

## Summary Minutes

Regular Meeting of the  
**Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board**  
**Medical Direction Standing Advisory Committee**  
**Arrowwood Resort, Alexandria, Minnesota**  
**7:00 p.m., Thursday, September 6, 2012**

### Members Present

Mari Thomas, M.D., Chair  
Aaron Burnett, M.D.  
Paula Fink-Kocken, M.D.  
R. J. Frascone, M.D.  
Gary Foley, M.D.  
Charles Lick, M.D.  
Pat Lilja, M.D.  
Ralph Morris, M.D.  
John Pate, M.D.  
Paul Satterlee, M.D.  
Kevin Sirmons, M.D.

### Members Absent

Dan Hankins, M.D.  
John Hick, M.D.  
Kory Kaye, M.D.  
John Lyng, M.D.  
Christopher Russi, M.D.  
Mike Wilcox, M.D.  
Bob Zotti, M.D.

### Guests

Dawn Bidwell  
Melinda Buss  
Marc Conterato, M.D.  
Dan DeSmet  
Suzanne Gaines  
Kent Griffith  
Wes Halvorsen  
Kevin Miller  
Bill Snoke  
Dave Waltz

### Staff

Pam Biladeau, ED  
Melody Nagy  
Robert Norlen  
Jennifer Ojiaku  
Debra Teske  
  
Greg Schaefer, AGO

### Board Members Present

Jennifer Deschaine  
Steve DuChien  
Mike Gormley  
J.B. Guiton  
Pat Lee

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

Dr. Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

#### **II. Introductions**

Dr. Thomas asked members and guests to introduce themselves.

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

Dr. Thomas asked for approval of the agenda. Dr. Satterlee said that he had a document to share with the committee. Dr. Pate moved to approve the agenda. Dr. Lick seconded. Motion carried.

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Thomas asked for approval of the minutes from the March 9, 2012 meeting. Dr. Satterlee moved approval. Dr. Lilja seconded. Motion carried.

#### **V. EMSRB Update**

##### Community Paramedic Update

Ms. Biladeau said that the EMSRB has been asked to review the curriculum and this request includes assistance by the Attorney General's office. We cannot release the document because it has a copyright. We are having discussions about this and we hope that they agree with this.

#### **VI. Metro Mobile Medical Team**

Dr. Burnett said that there have been developments in the metro mobile medical team. There are two teams available in the state. They will work with strike teams to respond to disasters statewide. We will

have a mobile field hospital available at the scene. We are having table top exercises and will have another exercise in February.

## VII. **Medical Direction Course**

Dr. Satterlee said that he developed a document for the Committee to review. He complimented Dr. Lilja's work on this course. He said that he would welcome comments from members. Dr. Satterlee said that this is not a course to train someone to be a medical director.

Dr. Satterlee said that he adjusted slides that were previously used and updated statute quotes.

Dr. Satterlee said that the medical direction course can be a reference for physicians involved in EMS.

Dr. Thomas agreed and suggested it should be posted to the EMSRB website when it is finalized. It was suggested that the last slide include reference information.

## VIII. **Safe Place for Newborns Legislations and its Impact on Ambulance Services**

Dr. Thomas said that this is a change to statute. Ambulance services are now included and I wanted to share this information with medical directors. Dr. Lilja agreed that this information needs to be shared. Some ambulance crews may not remember this change was made and may question a person in this situation. Dr. Thomas suggested emailing this document with a cover letter to all ambulance services in the state.

Dr. Fink Kocken said that this happens at her hospital once/twice a year. Dr. Fink Kocken asked for a user friendly version of the document. She said that the policy is to always accept the child and deal with the details of taking care of the child with social services.

Dr. Sirmons said that he reads this as the person accepting the baby will have immunity. Dr. Fink Kocken said that the person surrendering the infant would have immunity. Mr. Schaefer said that the person accepting the infant has immunity. Dr. Fink Kocken agreed that they accept the child and do not keep the person surrendering the child at the hospital. They do a physical exam of the child and contact social workers for placement of the child. Dr. Thomas asked if the person surrendering the infant is asked questions does the person accepting the baby have immunity. Mr. Schaefer said that it does include the protection of the parties involved. Dr. Fink Kocken was asked to develop a user friendly document to share. Ms. Gaines said that DHS has developed a fact sheet and flyer for this situation and she will share this information with the EMSRB office.

## IX. **Use of Expired Drugs**

Dr. Thomas said that there have been questions to EMSRB staff regarding use of expired drugs. Dr. Thomas said that she researched this and there is a lot of information available.

Dr. Thomas said that the question to the committee is: "is the EMSRB going to have a policy on expired drugs"? Yes or No. If yes – what is our policy and what are the ramifications. If the answer is yes we will have a battle if we propose something legislatively. The FDA policy is "when expired" is "expired".

Dr. Satterlee said that he has a document he is willing share regarding expired drugs. He said that we can provide reference information to physicians but he does not believe that the Board should have a policy on this. Dr. Lilja agreed. He said that we have protocols to deal with drug shortages. Dr. Satterlee said that we have had a situation of dilution of drugs and that can lead to wrong doses. Dr. Lilja said that if we have an expired epi-pen it is better to use it than have the person die of shock. Dr. Pate said that we have pharmacy staff searching for drugs. We do not want to do dilutions. Mr. Schaefer said that if a

complaint was received the state would review the standard of care at the Board of Medical Practice and it would not automatically result in a discipline.

Dr. Thomas said that this is also being discussed at the national level with manufactures. There will be some national guidelines released sometime in the future. Dr. Foley said that this is a problem in EMS and we need to make a statement that we want a national statement released.

Dr. Satterlee referred to an article regarding expired drugs. No drugs in this sampling lost potency in the first year. Dr. Frascone said that there are some drugs that need to be used in a specific situation no matter if it is expired or not. (Epinephrine as example)

Dr. Thomas asked if the EMSRB has authority to set a policy. Dr. Frascone said that this should be a policy from the Board of Pharmacy and the federal government overrides the state policy.

Ms. Biladeau said that she met with the Board of Pharmacy and they wrote a letter to the FDA on this and received a response that expired drugs were considered adulterated. Dr. Thomas said that Oregon has a statute in place that handles this on a case by case basis.

Dr. Satterlee read the statement he drafted: "The MN EMSRB has the following statement regarding the use of expired medications in emergency prehospital situations:

1. The EMSRB supports the national efforts to find a broad resolution to this problem.
2. The EMSRB encourages the local EMS medical director to prepare and adapt protocols in anticipation of shortages of medications.
3. The EMSRB recognizes the final decision will rest with the local EMS medical director as established by Minnesota statute after weighing the risks and benefits to patients."

Dr. Frascone moved that we refer this statement to the Board. Dr. Pate seconded. Motion carried.

#### X. **Other Business**

Ms. Biladeau said that we are working on the biennial budget and next legislative session proposal and we will be accepting comments from the public.

#### XI. **Public Comment**

None.

#### XII. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Friday, March 8, 2013, at 10 a.m. in conjunction with the Long Hot Summer Conference

Dr. Satterlee asked that review of MNSTAR data and variances be discussed.

#### XIII. **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.