

**NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION
COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
(Advisory Committee to State Health Division)
MINUTES**

Wednesday, October 19, 2005, at 1:00 p.m.

*Bureau of Licensure and Certification
Conference Room
1550 East College Parkway, Suite 158
Carson City, NV*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Rory Chetelat
Richard Schwall
Bobby Wartgow
Richard Rand
Stephanie Beck
Mary Anderson, MD, MPH
Fergus Laughridge
Dave MacIntyre representing John Fildes, MD

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

Kelly Dawson
Mike Heidemann

HEALTH DIVISION STAFF PRESENT

John Lambert, EMS Representative II
Connie McFadden, Administrative Assistant III

1. Roll Call/Approval of minutes from May 20, 2004, meeting Bobby Wartgow, Chairman

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Wartgow at 1:10 pm. The committee members were advised that since a quorum was not present no voting could take place on action items. All action items will be carried forward to the next meeting.

2. Health Division Report Bradford Lee, MD
State Health Officer

Dr. Lee was not able to attend so this item will be carried over to the next meeting.

3. EMS Report Fergus Laughridge

Fergus Laughridge presented the EMS report to the committee. Mr. Laughridge advised that the EMS budget has received legislative approval. One item added to the EMS budget this year is a category titled Homeland Security. The EMS Office received a sub-grant from the Office of Domestic Preparedness in the amount of \$274,652. The purpose of that funding is to purchase two support vehicles and two trailers that are equipped to provide treatment and triage of up to 500 casualties from biological exposure. The trailers will be placed regionally, one in Carson City and one in Elko. The Public Health Preparedness Program is working to develop a registry of volunteers that could respond in the event of an aid request. Chairman Wartgow asked if the EMS Program budget had been approved without any major cuts. Mr. Laughridge stated that the budget was approved as presented, with the addition of items such as the Homeland Security category and a category for Out of State Travel which has not been funded in previous years. Stephanie Beck asked about funding for radios and repeater sites. Mr. Laughridge stated that maintenance for repeater sites is covered in the EMS budget. The EMS Office has a vacant EMS Representative position in the Elko Office. The hiring process is on going. Mr. Laughridge hopes to fill that position by the end of the year.

Mr. Laughridge advised that the deadline for compliance to the regulation regarding WMD training for all licensed EMS personnel was October 1, 2005. Letters will be sent out to services that are not in compliance with this regulation.

Mr. Laughridge advised the committee that the EMS Office recently conducted an 'Air Medical Workgroup'. The meeting was well attended and was very positive. The group will continue to meet with the objective of revising the state regulations related to air ambulance services.

Mr. Laughridge advised that Bob Heath, EMS Education Coordinator, is currently working on an EMS-C grant. The Health Division is taking the lead on this grant. This is a three (3) year grant with funding of \$115,000 per year.

Mr. Laughridge told the committee that the EMS Office is meeting with the Nevada Emergency Medical Association (NEMA) board to explore ways the State EMS Office can work with NEMA to bring up membership and involvement.

Mr. Laughridge stated that EMS services are not taking advantage of the EMS Training Grant program. He asked committee members to encourage volunteer EMS services to apply with the State EMS Office for training grant moneys.

4. Report on progress with National Registry Testing Fergus Laughridge

Fergus Laughridge advised that the rollout of the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) testing at the basic level has been very successful. The EMS Office started using the NREMT test for Basic level in May, 2005. Intermediate will be added in December, 2005 and Advanced in June, 2006. There is currently a 70% pass rate. NREMT will present training at the EMS Conference in May, 2006. Stephanie Beck asked Rory Chetelat, EMS Program Manager, Clark County Health District (CCHD), about the implementation in Clark County. Mr. Chetelat advised CCHD will start in mid 2006. Chairman Wartgow inquired about testing sites. Mr. Laughridge stated that NREMT will be moving to computer testing at designated sites in 2007. There will be test sites throughout Nevada. Practical exams will be able to be administered at the local level.

5. Update on EMS Webpage Fergus Laughridge

Fergus Laughridge advised that the EMS Webpage is not current and the EMS Office is working to correct this problem.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding Committee vacancies Bobby Wartgow

Mr. Wartgow addressed the committee about the need to fill the current vacancies on the committee and the need for the members to attend all meetings to ensure a quorum is present. Mr. Wartgow asked for suggestions on individuals to fill vacant positions. Fergus Laughridge suggested that Dave MacIntyre, MD fill the position of an emergency department physician. Dr. MacIntyre has an extensive background in emergency care. Brian Fladhammer has been suggested to fill the position of an employee of an air ambulance service. Mike Williams has been suggested to fill the position of an employee of a privately owned ambulance service.

7. Setting goals for the Committee Bobby Wartgow

Chairman Wartgow states that at this time the primary goal of the committee is to fill vacancies and ensure a quorum at the meetings.

8. Setting goals for the Sub-Committees Bobby Wartgow

Chairman Wartgow stated the following goals for the sub-committees;

Education: Encourage volunteer EMS services to apply for EMS Training Grants
Review possible sites for NREMT testing

Clinical Care: Work with the State EMS Office on the EMS-C grant if it is awarded

Chairman Wartgow suggested adding an EMS/Homeland Security sub-committee which could work on the development of an MCI plan for the state.

9. Public Comments and Discussion - (Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda at a later meeting for action).
John Lambert, EMS Representative, State EMS Office, stated that the rollout of the NREMT testing at the basic level had gone very smoothly. Richard Rand asked if moving to NREMT testing is deterring volunteers. Rory Chetelat stated that NREMT provides good feedback for remedial training. Stephanie Beck stated that Washoe County District Health is looking at amending the county disaster plan to include information sharing in mutual aid situations.
Dr. MacIntyre stated that he would like to set up a program for cadaver training. It is a 4 hour program and has been successful in other areas. He would like to see a statewide program.

10. Next Meeting – Agenda

The next meeting was scheduled for January 12, 2006, at 10:00 am in the Carson City Office of the Bureau of Licensure and Certification.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm