any, distributed and paid to eligible agencies by 5/20/08

FY09 Training Grant Program

Discussed possible uses of potential available funds.

Agency must fund:

- Training courses for new Advanced EMT level
- Training for new Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST)
- Contract for accrediting entity for development of new Advanced level training
- Development of Idaho-specific modules to coincide with present courses and for reciprocity candidates
- Subcommittee made and passed motion that Bureau reactivate Education Subcommittee

FY08 Dedicated Grant

Status Report Reviewed

FY09 Dedicated Grant

- Current balance \$617,281.93
- Application documents reviewed by committee, to be sent to agencies no later than Feb. 28, 2008
- Maximum award amount reviewed
- Date for application review set for June 26, 2008

A motion to recommend support of the Grant Subcommittee recommendations was seconded and carried.