

EMS Operations Subcommittee  
March 5, 2008

Subcommittee Members

Present:

Rand Andrus  
Jeff Hunt  
Ron Johnson  
Steve Joyce  
Brent Mabey  
Deborah Mecham  
Brian Simpson  
Lauara Snyder  
Dan Walker  
Ernie Williams  
Deanna Wolfe  
Dennis Wyman

Excused:

Renee' Holleran  
Frank Park

Visitors and

Bureau Personnel:

Jenny Allred  
Tammy Barton  
Raleigh Bunch  
Dan Camp  
Guy Dansie  
Leslie Johnson  
Joshua Legler  
Allen Liu  
Paul Patrick  
Peter Taillac  
Jolene Whitney  
Jim Zimmerman

Welcome and Introductions

Lauara Snyder brought the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. She introduced Brian Simpson, Program Director of AirMed, as a new member of the Committee.

**Action Items**

Review and Approval of Minutes

Lauara Snyder asked if everyone had an opportunity to read the minutes. She entertained a motion for the approval of the last meeting minutes.

**Rand Andrus moved that the minutes of December 5, 2007 be approved as written. Ernie Williams seconded the motion and those voting in the affirmative were Jeff Hunt, Ron Johnson, Steve Joyce, Brent Mabey, Deborah Mecham, Brian Simpson, Lauara Snyder, Dan Walker, Deanna Wolfe, and Dennis Wyman. There were no abstentions or negative votes.**

Introduce Dr. Taillac

Jolene Whitney introduced Dr. Peter Taillac as the State EMS Medical Director. Jolene reported that Dr. Taillac is currently the assistant surgeon for the National Guard. He was working as an ER physician at Pioneer Valley Hospital, but is currently working for Dr. Barton at the University of Utah; an ER physician at the U of U Hospital, and also the medical director for West Valley City Fire Department. Some of his assignments may be to review variance requests, protocols, and

provide clinical resource. Dr. Taillac can be contacted at [ptailiac@utah.gov](mailto:ptailiac@utah.gov) or by phone 801-538-6403.

#### Subcommittee Appointment/Terms, etc.

Lauara Snyder reported on the Subcommittee appointment process and guidelines. When the subcommittee was organized a year and a half ago the office terms were staggered so everyone wouldn't be leaving at the same time. There were five positions that expired last June of 2007. Those people submitted applications to serve for an additional term. The members expiring in June of 2008 will also need to resubmit an application to serve an additional term. All of the members who will be expiring stated that they would be completing the application for an additional term. Appointments to EMS Committee subcommittees shall be for a period of three years. If a member needs to leave during their term, the Bureau of EMS will fill the position from the applications submitted to the Bureau of EMS. Based on the term of a person they are replacing, if they are more than eighteen months into the term that will be the end of their first term. If it is less than eighteen months they can reapply for two more terms. The maximum time on the Subcommittee is two consecutive terms.

#### Dispatch Center Designation Rule Update

Jim Hansen discussed the EMS Administrative Rules regarding the Designation of EMD Dispatch Centers. Historically, three years ago there was the Dispatch Task Force wanted to revise the Dispatch Center Designation Rule. It is his understanding that there are dispatch centers that are not designated because they can't meet the requirements of the designation. He stated that the Dispatch Task Force of June 2006 recommendations was to implement three levels of EMD center designations: level 1 advanced, level II intermediate and level III basic. He stated the goal is to write the rules and bring them back to this subcommittee for approval.

Paul Patrick gave a brief overview of the Dispatch Task Force of June 2006. There was a lot of work and discussion that went into the recommendations of the rule revisions regarding the designated EMD dispatch centers. The task force presented to the Law Enforcement Committees, the Utah Sheriff's Association, and the Utah Chiefs of Police Association. Some of the rural dispatch centers can't meet the criteria in the EMS Administrative Rules.

Tammy Barton made a recommendation that dispatchers need to be Utah Certified EMD.

Deborah Mecham stated that she served on the task force and remembers that some of the smaller agencies were concerned from the administrative level that the cost of certification and training the employees. Also, recommended that the dispatchers should be Utah Certified EMD.

Jim stated that he will email the proposed rules changes out to the Subcommittee before the next meeting for review.

### Specialty Care Update and Future Considerations

Paul Patrick reported that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services came out with a policy that the states need to approve additional training for paramedics. The Training Subcommittee has completed the approved curriculum for training and will be presented to the EMS Committee for approval. The Bureau of EMS will not be providing a certification level.

### Mutual Aid Requirements for Ambulance Providers

Tami Goodin, Regional Consultant, explained that one of the requirements of the licensure and designations process is providing a copy of the Mutual Aid Agreement with the application. A reminder notification letter is sent out to agencies for renewal of licensure and designations and followed up with a phone call. In the future there will be a mutual aid agreement template enclosed in the renewal package. The Bureau of EMS intent if an agency is not in compliant with the rules and regulations will be put on probation.

Paul Patrick stated that the law is very clear we need those agreements.

Lauara Snyder stated the consequences for non-compliant are in the rules and agreed that action needs to be taken. She entertained a motion for support of the Mutual Aid Requirements for ambulance providers.

**Rand Andrus moved to support the Mutual Aid Requirements for Ambulance Providers be approved. Dr. Joyce seconded the motion and those voting in the affirmative were Jeff Hunt, Ron Johnson, Brent Mabey, Deborah Mecham, Brian Simpson, Lauara Snyder, Dan Walker, Ernie Williams, Deanna Wolfe, and Dennis Wyman. There were no abstentions or negative votes.**

Rand Andrus recommended having a Mutual Aid in place that doesn't expire.

