

# IDAHO EMSPC MEETING MINUTES

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September 12, 2008

A meeting of the Idaho Emergency Medical Services Physician Commission was held on this date at the Cambria Suites, 2970 W. Elder, Boise, Idaho. Chairman Kim called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

**Members Present:**

Adam Deutchman, M.D.  
Bat Masterson  
Curtis Sandy, M.D.  
David Kim, M.D.  
Debra McKinnon, D.O.  
Kenny Bramwell, M.D.  
Murry Sturkie, D.O.

**Member's Position:**

American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma  
Citizen Representative  
State Board of Medicine  
Idaho Medical Association  
Idaho Fire Chiefs Association  
American Academy of Pediatrics, Idaho Chapter  
American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter

**Members Absent:**

Cay Berg  
Keith Sivertson  
Pat Galvin  
Scott French, M.D.

**Member's Position:**

Idaho Emergency Medical Services Bureau  
Idaho Hospital Association  
Citizen Representative  
Idaho Association of Counties

**Others Present:**

Barbara Blakesley  
Dia Gainor  
Diana Hone  
Grant Hamilton  
Jerry Poplin  
Jill Hiller  
John Hunt  
Larry Manring  
Mary Lou Davis  
Neeki Larsen  
Loralei Sturkie  
Michele Carreras  
Richard Krause  
Roy Allen  
Russ Pierson  
Scott Lossman  
Season Pierson  
Tawni Newton  
Tom Allen  
Val Navo  
Wayne Denny  
William F. Powell

**Other's Position:**

Idaho Department of Health & Welfare  
Idaho EMS Bureau Chief  
Idaho EMS Bureau Administrative Assistant  
PFFI  
NHTSA OEMS  
Cascade Rural Fire & EMS  
Northern Lakes Fire  
Fort Hall Fire & EMS  
Fremont County EMS  
Idaho EMS Bureau Systems Development Manager  
Idaho EMS Education Consultants  
Idaho EMS Bureau State Communications Manager  
Cascade Fire & EMS  
Pocatello Fire  
Idaho EMS Bureau Compliance Specialist  
Micron EMS  
Idaho EMS Bureau Regional Consultant  
Idaho EMS Bureau Credentialing Manager  
Nampa Fire Department/ IFCA  
Fort Hall Fire & EMS District  
Idaho EMS Bureau Standards and Compliance Manager  
Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

## **Approval of Minutes**

**Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter, moved and Commissioner Masterson, Citizen Representative, seconded the motion to accept the draft minutes as submitted.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **Timing of Commission Nominations**

Mrs. Pat Galvin has been appointed to the EMS Physician Commission (EMSPC) as a citizen representative to replace Elmer Martinez, who resigned. Her appointment is through August 1, 2011. All commissioners whose terms were up have been reappointed and their new terms will expire August 1, 2011. Those commissioners are: Murry Sturkie, D.O., American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter; Adam Deutchman, M.D., American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma; Debra McKinnon, D.O., Idaho Fire Chiefs Association; Curtis Sandy, M.D., Idaho State Board of Medicine.

The timing for nominating and appointing commissioners is a bit awkward because of officer elections and meetings such as the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) that the EMSPC Chairman needs to attend in September. The commissioner appointment date is August 1<sup>st</sup>. Officers serve for one year beginning in August. Officer elections cannot be held in the spring to prepare for August because it is not known at that time who the returning commissioners or new commissioners will be. When officer elections are held in September, technically, there are no officers for a month and a new chairperson would not have time to prepare for the annual NASEMSO meeting that month. If the nomination process is started in the fall, so the appointments can be made by January for the following August, officer elections could be held in May, giving a new chairperson time to prepare for the September meeting and NASEMSO, etc.

**Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter, moved and Commissioner Bramwell, American Academy of Pediatrics, Idaho Chapter, seconded, to ask the EMS Bureau to start the nomination process by September 30, with nominations being submitted to the Governor's Office by November 30.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **Election of Officers**

Current officers are David Kim, Chairman; Scott French, Vice Chairman.

**Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter, nominated Commissioner Kim to serve as Chairman. Commissioner Deutchman, American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, seconded.**

**Motion carried unanimously and position was accepted.**

**Commissioner Sandy, State Board of Medicine, nominated Commissioner Sturkie for Vice Chairman.** Commissioner Sturkie said he would accept if Commissioner French did not want to serve any longer.

**Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter, nominated Commissioner French for Vice Chairman if he wants to continue serving in that position.**

A phone call was made to Commissioner French. He accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Sturkie withdrew acceptance of his nomination.

**It was agreed by acclamation that Commissioner French would continue as Vice Chairman for another year.**

### **Code Task Force Report**

Commissioner Sturkie reported that the EMS Code Task Force is seeking support for the proposed EMS System (EMSS) District legislation by presenting the material to and answering questions of various groups. A meeting independent from the Bureau is scheduled for October 9<sup>th</sup> with stakeholders and lobbyists to determine how to move the legislation forward with legislators.

