

## Summary Minutes

Meeting of the  
**Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board**  
10:00 a.m., May 21, 2009  
2829 University Avenue Southeast  
4th Floor, Conference Room A  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

### Members Present

Kevin Miller, Vice Chair  
Dawn Bidwell  
Lisa Consie  
Bonnie Engen  
Kathleen Haney  
Robert Jensen  
Michael Jordan  
Paula Fink Kocken, M.D.  
Sen. Gary Kubly  
Paul Satterlee, M.D.  
Mark Schoenbaum  
Matt Simpson  
Paul Stelter  
Mari Thomas, M.D.

### Members Absent

James Rieber, Chair  
Brenda Brown  
Laurie Hill  
Rep. Jeremy Kalin  
Maryls Tanner

### Guests

Diane Benson  
Mr. Carter  
R. J. Frascone  
Tim Gilsrud  
Tim Held  
Curt Ireland  
Patrick Lee  
Matt Maxwell  
Buck McAlpin  
Dave Miller  
Karie Pierce  
Ron Robinson  
Josh Salzman  
Imo Sunderland  
Jill Ryan Schultz  
Mark Seaton  
Tom Vanderwal

### Staff

Debby Teske  
Melody Nagy  
Robert Norlen  
Rose Olson  
  
Keith Wesley, M.D.  
  
Mehrddad Shabestari (OET)

### **I. Call to Order**

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **II. Introductions**

Mr. Miller asked members and guests to introduce themselves. He welcomed the new members.

### **III. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Miller said that there will be several changes to the agenda. Dr. Wesley has asked to present information on the Take Heart Minnesota Program. This will be an action item. He asked that the regional presentation move to after the Life Link III presentation. Mr. Schoenbaum asked to present a trauma system update. Dr. Satterlee moved approval of the revised agenda. Ms. Bidwell seconded. Motion carried.

### **IV. Approval of March 19, 2009, Minutes**

Mr. Stelter moved approval of the March 19, 2009 minutes. Dr. Satterlee seconded. Motion carried.

### **V. Chair's Remarks**

#### **Recognition of Gary Wingrove**

Mr. Wingrove was nominated by JEMS magazine and received a national award as one of the top ten innovators in EMS.

**VI. Air Ambulance Presentation**

Mr. Carter presented information on Life Link III's position on the federal air ambulance bill presently in the committee process. Mr. David Miller provided information on hospital structure and relationships of Life Link III consortium. Life Link III has expressed concerns about the language of the bill which is still being revised. Mr. Carter feels that ambulance services should be able to make their own decisions on deployment of helicopters.

Dr. Frascone commented on the medical direction aspects of regulating air ambulances. He said that the FAA should concentrate on regulation of equipment. He said that there is confusion in regulation of care in helicopters. This should be left to the medical director of the service. He would speak against legislation that would interfere with the medical director's regulation of care for air ambulance patients. Dr. Wesley said that this legislation does not mandate states to pass legislation, but gives the opportunity to pass legislation if needed in a state. Dr. Frascone said that regulation of air ambulance should mirror the same regulation as ALS licensure. He said that he thinks a certificate of need is a bad idea.

Mr. Buck McAlpin said that this is one of many bills that are being considered. North Memorial agrees with the other positions stated today and that medical direction should take precedence.

Mr. Miller said that on page two of the March minutes this topic was tabled. He asked if the Board wanted to remove this from the table. Hearing no response, the item remains tabled.

**VII. Regional Grant Presentation**

Ms. Teske said that the two year extension was approved at a previous Board meeting. The information at today's meeting provides detail of the contract tasks.

Mr. Stelter said that he would like to have a discussion with staff about documentation needed. Ms. Teske said that she would share his concern with Ms. Burke Moore.

Mr. Schoenbaum asked for a summary comparison table (executive summary) of regional activities.

Mr. Robinson asked that the contracts be completed by the EMSRB in a timely fashion so that they can be approved by individual boards to be able to use the funds more quickly.

