

**State of Minnesota**  
**Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board**  
**Medical Direction Standing Advisory**  
**Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**March 4, 2016**

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**Attendance:** Aaron Burnett, M.D., Chair; Marc Conterato, M.D.; R.J. Frascone, M.D.; Kari Haley, M.D.; Jeffrey Ho, M.D.; Pat Lilja, M.D.; John Lyng, M.D.; Kevin Miller; John Pate, M.D.; Kevin Sipprell, M.D.; Tony Spector; Executive Director: Mari Thomas, M.D.; Melody Nagy, Office Coordinator; Robert Norlen, Field Services Supervisor (by phone); Michael Wilcox, M.D.; Mary Zappetillo, EMS Specialist; Greg Schaefer, Assistant Attorney General.

**1. Call to Order – 9:00 a.m.**

Dr. Burnett called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

**2. Public Comment**

*The public comment portion of the Committee meeting is where the public may address the Committee on subjects which are not part of the meeting agenda. Persons wishing to speak are asked to complete a participation form provided at the meeting room door prior to the start of the meeting. Please limit remarks to 3 minutes. The Committee will listen attentively to comments but, in most instances, will not respond at the meeting. Typically, replies to issues or concerns expressed will be made via letter or phone call within a week.*

None.

**3. Approve Agenda**

Dr. Lyng moved approval of the agenda. Dr. Wilcox seconded. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried.

**4. Approve Minutes**

Dr. Lilja moved approval of the September 10, 2015 minutes. Dr. Pate seconded. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried.

**5. MDSAC Committee Chair Report**

Burnsville Fire Department EMS Pilot Program

Chief B.J. Jungmann and Assistant Chief Brian Carlson of the Burnsville Fire Department provided an overview of the project and answered questions from committee members.

Dr. Lilja asked if it was required by statute that an “ambulance” respond. Mr. Schaefer said the statute is not specific. The EMSRB does not need to seek a change of statute for this pilot project.

Dr. Burnett said the Executive Committee also discussed this pilot project and did not think this required change in statute but wanted input from MDSAC for medical concerns. Dr. Burnett asked for a progress report from Burnsville Fire Department in six months.

Burnsville Fire Department EMS Pilot Program Phase 2

Mr. Jungmann said that Phase 2 is planned further out in the future. Burnsville Fire Department wants to triage the calls by telephone with an accredited emergency medical dispatch center.

Definition of a Health Officer "Hold"

This will be discussed in the Legislative Report.

HR 4365 Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act of 2016

Dr. Burnett said that standing orders are not legal and multiple DEA licenses are required for each location. This bill would address these issues. The ambulance service would hold the license.

Dr. Lilja moved that the EMSRB send a letter of support for this legislation. Dr. Thomas seconded. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried.

NASEMSO Patient Care Guidelines

Dr. Burnett said the guidelines are available on the website and could be used by physicians in Minnesota as model guidelines. Dr. Thomas asked that a link be placed on the EMSRB website.

Dr. Fink-Kocken said the pediatric guidelines will be updated with the new recommendations from the American Heart Association.

MNSTAR Data for MDSAC Review

Dr. Burnett asked if there are canned reports the medical directors would like to see. He asked for a NARCAN report for today's meeting.

Dr. Burnett said MNSTAR data provides a broad overview of conditions in Minnesota. This data will provide information to identify trends in the state. Discussion occurred regarding whether MNSTAR data is or could be available to answer questions and how the information could be useful to physicians. Dr. Burnett said the EMSRB can provide reports to regions on outliers.

Dr. Lilja asked for a report on Epinephrine for food allergies.

Dr. Burnett asked the physicians to contact him if they want other reports.

Licensure vs. Certification

This will be discussed during the Legislative Report.

**6. Executive Director Report**

Agency Update

Mr. Spector said the EMSRB has a booth at the conference and will be providing customer assistance for people completing their EMT and paramedic certification renewals. March 31, 2016 is the deadline for renewal of EMTs and paramedics. Agency staff at the booth will assist with real-time password resets.

EMSRB staff have expressed concerns about unregulated EMS response. The EMSRB does regulate (non-ambulance) fire departments or first responder agencies. Some fire services are changing their model of service to respond to medical emergencies. Dr. Lyng said he is concerned that there is no physician medical control and no reporting requirements if the response is not provided by a licensed ambulance service.

Mr. Spector said he wants the EMSRB to be inclusive with public safety.

Mr. Spector said the Ambulance Standards Work Group is meeting. The goal of the work group is to provide standards that assure safety for the patient and attendant.

The Post Transition Education Work Group has been meeting and the Board approved some of its recommendations.

Ebola Preparedness Grant Funding is available for reimbursement to ambulance services that incurred extraordinary cost for their preparations. Information on applying for the award is available on the EMSRB website.

#### Legislative Changes

Mr. Spector said two small housekeeping bills were developed. One is for clarification of due dates for regional program audits. The other is to strike out “training programs” and replace it with “education programs.” Several other things the agency would like to accomplish may need to wait until next legislative session.

#### Post Transition Education Work Group Report

Ms. Zappetillo provided handouts and gave a report of the work group’s activities. These recommendations were approved by the Board. The state is moving to a new model of education. The National Registry requirements are available on the website. At the local level medical directors have control of the education provided to their staff. Ms. Zappetillo said the skill assessments must be consistent. Education programs must have medical direction.

Dr. Burnett suggested a statewide initiative from MDSAC, including one-hour of physician education statewide for all personnel. A broad educational goal. Dr. Burnett asked for a motion for one hour of time for educational topics to be determined by the MDSAC. The local medical director provides the content.

Mr. Spector said staff have been participating in rural ambulance assessments. There is a correlation between successful services and local medical director involvement.

#### Data Policy Standing Advisory Committee Report

Mr. Norlen said the Board approved the requirements for the upgrade to NEMSIS version 3.0. DPSAC is meeting next week to discuss an implementation plan.

#### Medication Expiration Dates

Mr. Miller said expiration dates for medications was not discussed by the Legislative Work Group. This involves regulation by the Board of Pharmacy. Dr. Burnett said medications are stored by manufacturer’s specification. Mr. Miller asked for a clarification in writing from the Board of Pharmacy. Dr. Thomas asked about the validity of expiration dates.

Mr. Spector said that when there is an expiration date, there must be compliance with that date for inspection standards for patient care/safety.

Dr. Frascione asked for standards in other states.

Definition of a Health Officer “Hold”

Mr. Spector said this is not an EMSRB statute. Another group could sponsor legislation for this change. Dr. Frascone said that immunity is controversial. Dr. Burnett asked for the wording “on-line medical control”.

Dr. Contrerato said he will share information on requirements in other states.

Dr. Frascone suggested asking the American College of Emergency Physicians to sponsor this legislation.

Variance to Minnesota Rule for Epinephrine

Dr. Burnett said any change to rule would be opposed by nurses. It was suggested that we seek an opinion from the Board of Pharmacy on a premeasured syringe and then take our action.

Mr. Schaefer referred to the Board of Pharmacy’s previously provided information. He indicated that training is needed. He is waiting for an answer from the Board of Pharmacy.

Dr. Conterato moved that MDSAC provide clarification and the definition of a premeasured medication and could include a premeasured commercial auto injector, unit dose vial or volume limited syringe to allow a maximum amount to treat the condition consistent with the service medical director guidelines. Dr. Thomas seconded. Motion carried.

This motion if approved by the Board should be distributed to all ambulance services.

License vs Certification

This topic was tabled and will be discussed further.

**7. Medical Director’s Role in Education Standards Transition**

This topic was discussed under the Post-Transition Education Work Group Report.

**8. Medical Director’s Course at Arrowwood**

The Medical Director’s Course was developed by Dr. Satterlee. Dr. Pate reworked the content. A Power Point presentation was provided. This will be a topic at the Medical Director’s Conference in Alexandria.

**9. New Business**

Ambulance Response to Emergency Room for 9-1-1 Calls

Dr. Lilja said the hospital has had several instances at the emergency room when a patient calls 9-1-1. Does an ambulance need to respond to the emergency room? He sought clarification of the requirements. EMSRB staff will need to research this topic to provide an answer.

Health Information Exchange

Dr. Sipprell said that they have a history of persons who are high utilizers, but information is not shared beyond PSA boundaries. This needs further discussion and a possible legal opinion. He would like to see monitoring on a statewide level. This was discussed by the committee. Dr. Sipprell said the pharmacy prescription monitoring program is a good model.

Dr. Sipprell moved that the MDSAC consider an EMS health information exchange as an important topic for further consideration. Dr. Lyng seconded. Motion carried.

**10. Next Meeting**

During the Medical Director's Conference in September in Alexandria.

**11. Adjourn**

Dr. Frascone moved to adjourn. Dr. Lilja seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.