The Medical Authority in the legislation is complementary to the requirements of the EMSPC by requiring counties that have more than one medical director to work together and elect a chairman to represent them on the district board. There is a system-wide protocol requirement (page 9 of the v.2.8.2 draft legislation). There is the option for every agency to have a medical director, but all the medical directors within the EMSS district must create a medical committee or EMSS Medical Authority. They would choose a chairman of this committee to represent them on the EMSS Administrative Authority. By working together on the medical authority committee, protocols and all other requirements of the EMSPC would be developed as one voice from the medical authority for all agencies within the district. A EMSS district could also choose to have only one medical director for their entire system.

The EMSPC will need to take a stand on this legislation at their November meeting. Support, Neutral, Oppose? Chairman Kim requested the latest draft be distributed to commissioners at least two (2) weeks before the November meeting. Commissioner Sturkie noted that a new draft would only have minor changes from the one they have before them (v.2.8.2).

### **Medical Director Education**

The three (3) EMS Medical Supervision Workshops were well attended with good feedback from the administrators and medical directors. (Pocatello 30, Moscow 18, McCall 45) More administrators attended than doctors. Appreciation was expressed to Mary Sheridan of the State Office of Rural Health for helping fund the workshops.

The on-line medical director course is not up yet. The goal is for the on-line course to include some Idaho specific content. Eventually medical directors will be required to take that course and the commission will hold subsequent workshops. Chairman Kim asked the subcommittee to ensure the Idaho specific items include scope of practice issues and the medical supervision plan. Chairman Kim also requested the subcommittee stay on top of advanced planning for upcoming workshops and to check with Mary Sheridan on available funding. Funding may not be available for workshops next year.

Commissioner McKinnon asked if the EMSPC is going to require a course, will it accept other courses? For instance, if someone new is coming in and has taken an EMS medical director course in another state before he comes, is that acceptable? Chairman Kim asked to hold off on this until discussion of Medical Director Certification topic later on the agenda.

## **Wildland Fire**

No site visits occurred; no type 1 or 2 fires in Idaho this year.

Dia reported the Incident Emergency Medical Task Group's business plan has been posted on their website. <http://www.nwcg.gov/teams/shwt/iemtg/index.html> A subcommittee is compiling protocols from the National Park Service, Cal-Mat teams that are used at wildland fires, the Alaska fire medic program, the U.S. Forest Service incident medical specialist program, etc. as an indicator of scope of practice. They are using grids and documenting the scopes of practice for EMT and paramedic levels by all those agencies to define what practical skills are being applied in those settings. They are also looking at the BLM smoke jumpers whose EMTs have medications with them. Once that is developed a different committee with a larger physician contingent will develop protocols and guidelines to present back to the federal agencies and others who use or employ EMS personnel at wildland fires in consideration of adoption of a uniform standard.

Chairman Kim stated he was more concerned about issues such as training, competency assessments, oversight, accountability and supervision than a specific scope of practice (SoP). Commissioner Sturkie was concerned that EMS physicians be involved from the beginning of the SoP process.

## **2008-1 Scope of Practice Education / Training Modules**

Neeki Larsen reviewed the progress of the Idaho EMS Educational Consultants on the education modules they are developing for the SoP changes in the EMSPC 2008-1 Standards Manual. Phase I are the modules for the required skills. These modules are projected to be completed by January 2009. Phase II are the modules for the optional skills and are projected to be done by the end of the grant period which is June 2009.

**Chempack Guideline.** Lengthy discussion and research resulted in modifications to the proposed guideline presented by Neeki Larsen. It was determined the SoP grid also needed to be changed in the standards manual to accommodate different injectors, e.g. Mark I, Duo Dote. This created a question for Frank Powell, Dept of Health and Welfare Rules Unit. It was determined later in the meeting that these minor changes could be made to the 2008-1 Standards Manual and it would be renamed 2008-1a in the new proposed Rule.

**Commissioner McKinnon, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association, moved to clarify that Atropine & 2-Pam Chloride may be delivered by any commercially available FDA approved auto injector device. Commissioner Masterson, Citizen Representative, seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

## **2008-1 Standards Manual Pending Rule Approval – Summary of Changes**

It was determined to make minor changes to the standards manual and rename the version to 2008-1a. These changes will show when the Amendment to Pending Rule publishes in the November Legislative Bulletin. This would require further explanation to go along with the Summary of Changes document.

*Changes to the proposed Summary of Changes (2007-1 to 2008-1)*

3<sup>rd</sup> sentence in General #2 - change "outside" to "above"

Change all headings of "Addition of Mark-I auto-injector" to "Additions of Atropine / 2 Pralidoxime Chloride auto injectors (e.g. Mark I, DuoDote)"

Change all headings of “Addition of Epi-Pen auto-injector” to “Additions of Epinephrine auto injector (e.g. Epi-pen)”

Change “utilize” to “use” throughout document

*Changes to 2008-1 Standards Manual (2008-1 to 2008-1a)*

Lines 156-158 of the SOP grid on page 26: Atropine & 2-Pam Chloride (e.g. Mark-I, Duo Dote) rather than Mark-I specific to correspond to changes made to Chempack Guideline above, to make it generic rather than proprietary.

Line 149 change 2x to X only

Line 5 BiPAP 2,OM in purple

Line 41 PEEP 2,OM in purple

**Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter, moved to**

- 1. Make the following changes to the 2008-1 Standards Manual:**
  - a. Lines 156-158 of the SOP grid on page 26: Atropine & 2-Pam Chloride (e.g. Mark-I, Duo Dote),**
  - b. Line 149 change 2x to X only,**
  - c. Line 5 BiPAP 2,OM in purple,**
  - d. Line 41 PEEP 2,OM in purple**
- 2. Approve the Summary of Changes document as amended**
- 3. Amend the Pending Rule to change the standards manual version from 2008-1 to 2008-1a with the changes noted above. Commissioner Sandy, State Board of Medicine, seconded.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Transfer of authority for EMS certification fees from EMS Bureau to EMSPC**

The proposed idea to transfer fee setting authority from the EMS Bureau to the EMSPC was stopped by the Deputy Director of the Department of Health and Welfare, Richard Schultz. An e-mail from Deputy Director Shultz regarding this issue was in the commissioners’ packets. Chairman Kim had a lengthy discussion with Deputy Director Shultz and Jane Smith, Idaho State Division of Health Administrator, about this and other issues. If the commission wants to pursue this law change in the future, they will need to explain in more detail exactly what the money would be used for and why it is needed. When the commission talked about needing fee setting authority they were thinking of future projects that would probably require some additional monies, it was trying to plan ahead.

Commissioner Sturkie asked if this restricts the commission from requesting fees for device reviews since the commission cannot set fees. Chairman Kim responded that the current proposal was just for transfer of authority for setting certification fees. The concept of charging fees for medical director certification or for drug and device review, etc., would be a completely different item to bring up with the 2010 legislature, if desired.

### **Medical Supervision Plans – Due November 1st**

There are 86 EMS medical directors that will be submitting plans. It was determined that all medical supervision plans will be reviewed by the nine (9) EMSPC physicians. A check list of all required elements needs to be developed for this review. Notes about exceptional or interesting sections could be listed on the back. Examples will be compiled and shared with all medical directors in the future. Commissioners will not review their own plans and will recuse themselves from reviewing a plan if they feel there is a conflict of interest. Agencies should be supplied with a review noting areas where they were deficient along with examples to assist them in making the corrections. The EMSPC is

looking to help EMS medical directors and agencies instill and verify competency through the medical supervision plans.

The Commission asked the EMS Bureau to remind agency directors and medical directors that the medical supervision plans are due November 1<sup>st</sup>. This reminder could be included in the airway management reporting letter.

### **Medical Director Certification**

Chairman Kim asked if the commission is ready for this. Commissioner Sandy stated that the end goal of the Medical Director Education Subcommittee would be for the EMSPC to eventually establish educational requirements and develop our own certification program for EMS medical directors. This could be 2, 3, 5 years down the road but gives the Education Subcommittee a direction. This item was deferred to the Medical Director Education Subcommittee to come up with more detail.

### **Statewide Pandemic Flu Planning and Scope of Practice**

Neeki Larsen explained that the state received a baseline grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for pandemic influenza planning. The grant process requires a report that is graded by CDC and the score determines funding. There are a few questions that may apply to the EMSPC such as requesting scope of practice changes for EMS providers in declared emergency situations. The commissioners did not appreciate the need for any scope of practice changes based on the information that was presented. They felt the changes that would occur in a declared disaster would be more operational such as modifying dispatch or destination, moving assets from one area to another that is harder hit, quarantine, etc. These things would be handled at the local level rather than EMSPC.

Ms. Larsen informed the commission that the state is creating a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) which will be aggregated in the spring. COOP may bring forth medical questions that would involve the EMSPC.

As the discussion continued, there was concern that other entities planning for pandemic flu or disasters may be expecting to use EMS personnel to disseminate medications or vaccines that are outside their scope of practice or to man aid stations. It was emphasized that this is impractical, as the EMS personnel will already be maxed out and overloaded with their normal duties of transporting patients and working within their legal scope. There will still be car crashes, heart attacks, etc. The EMSPC encourages the pandemic flu and emergency disaster planners to expand their base of volunteers to people such as retired nurses and physicians for these situations and leave EMS personnel available to do what they are trained to do within their scope of practice. Barbara Blakesley and Mary Lou Davis indicated these options are part of the planning as well. The commissioners reemphasized that EMS personnel are a long way from being physicians or nurses in their level of training and patient assessment capabilities.

