

DRAFT

EMS Committee Minutes April 8, 2009

EMS Committee

Present

Tammy Barton, Chair
Mark Bair
Jeff Brown
Raleigh Bunch
Jeff Davis
Jay Downs
Sheila Garvey
Kathy Johnson
Breck Rushton
Shellie Young

Excused

Kathleen Adalgais
Kevin Johnson
Steve Pehrson
Mario Sanchez

Bureau Personnel

Paul Patrick, Director
Jenny Allred
Dennis Bang
Dan Camp
Guy Dansie
Jim Hansen
Leslie Johnson
Allan Liu
Josh Legler
Sharon Ormond
Irene Petrogeorge
Travis Scoresby
Peter Taillac

Visitors

Lonnie Adams
Tina Allred
Neil Coker
Brian Dale
Wayne Edginton

Ross Fowlks
Doug Illum
Stephen Joyce
Jeri Johnson
Ron Morris

Pam Rowley
Lauara Snyder
Mike Veenendaal
Joe White

Tammy Barton called the meeting to order and asked if all had read the minutes of January 2009. She then asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Raleigh Bunch moved that the minutes of January 21, 2009 be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Jeff Brown and was approved with affirmative votes by Mark Bair, Tammy Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Sheila Garvey, Kathy Johnson, Breck Rushton, and Shellie Young.

Legislative Report

Paul Patrick reported that the 2009 Legislature made a number of changes that affected the EMS Bureau and EMS agencies throughout the state. They passed House Bill 447, which took \$800,000 out of the EMS Bureau's general funds. These funds were \$500,000 for urban agencies and \$300,000 for the high school training program. The House Bill changed what agencies are eligible for grant funding. The only areas eligible for funds for FY2010 are "rural areas", which is a city, town, or other similar community with a population of 10,000, and "rural county areas", which is a county of the fourth, fifth, or sixth class.

The Bureau has made a number of changes to compensate for the loss. These changes are a reduction in five full time employees, EMS week elimination, cancellation of one Instructor Seminar, and a reduction in all travel expenditures.

During FY 2010, the Bureau will distribute \$450,000 in per capita and \$450,000 in competitive grants.

The Bureau sent out rosters to eligible Per Capita agencies and there are a number of them that have not sent their approved roster back. The Bureau requested rosters earlier than the grant deadline because per capita amounts will be one of the factors on competitive grants. In order to compensate for the cuts, the Bureau has (1) cut five FTE (full time employees), (2) eliminated EMS week, (3) cut one instructor conference, and (4) reduced travel expenditures.

Paul said there were a number of rural agencies which had not yet supplied a roster. They were:

Box Elder County	Box Elder County Ambulance
Box Elder County	Curlew/Snowville
Box Elder County	Fielding Fire
Box Elder County	Honeyville
Box Elder County	Thatcher/Penrose Fire
Cache County	Mendon
Cache County	Millville/Nibley
Daggett County	Daggett County Ambulance
Garfield County	Garfield County Sheriff
Grand County	Grand County Sheriff
Juab County	Juab County Sheriff
Kane County	Kane County Ambulance
Millard County	Millard County Sheriff
Millard County	Scipio Ambulance
Rich County	Rich County Sheriff
Salt Lake County	Bluffdale
Sanpete County	Manti Ambulance
Sanpete County	Sanpete County Sheriff
Sevier County	Sevier County EMS
Summit County	South Summit Ambulance
Tooele County	Stockton Fire
Uintah	Ute Tribe Ambulance
Utah County	Mapleton Ambulance
Wasatch County	Wasatch County Ambulance
Wasatch County	Wasatch County Sheriff

Paul encouraged anyone present from these counties to encourage these agencies to submit their rosters to the Bureau.

Shellie Young asked about the motion that was passed regarding a staffing waiver for counties classified as 3, 4, 5, and 6. The item was not on the agenda and there were complaints from various agencies that they would have attended had they known about the discussion. She asked that the motion be rescinded by the Committee.

Raleigh Bunch moved that the motion passed in the January 21, 2009, meeting regarding a staffing waiver for counties of classes three to six be rescinded. It was seconded by Jeff Brown and passed with an affirmative vote by Mark Bair, Tammy Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Sheila Garvey, Kathy Johnson, Breck Rushton, and Shellie Young.

