

N.C. Association of Rescue & Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

Director Meeting - Minutes

January 20, 2024

WebEx / Teleconference

Call to Order

Welcome - Josh Shumate

Invocation - Joel Faircloth

Adoption of order of business: Motion to adopt, Ronnie Warrick, second Bob Twomey, motion approved.

Recognition of guests -Tom Mitchell - OEMS, Allen Johnson -OEMS, Fred Bone-Bone & Associates

Roll call of Directors; Joel Faircloth. 26 Area Directors, 1 Past Commander, Vice Commander, Commander, Executive Director were present.

Minutes of Directors Meeting September 08-09, 2023 & November 06, 2023: Motion to approve, Bob Twomey, second by Billy Sparks, motion approved.

Old Business

Agency Reports

OSFM: No Report

OEMS: Tom Mitchell

I will try to keep my report this morning brief, but there are a few items that we wanted to make you aware.

Just a reminder about the upcoming Association of EMS Administrators Symposium that will be held from March 6-8 at the Hotel Ballast in Wilmington. They are a sister association that regularly advocates for EMS agencies throughout the state.

With the passage of legislation in Session Law 2023-129 last year, it included an exemption to minimum staffing for Non-Emergency Medical Transportation was put in place through May 11, 2024. Language was also included that stated we (OEMS) shall work with Non-Emergency stakeholders to develop a permanent plan regarding staffing. We will be putting together those stakeholders and others to hold a meeting in early March to discuss this issue and a plan moving forward. Other agencies can still request an exemption to the minimum staffing statute (131E-158). If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to your respective regional office for assistance.

The Trauma System Plan development is still underway. Committees are meeting with Association of Rescue and EMS being represented by Dave Cuddeback (Wayne County EMS) on the Pre-Hospital Committee. We will be seeing some committees draft documents sometime during the year. Then, we will begin compiling all committee reports into a single document.

Public comments on the proposed rule changes to NC Administrative Code have ended. We received 5 comments, with 3 of those comments being ours in order to make typographical changes. The other 2 comments were on education and trauma rules. We go back to Medical Care Commission on February 2nd, then to Rules Review Commission in March. If approved by both, rules will have an effective date of April '24. There should be no major changes for EMS agencies, with most being clarification, updates and technical changes. I have outlined the more significant changes below;

.0207 – Ground Ambulance: Vehicle and Equipment Requirements

Remove the requirement for two-way radio communications for ambulances that do not back-up the 911 EMS System.

.0224 – Gound ambulance Vehicle Manufacturing Standards

Proposing to require remounted vehicles to meet the CAAS or NFPA-1917 standards. Remounted trucks will be exempt from the standard if they are remounted prior to July 1, 2025.

.0403 – Responsibilities of the Medical Director for EMS Systems

Proposing to allow the System Medical Director to delegate physician oversight for a EMS provider at the EMT level that does not back 911.

.0502 – Initial Credentialing Requirements for EMR, EMT, AEMT, Paramedic and EMD

Proposing that students that take an educational course in NC be required to take the NC exam, rather than National Registry and apply for Legal Recognition.

.0503 – Term of Credentials for EMS Personnel

Proposing to change EMD credentials from a four year credential to a two year credential.

.0512 – Reinstatement of Lapsed EMS Credential

Proposing for lapsed credentials the ability to take a refresher class and the state exam, regardless of the length of expiration.

These proposed rules have a long way to go before being codified in rule, even after the public comment period. If you have any questions or concerns about these proposed changes, feel free to let us know.

Scope of Practice changes that were carried to the NC Medical Board on September 21st were approved. These changes are all optional for each EMS System to adopt. The changes being requested are listed below;

Move Glucagon to EMT level (currently AEMT and Paramedic level)

Move Immunizations to EMT level (currently AEMT and Paramedic level)

Move Nitrous Oxide to EMT and AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Include Anti-psychotics for EMT, AEMT and Paramedic level (EMT via Oral route, if patient has a current prescription for medication)

Allow Calcium Paste for EMT, AEMT and Paramedic level

Move Antibiotics to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Move Antivirals to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Include Monoclonal Antibodies for AEMT and Paramedic level

Move Tranexamic Acid (TXA) to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Move Steroid preparations to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Move Anti-emetic preparations to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Move Magnesium Sulfate to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Move manual defibrillation to AEMT level for pulseless arrest only

Move needle chest decompression to AEMT level for traumatic arrest only

EMS Expo registration is open, it is scheduled for April 29th through May 1st. We have a great lineup of both local and national speakers. We are proud of our keynote sessions this year:

If Disney Ran Your EMS Agency – Matt Zavadsky

A Shock Heard Around the World: Important lessons learned in the Damar Hamlin resuscitation – Two on-site physicians for the Buffalo Bills

50 Years of Tragedies. “Is Your Department Ready?” – Ken Bouvier

Going the Extra Mile: Embracing our Calling Every Day – Steve Wirth

Escalating EMS: Lessons from the Moving Staircase – Rob Lawrence

The entire schedule will be posted soon, as we are confirming our other speakers now.