**VIII. Executive Director's Report  
Legislative Update**

Ms. Teske reported in Katherine Burke Moore's place. Ms. Teske said that this was a difficult legislative session, however:

The EMSRB housekeeping bill passed without difficulty. Ms. Teske thanked Senator Kubly for his assistance in moving this legislation.

The health and human services finance committee bill included the EMSRB appropriation. The House and Senate had different versions of the EMSRB appropriation with the House recommending no reduction and the Senate recommending a 5% reduction. The House adopted the Senate's position, which is a reduction of \$164,000 dollars in each year of the biennium. \$6 million was moved from the Cooper/Sams investment to help close the budget deficit. The EMSRB will continue to receive an appropriation each year for the program. CALS received a \$100,000 appropriation for FY 2010. \$200,000 is transferred to the Veteran's administration for a paramedic apprenticeship program. \$250,000 is transferred to the Department of Public

## EMSRB Minutes

May 21, 2009

Safety to conduct a medical response unit pilot reimbursement project. The additional \$450,000 to be appropriated to the EMS programs listed above will be appropriated from the EMSRB budget.

Ms. Teske said that Ms. Burke Moore discussed the budget with Ms. Juli Vangsness, ASU and Mr. Jim King the EMSRB executive budget officer. The Executive Committee may meet to discuss the 5% and the \$450,000 reductions.

Mr. McAlpin said the Minnesota Ambulance Association (MAA) did not intend the funding to come from the EMSRB base budget for the paramedic apprenticeship and the medical response unit programs, but were trying to reserve money from the longevity fund for these EMS programs. He said that he thought the money was coming from the general fund so there is some confusion in this language. Senator Kubly said that the Governor may also consider unallotments for state agencies.

Mr. Stelter said that this was intended to recoup funding loss sustained by the regional programs in the seat belt funds.

### **MNSTAR Reports**

Mr. Norlen referred members to the report and said that five services are being considered for corrective action and/or fines. All services are now using the 2.2.1 data set, which will greatly improve the quality of the data received. The EMSRB Specialists continue to work with individual services on data quality issues.

### **E-licensing Update**

Ms. Teske said that we “went live” with the new e-licensing system. We have some learning to do and “fixes” are still needed, as with any new system. Ms. Teske thanked ambulance services and training programs for their assistance in development and implementation of the system. Ms. Teske introduced Mr. Mehrdad Shabestari as the liaison from the Office of Enterprise Technology. Mr. Shabestari will continue to provide assistance as the new system is implemented.

Ms. Bidwell said that this program will be very helpful in determining if her students have completed their requirements. Ms. Teske said that one of the improvements that will be added in the near future will be third party confirmation for educators to reduce the need for paper final exam permits.

Senator Kubly complemented OET’s efforts.

## **IX. CALS Presentation**

Ms. Pierce of the CALS board provided information on the CALS program. Ms. Pierce indicated she also thought the additional \$100,000 for the program was not coming from the EMSRB funding, but that it is somewhat confusing.

Ms. Pierce stated that 17 classes have been conducted this year and a trauma module has been added. She said that for 2009/2010 the program hopes to provide 21 courses throughout the state and conduct 45 trauma/skill labs. One instructor continuing education class is planned. CALS provides an equipment cart when a class is held at a hospital with a purchasing program for future equipment needs. The CALS course is also being implemented nation wide.

**X. Contract Approval**

**CALS**

Ms. Teske said that the Board is being asked to approve contracts for CALS and MRCC and information was provided in the Board packet on each proposal. The CALS contract is a one year contract.

Mr. Jensen asked if the contracts could be approved but the payments delayed until the budget crisis is resolved. Ms. Teske said that the contract is initiated but payments do not occur until after activities have occurred. The programs invoice the EMSRB.

Ms. Engen moved approval of the CALS contract. Dr. Thomas seconded. Mr. Stelter asked why this contract is in the EMS budget when very few EMS personnel are trained by this program. Mr. Miller said that this is a tie in with trauma care. Mr. Schoenbaum said that MDH also provides funding to CALS. The history is that the EMSRB has hosted this funding. Mr. Schoenbaum said that this is a team training approach and they have also discussed a pre-hospital component for the program. Ms. Bidwell said that the pre-hospital component of the program was discussed but tabled due to cost and time commitment issues. Motion to approve the contract carried. Ms. Bidwell abstained from this vote.