Paul Patrick said that the motion was now rendered “moot” as new definitions have come from the state regarding rural – city and county.

The waiver will be put on the agenda for July.

Salt Lake City Fire Study

Brian Dale of Salt Lake City Fire reported on the one year study conducted with EMS Competitive Grants funding. A grant in the amount of \$12,005 was awarded Salt Lake City Fire to study the efficacy of EMT basic level personnel administering Albuterol and Narcan. Salt Lake City Fire’s biggest concern was that paramedics would not support the study, but the paramedics were very supportive. EMT-Basic personnel were trained in the use of these two drugs. The study tracked use and evaluated EMS compliance. The results were that 21 drugs were given, 11 instances of Narcan and 10 instances of Albuterol. Fifteen of the drug uses were appropriate, four were inappropriate, and two were marginal. In all except three instances paramedics were present, but were secondary. The study indicated that training and use of Narcan and Albuterol may be more beneficial to smaller agencies where response times are longer. Narcan was administered intranasal and Albuterol was nebulized .

Brian recommended that Narcan and Albuterol be used statewide. EMTs should be trained to:

1. Assess the true need for the drug,
2. Adhere strictly to the treatment protocol, and
3. Complete accurate documentation.

Grant Subcommittee

Ron Morris reported that the Grants Subcommittee met on March 17, 2009, and made the following recommendations:

Competitive Grant Guidelines

1. All categories be eliminated.
2. Agencies may request up to two items.
3. County prioritizations must be completed but will be “recommendations” only.
4. Ambulance requests may be up to \$25,000.
5. A match will not be required for initial training and CME. Agencies may apply for up to \$3,500 per agency with adequate justification. An agency may also apply for \$750 for each additional service area, up to a maximum of \$5,750.
6. Submission deadline for grants is April 30, 2009.

Grant Subcommittee Operational Guidelines

Ron Morris stated that the Operational Guidelines will be changed to only have points from the Grants Subcommittee, and not for Geographic Parity or Local EMS Council recommendations. Hospital funding will not be given during FY2010, and no Statewide or Demonstration/Research Grants will be funded.

Jay Downs moved that the Competitive Grants Guidelines and the Operational Guidelines for FY2010 be approved. Mark Bair seconded the motion. It was passed by an Affirmative vote from Mark Bair, Tammy Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Sheila Garvey, Kathy Johnson, Breck Rushton, Mike Mathieu, and Shellie Young.

Proposed Competitive Grant Rule Change

Leslie Johnson informed the Committee of the proposed Competitive Grant Rule changes. They are as follows:

1. Delete the makeup of county or multi-county councils or committees. They make their own guidelines for the members.
2. Add definitions from House Bill 447 of “rural area” and “rural county area”.
3. Change the county prioritization to a recommendation.
4. Delete extension possibilities for Grants.
5. Delete the second reference to withholding payment of grant if grantee is more than six months in arrears with bills owed to the Bureau.

Kathy Johnson moved that the Competitive Grant Rules be sent out for public comment. It was seconded by Raleigh Bunch and approved by an affirmative vote from Mark Bair, Tammy Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Sheila Garvey, Kathy Johnson, Breck Rushton, Mike Mathieu, and Shellie Young.

Per Capita Grants

Leslie Johnson informed the Committee of the Per Capita guideline changes. They are as follow:

1. Add definitions from House Bill 447 of “rural area” and “rural county area”.
2. Change the way that per capita grant allocation is determined. The grants will no longer be figured by county populations as a percentage of state population. In keeping with Legislative intent, total personnel points will be multiplied by class of county. This will give more grant funds to counties or cities of Class four, five and six counties.

Proposed Per Capita Grant Rule changes are the same as the above guideline changes, including some housekeeping changes.

Jeff Brown moved that the Per Capita Grant Guidelines and the proposed Rule changes be approved. It was seconded by Raleigh Bunch and passed with an affirmative vote by Mark Bair, Tammy Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Sheila Garvey, Kathy Johnson, Mike Mathieu, Breck Rushton, and Shellie Young

Jay Downs moved that the Grants Competitive Guidelines be approved. Mark Bair seconded the motion. It was passed by an affirmative vote from Mark Bair, Tammy Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Sheila Garvey, Kathy Johnson, Mike Mathieu, Breck Rushton, and Shellie Young.