NCEM: No Report

Treasurer’s Office: No Report

Boards & Commission Representative Reports

Fire & Rescue Commission: Robert Poe.

Fire and Rescue Commission 10/10/2023

The NC Association of Fire Chiefs presented 2 names for consideration replace the recently position on the Certification Board that was vacated by Kevin Gordon

The two names were Jennifer Smith and Joey Webb. Due to Jennifer being the wife of Certification Board member Malcom Smith a motion was made to postpone the appointment until the January meeting to give time for staff to check to see if there would be a conflict of interest

Certification Board Report

Changes were presented for upcoming Technical Rescuer rewrite
ISFAC gave an additional year to complete any TR classes already in progress
Vote was taken and passed to put a moratorium on any new TR classes until June 2025

Volunteer Safety Workers Comp Board Report

Fund is good
42000 members
No premium for the year 2024 – 25

Bylaws were presented for review and will be voted on for approval at the January meeting

An investigation concerning an instructor was presented to the Board. Board went into executive session for discussion.

Board came out of executive session and voted to uphold the decision of the Certification Board to revoke the instructor's teaching ability.

Fire & Rescue Commission Certification Brd: Terry Foxx

The Certification Board met on December 07, 2023, at Kernersville Fire Department. The agenda and minutes were approved. OSFM Chief Brian Taylor explained that Senate Bill 409 has passed and OSFM will become an independent agency under the umbrella of the Department of Insurance on January 1, 2024. An update on Delivery Agency Five Year Site Visits revealed 38 site visits have been completed, and the remaining outstanding site visits will be completed in Q1 of 2024.

Terry Foxx updated the board on the TR Program rewrites and stated it is on track to meet the deadline of the 1-year extension granted by ISFAC.

There was no old business to discuss. New business included one felony applicant to a local department that was tabled until the next meeting to give time for staff to get his background check.

Pro Board is now allowing simulations in certification courses; however, NC does not currently allow simulations of any practical. Following a closed session for an investigation, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on March 14, 2024, at Kernersville Fire Department.

EMS Advisory Council: Robert Poe NC OEMS Advisory Council Meeting

11-14-23

Injury Committee Report

Atrium Health Cabarrus Level III Redesignation 4 years
Atrium Health Cleveland Level III Redesignation 4 years
Novant Health Presbyterian Level II Redesignation 1 year with ability to extend 3 years when deficiency is corrected

Trauma System Plan Update Dr Wayne Meredith reporting
Work is still continuing

Update on Changes to Administrative Code Wally Ainsworth reporting
Changes will take place on July 1, 2023 Go to NCOEMS website to view changes. Many allow AEMT and EMT's to provide more medications and skills to patients

Compliance and Education Robert Poe reporting

From August 1 to October 31 1480 credentials were issued 190 of these Paramedic
Turnaround times for credential issue or recertification 18 to 22 days for those requiring a fingerprint check.
From August thru October the Disciplinary Committee
29% of cases violent offences
17% DWI
11% Sexual related
5% Patient Care
60 Institutions are either accredited or are under a letter of intent to be accredited for Paramedic Courses
There is a growing trend for EMS agencies to be their own delivery agency
2024 Program Coordinator Workshops will be held

Wilmington March 5th and 6th
Greensboro April 26th and 27th
Asheville July 30th and 31st

187 Current Courses that will end by 12/31/2023

Mr. David Ezzell gave an update on Healthcare Preparedness

Dr Winslow gave an update on changes in the Scope of Practice

Chief Mitchell gave an update on activities in OEMS

VSWCF Board: Joel Faircloth
Information given in Fire & Rescue Commission Report

Fire & Rescue Pension Advisory Brd: Debbie Poe / Gary Whitman
No Report. Next Meeting June 2024

Stroke Advisory Council: Dr. Hervy Kornegay Jr. / Tom Mitchell
Meeting December 13, 2023 and the American Heart Association presented the Race Cars study information.