Chairman Kim requested clarification on the specific scope of practice questions. What do they want exactly? The question seems to be, "What is the EMSPC going to do about credentialing, oversight and scope of practice in a declared disaster?" Chairman Kim asked Ms. Larsen to try to bring what other states are doing about allowing reasonable movement of personnel and equipment, medical oversight, scope of practice, and credentialing for review at the November meeting. He felt the commission would be hard pressed to create a solution that would work statewide.

Commissioner Sandy suggested perhaps a disaster situation policy needs to be developed to allow EMS personnel to work in a different county under the supervision of a different medical director but maintain the scope of practice that they are credentialed under in their home county or agency. Commissioner Sturkie suggested expanding the medical supervision plan to cover events like this. The example offered was the Special Olympics where medics moved from one county to another under their own protocols and operated under the medical director for that area with the authorization of their home medical director.

Another problem discussed was whether anyone has authority to compel EMS volunteers to put themselves at risk in another area of the state? Perhaps asking each county to develop a team of people that would be willing to be deployed to another area could be an approach.

### **Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD)**

There was lengthy discussion about entities doing EMD without medical direction and quality assurance. Commissioners Sandy and Sturkie committed to have a conversation with the Emergency Communications Commission to see where they are heading with this. A report will be made at the November meeting and the EMSPC will further discuss what action, if any, they want to pursue at that point.

### **Ryan White Act**

In response to the request from Commissioner Sturkie at the last EMSPC meeting, the EMS Bureau sent a letter and the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) Position Paper regarding the Ryan White Act to all Idaho EMS agencies. These were reviewed and it was noted that the letter included a website link to information for anyone that wants to be more involved.

### **Glucagon and Glucometry Guidelines**

A few modifications were made to the final forms, including the addition of the “Note” sections at the bottom, therefore they were presented to the EMSPC for final approval. Additional changes were made:

#### **Glucometry – Indications**

DELETE: “Known or suspected diabetes”

ADD bullet points: “OR Sweating and rapid heart rate”

“OR Focal neurologic deficit”

“OR Behavioral changes”

**Commissioner Sturkie, American College of Emergency Physicians, Idaho Chapter, moved to approve the Glucometry guideline as amended. Commissioner Masterson, Citizen Representative, seconded.  
Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Glucagon - Indications**

Need number on which to act. ADD “(less than 80)”

**Commissioner McKinnon, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association, moved to approve the Glucagon guideline as amended. Commissioner Deutchman, American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, seconded.  
Motion passed unanimously.**

## **Drug and Device Approval Form**

**Commissioner Bramwell, American Academy of Pediatrics, Idaho Chapter, moved to approve the Requests for Device and Medication Approval application as presented. Commissioner McKinnon, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association, seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

## **Advanced Airway Management Data Gathering**

Commissioners reviewed a draft letter to be sent to EMS agency directors and EMS medical directors regarding the new advanced airway management data collection. The Reporting Sheet, Appendix F in the EMSPC 2008-1 Standards Manual, will be sent along with the letter. The EMS Bureau also developed a computer based electronic tool that can be used for reporting rather than the paper form. The letter and the electronic tool were reviewed. The following changes were requested:

Update the sentence in the second paragraph to read: "...if they attempt any *additional* advanced airway management procedures, *which are listed in question #3*.

Add a reminder about the need to submit medical supervision plans by November 1.

It was noted that the form needs to be filled out by the EMS provider.

**Commissioner Masterson, Citizen Representative, moved to approve the letter as amended. Commissioner McKinnon, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association, seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Rachael Alter, EMS Bureau, took the questions from the form and created a computer-based survey monkey tool that will be posted on the EMSPC website for advanced airway data collection. The data submitted using this tool can be downloaded into an Excel file for analysis. Wayne Denny went through the tool, noting a few changes the commission requested.

**Commissioner Bramwell, American Academy of Pediatrics, Idaho Chapter, moved to approve the form and survey monkey tool as amended. Commissioner McKinnon, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association, seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

The next EMSPC meeting will be held in Lewiston at Lewis & Clark State College, November 13, 2008. The February 13, 2009 meeting is scheduled for Boise at the Cambria Suites.

## **Adjournment**

**MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Masterson, Citizen Representative, and seconded by Commissioner McKinnon, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association, to adjourn the September 12, 2008 Idaho Emergency Medical Services Physician Commission meeting at 5:10 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.**

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David Kim, Chairman  
Idaho Emergency Medical Services Physician Commission