Operations Subcommittee

Lauara Snyder reported on the Operations Subcommittee meeting. Lauara said a task force was formed in January 2008 to update the dispatch rules. She indicated that the task force recommended some updates to be made in the language. October 2004 minutes record that R426-13-200(3) states:

The Emergency Medical Dispatch Centers that provide pre-arrival medical instructions to a caller may only provide them through a certified Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD)...”

The task force suggested the following changes:

“R426-13-200(3) says the Emergency Medical Dispatch Centers ~~that~~ shall provide pre -arrival medical instructions to a caller ~~may only provide them~~ through a certified Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD)...”

The other suggested change was in R426-13-500(4) which “...requires a center to have sufficient staff to provide pre-arrival medical instructions by a certified EMD at all times.”

The task force recommended that it read “...requires a center ~~to have sufficient~~ be staff to provide pre-arrival medical instructions by a certified EMD at all times.”

Every 911 medical call would be answered by a Utah-certified Emergency Medical Dispatcher; smaller agencies not having a certified emergency medical dispatcher can contract with a larger

agency for medical calls. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the transferring of calls to a larger agency and how that would be handled.

The Committee sent the recommendation back to the Operations Subcommittee for review.

Mark Bair moved that the recommendations be returned to the Operations Subcommittee for review and recommended that the Subcommittee make sure the Training Subcommittee receives those portions under the direction of training for discussion and action. The resulting recommendations to be returned to the EMS Committee at the July 2009 meeting *in rule form*. It was seconded by Kathy Johnson and passed by an affirmative vote from Mark Bair, Tammy Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Sheila Garvey, Kathy Johnson, Breck Rushton, and Shellie Young.

Lauara said CME training online and Background Criminal Identification would be referred to the Training Subcommittee.

Peter Taillac reported that protocols are being worked on to help with the difficulties faced by dispatchers.

Shellie Young reported that four applications for reappointment to the Subcommittees had been received, and it was recommended the reappointments of Dr. Dennis Wyman, Ronald Johnson, Rand Andrus and Rodney “Hoss” Tomkinson to the Operations Subcommittee. It was seconded by Jay Downs and passed by votes in the affirmative from Mark Bair, Tammy Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Sheila Garvey, Kathy Johnson, Breck Rushton, and Shellie Young.

Paul announced that the annual Strategic Planning Meeting will be held beginning August 19 at 6:00 p.m. and ending at 3:00 p.m. August 20 at the Zermott. This will be funded through a grant from the Health and Human Services Grant.

Due to the number of discussion items for the July meeting, the meeting will be held in the conference room at 3760 Highland Drive on July 8, 2009.

Paul said we should not forget one success in that the formula for dedicated credits was not changed. Contact EMS Directors for input, and to get back on track.

Mike Mathieu wanted to record in the minutes that:

“Due to insufficient time, and information given to our law makers this year, I would like to speak on behalf of the 72 agencies that are getting nothing through the Grants Program. This is poorly conceived legislation especially at a time when this economic crisis is hitting everywhere. It could reasonably be argued that on the Wasatch Front and the populated areas of Washington County where

disposable income spending is way down, so the sales tax revenues that communities depend on as operating budgets are getting hit by that, plus taking hit by EMS Grants reductions.

It would have been one thing had less amounts of money gone to those agencies that are now eligible, and who are the “haves” will see 10 times the money as seen in the past. But it is hoped that they do not become accustomed to those funds, so we do not have an argument between the haves and have-nots because there will be arguments next year by those who are the have-nots. Because I know the have-nots are going to come out in full force to try to change this legislation.

What is really frustrating is that in one fell swoop, the legislature has changed the work of 20 years of this EMS Committee and the Grants Subcommittee in trying to establish criteria and eligibility for all the agencies in the state and who desperately need it. A comment in the Health and Human Services Appropriations Committee by one its members stated that those now ineligible, were wastefully using the EMS Grants is absolutely not true.

So on behalf of those 72 agencies not receiving grants money, it’s very frustrating, as well as very frustrating to see this ill-conceived legislation go pass.”

Mark Bair moved that the meeting adjourn. Mike Mathieu seconded the motion and it passed with an affirmative vote by Mark Bair, Tammy Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Sheila Garvey, Kathy Johnson, Breck Rushton, and Shellie Young.

Next Meeting: July 8, 2009, 3760 S. Highland Drive, 1:00 pm