Paul Patrick stated that it is a state law to have a Mutual Aid Requirement and the statute would need to be revised.

Jolene Whitney reported that Tami Goodin is in the process of making proposed rule changes for the licensure and designation application process. Also, we are working on getting the licensure and designation application automated.

### Rural Paramedic Pilot Project

Lauara Snyder provided an update on the rural paramedic pilot project. At the last meeting a task force work group was formed to discuss the rural paramedic pilot project. In the rural areas there are places in the state paramedic live but are not there all the time. The work group reviewed the possibility of providing a higher level of care at the paramedic level without being licensed and staffing of paramedic agencies. They discovered that Uintah Basin has already done a study and has a waiver on their license. Uintah Basin operates with an intermediate

ambulance service operated and owned by the hospital. They created another paramedic response group association under the hospital. There hospital has two licenses: 1) paramedic response group and 2) intermediate ambulance service. The paramedics are issued kits that have their medications and a radio to respond to call in their private vehicles then they get on the ambulance. The hospital charges for a paramedic on board rate. Then the paramedic goes to the hospital. The waiver is the staffing for the paramedic group.

Paul Patrick explained that the EMS Committee has the responsibility to establish staffing requirements. The EMS Bureau has the responsibility to process the licenses. Uintah Basin has already done a three year study. Paul explained the following process: 1) present this to the Subcommittee, 2) then to the EMS Committee for a staffing waiver, 3) submit an application for a paramedic rescue license with the waiver and staffing approved, and 4) the Bureau would issue a four week notice in the paper. They would move forward with the licensure.

**Rand Andrus made a motion to dissolve the task force work group. Ernie Williams seconded the motion and those voting in the affirmative were Jeff Hunt, Ron Johnson, Steve Joyce, Brent Mabey, Deborah Mecham, Brian Simpson, Lauara Snyder, Dan Walker, Deanna Wolfe, and Dennis Wyman. There were no abstentions or negative votes.**

## **Information Items**

### **Mobile Testing Lab**

Leslie Johnson announced that the Bureau of EMS will set up a Mobile Testing Lab for a minimum of 20 people who need to recertify. The minimum charge for an agency will be for 20 people, if they test less people they are still charged for 20 people. The Bureau will charge the following for the Mobile Testing Lab:

- Agencies within 50 miles of the Bureau will be charged \$10 person
- Agencies 51 miles to 100 miles of the Bureau will be charged \$15 per person
- Agencies 101 miles and over of the Bureau will be charged \$20 per person

The charges will be calculated by using a Utah mileage chart. The fees are in addition to the Written Test Fee. This lab will only be for recertification and not new courses. They will not take the Mobile Testing Lab to seminars.

### **Status of Final Drug List and Hearing Officers RFP**

Guy Dansie reported on the notice of a rule change regarding R426-15-203 Vehicle Supply Requirements. Rule modifications can be viewed starting March 1, 2008 at <http://www.rules.utah.gov/main/index.php?module=Pagesetter&func=viewpub&tid=1&pid=6>. The rule is scheduled for listing in the upcoming Volume 5 on the link as noted.

The rule modification is a result of expressed need to allow ambulance services optional equipment and medications. Optional items are only to be used under the supervision of their

respective medical directors. The rule as listed will become effective unless significant changes or issues are identified during the prescribed comment period.

Comments may be sent as instructed in the document. Comments also may be sent directly to [gdansie@utah.gov](mailto:gdansie@utah.gov) or mailed to the Bureau of EMS at P.O. Box 142004, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114-2004. The comment period will close 30 days after rule changes are listed (March 31, 2008) and finalized on April 7, 2008.

Guy Dansie explained that if the Bureau of EMS has disputes that need to go through a formal hearing process between agencies or different parties. There is a formal hearing process we are obligated to meet. There are attorneys or law firms under contract with the Bureau. If they are used we compensate them for their time. The Hearing Officers Request for Proposals (RFPs) has been submitted to the State Purchasing. A small group of staff members will review the proposals. Those that met the criteria will be solicited for contracts with them.

#### Fiscal Analyst Contract Update

Allan Liu, Support Services Coordinator for the Bureau of EMS, reported that the fiscal analyst contract is part of the annual rate adjustment for ambulance transportation rates that changes July 1, 2008. Letters have been submitted to the EMS agencies requesting a copy of their Fiscal Reporting Guide. He has only received a few from the agencies and needs more to set the rates. There will be a small committee formed in April to set the ambulance rates. The Fiscal Reporting Guide is being revised and streamlined. Then he will solicit a contract with a new accounting firm to perform the analysis on the rates. Allan Liu can be contact at [aliu@utah.gov](mailto:aliu@utah.gov) or by phone at (801) 538-9995.

Jolene Whitney stated that they are also working on automating the Fiscal Reporting process.

#### Data Collection System and EMS Website Update

Joshua Legler, Data Manager for the Bureau of EMS, reported on the Critical EMS Patient Care information needed upon arrival at the hospital. The two members of this Subcommittee that provided input were Deanna Wolfe and Dr. Mabey. Joshua correlated the information provided with the data standard. The Subcommittee reviewed and made revisions to the Critical EMS Patient Care Information document. Joshua will make the revisions and email a copy out to the Subcommittee members.

Laura Snyder recommended that the Subcommittee members share any of their existing "short forms" by sending them to Joshua Legler at [jlegler@utah.gov](mailto:jlegler@utah.gov).

The meeting was adjourned.

**The next meeting will be June 4, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in Conference Room 125 of the Martha Cannon Health Building.**