911 Board: Greg Foster
911 Board Updates ESINet Telephone System - As of January 17, 2024
- 126 PSAPS (911 Centers) are live on State ESINet
- 1 active Projects

NC 911 Financial Report as of August 25, 2023

- NG 911 Financial Reporting
Month End Balance \$ 78,724,024

Disbursement \$ 969,004

- CMRS Financial Reporting
Month End Balance \$ 1,505,285

Disbursement \$ 71,046

- PSAP Financial Reporting
Month End Balance \$ 24,578,399

Disbursement \$ 2,781,734

- PSAP Grant/Statewide Projects Account
Month End Balance \$ 65,642,407

Grant Fund Committed \$ 39,994,919

FY 2025 PSAP Grants:

- The tentative schedule for the 2025 grant cycle with start in March with the Grant Workshop for PSAPs tentative date of 3/26/2024

- FY2025 Grant Program Priorities:

Regional Initiative with focus on Primary PSAP consolidations

911 Call Data Interoperability – CAD Data Sharing, or Multiple PSAP Shared/Hosted CAD

End of life equipment replacement – radio, CAD and/or recorder

PSAP Cybersecurity Initiatives

Other (Facility Grants based on square foot age allocation and tier status

The January Board meeting scheduled for 26th has been cancelled therefore the next board meeting will be held February 23, 2023 the location is still TBA.

Technical Urban Search & Rescue Advisory Committee: Terry Foxx
The Technical Urban Search & Rescue Advisory Committee has not met since our last meeting, however there is a meeting scheduled for March 13, 2024, at the State EOC Media Room.

Standing Committee Reports

Advisory: Bob Twomey
No Report

BLS Competition: William Mauney
No Report

Constitution : Billy Sparks Jr.
No Report

Credentials: Jerry Bradshaw
Even year Director Appointments upcoming this year. Applications will be sent out to be returned to the Credentials Committee.

Finance: Debbie Poe
Motion by Committee accept financial statements for 11-30-2023 Association, Brotherhood, Memorial Fund, Relief Fund, motion passed.

Personnel: Jeff Hinshaw/Joel Faircloth
No Report

Rescue Competition: Mac Smith
No Report

Standards & Training: William Mauney
Standards have been posted on line with current changes that have been previously approved. Will be meeting in the future to review equipment lists.

Count of members on a single roster	25076
Count of members on more than a single roster	4800
Total distinct members on rosters	29876
Total roster entries	36356
Percentage of roster entries that are Paid1	59.08
Average number of rosters/individual	1.217
Average number of individuals/squad roster	52.54
Median number of individuals/squad roster	38
Number of not-closed squads with rosters on file	676
Count of Association Member Departments	520
Count of Departments (Not Pay Dues)	5
Count of BH departments	151
Count of BH roster members	4313
Count of BH Individual members	684

Relief Fund Board of Trustees: Josh Shumate/Joel Faircloth
Scholarships are applications are on line and must be submitted by March 31, 2024.

Convention Committee: Josh Shumate
Working to getting pricing at various location. We will call a meeting when we have those and a recommendation.

Memorial Committee: Joel Faircloth

Continuing to work on finding a location Fred has been reaching out to several agencies and Bill and Joel met with district engineer with DOT out of Alamance.

Legislative Update: Fred Bone

At present, the North General Assembly is not in session. This is the time of the year when the filing deadline has passed, and members are actively campaigning for the upcoming primary in March. All legislators are organizing fundraisers and seeking people to assist them with their campaigns. There are plenty of opportunities available to participate in the primary election cycle. If you're interested, I would be happy to share a list of campaigns taking place in your local area.

The North Carolina General Assembly is conducting a series of mini-sessions on a monthly basis, during which no legislative action is being taken, but technically the legislature is still in session. Additionally, interim committees have started to meet. Any potential legislation resulting from these committees' meetings will be eligible for the upcoming short session.

In preparation for the upcoming short legislative session, there are two bills that require technical corrections. These bills will modify grants that were included in the budget by September. Joel Faircloth and I are working together to find a way to make these technical corrections during the upcoming session. Hopefully, the session will be short as it is typically held to make budget adjustments to the two-year biennium budget. Legislators always say it will only be a six or eight-week session, but it normally runs longer. Hopefully, this year will be one of the shorter sessions, but only time will tell. If you have any questions, I am always available to answer them. Thank you for the opportunity to update the board on the legislative happenings here in Raleigh.

New Business**Ad Hoc Committees**

Jr Program Development: Josh Shumate gave overview of thoughts of this committee. Paul Nowell will Chair.

Strategic Planning: Josh Shumate gave overview of thoughts of this committee. Robert Poe, Chair commented on the Brotherhood and improvements in it.

Mental Health Committee: Josh Shumate gave overview of thoughts of this committee. Scott McCaskill will Chair.

Directors Meetings 2024

April 28, 2024 - EMS Expo Greensboro
TBD Western NC September 2024

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Joel Faircloth

Executive Director
(Not Official until approved by the Board of Directors)