**MRCC**

Ms. Teske said that information has been provided to the Board and this would be a two year contract. Mr. Schoenbaum moved approval. Mr. Stelter seconded. Motion carried

**XI. Education Requirements**

Ms. Teske said that there are national changes being implemented that the Board will need to make decisions on in the near future. The current curriculum is being replaced with the implementation of national standards. Each state must decide on a plan for adoption of these standards.

Ms. Teske said that this changes how education is delivered. She described the proposed levels. She asked for Board members to volunteer to be on a work group to compile recommendations to bring back to the Board. Mr. Miller asked if there is a timeline for implementation. Dr. Wesley said that the National Registry plans to adopt these standards for 2012.

**XII. Take Heart Minnesota Program**

Dr. Satterlee said we are asking support to pursue a grant for this program. The program focuses on cardiac care and increasing the level of survival statewide.

Dr. Wesley said that a 503c non profit has been created and he provided information describing the program. He said that he wanted discussion from the Board on what the EMSRB role would be in this program. The goal is to double the survival rate for neurologically intact patients. He said that this must be an integrated program to assure its success. He is seeking a letter of support from the Board and that other organizations have agreed to support the program. The grant would have four physicians involved. This could benefit the EMS budget situation. Ms. Bidwell asked about the grant parameters. Dr. Wesley said that this is a two year grant. Ms. Bidwell asked if the cardiac arrest survival network has been involved and Dr. Wesley indicated that they are a stakeholder.

Mr. Stelter asked why the grant would go to the EMSRB and not a 503c. He questioned whether this grant is a good fit for the EMSRB to be involved with. Dr. Satterlee said that he considered this question and if you want to influence and educate the entire state this is the

regulatory body that has those connections. This would be an opportunity to help the citizens of Minnesota. Mr. Schoenbaum said that the EMSRB statute and duties of the Board includes language for establishing statewide public information and education systems for EMS. Mr. Stelter asked about the role for the EMSRB staff. Since the EMSRB Specialists have many tasks already, would some of this go to the regional programs? Dr. Wesley said that if the grant is received, many details are yet to be worked out with EMSRB. Mr. Miller asked for a motion for EMSRB support of this program. Ms. Bidwell moved that the Board write a letter of support. Mr. Jordan seconded the motion. Mr. Jordan commented that this is a legitimate task for the EMSRB according to our statutory authority. He had a friend saved by EMS intervention. Mr. Miller called for a vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**XIII. Complaint Review Panel Report**

Ms. Bidwell reported that the committee met twice since the last Board meeting. The panel reported that:

- 95 disclosure files were reviewed (87 passed with no further action, more information was requested for 5 cases, 2 conference invitations were issued, and registration/certification was denied for one individual.)
- 13 complaints/mandatory reports were reviewed and 4 were closed with no further action needed, the Attorney General's Office will be requested to prepare a Notice of Conference for 1 case, the Attorney General's Office will be requested to prepare Stipulation and Orders for 2 cases, and 5 were child support/revenue suspensions, and one Department of Revenue reinstatement.
- 7 conferences were held and one person did not appear for their conference.

**XIV. Other Business**

Ms. Teske said letters are being sent to training programs regarding their National Registry pass rates. Many programs met or exceeded the requirements. Some programs will be getting letters that they are on probation. If a training program is on its second year of probation and does not improve they would be subject to the disciplinary process. This information will also be posted on the EMSRB website.

Mr. Schoenbaum said that legislation passed that included trauma system triage and transport language. There is a July 1, 2010 guideline date that will need to be implemented. The hospital part has been developing quickly (75 hospitals have been designated) The EMS agencies will now need to develop their regional guidelines.

**XV. Public Comment**

None.

EMSRB Minutes  
May 21, 2009

**XVI. Adjourn**

Mr. Stelter moved adjournment. Dr. Fink Kocken seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 11:55 a.m.

Reviewed and Approved by:

---

Robert Jensen, Secretary

Date

---

Kevin Miller, Vice Chair

Date