

FINAL

**STATE BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MEETING MINUTES
February 21st, 2007**

Chaired by Carl Jordan

Board Meeting Date and Location: February 21st, 2007 Ohio Department of Public Safety, 1970 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223

Board Members in Attendance: Mr. Daryl McNutt, Mr. David Fiffick, Mr. Mark Resanovich, Mr. Mark Marchetta, Mr. Mark Burgess, Mr. James Holcomb, Mr. Michael Senter, Dr. Wendy Pomerantz, Mr. Mark Mankins, Dr. John Pakiela, , Dr. Thomas Collins, Mr. James Davis, Mr. John Kubincanek and Mr. William Vedra

Board Members Absent: Dr. Jonathan Groner, Ms. Pamela Bradshaw, Ms. Charlene Mancuso and Ms. Vickie Graymire

Staff Members Present: Richard Rucker, Dr. Carol Cunningham, Karen Unver, Melissa Vermillion, Ellen Owens, Alan Boster, Doug Orahood, Thomas Macklin, Tim Erskine, Diane Walton, Aleta Dodson, Carol MacDowell, Thomas Gwinn, Bob Ruetenik, Joe Stack, John Sands, Linda Mirarchi, and Chuck Milam

Guest and Public Attendance: Nancie Bechtel, Pat Anderson, David Miller and Bruce Gottfried

Mr. Jordan called the February 21st, 2007 meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Roll Call

Mr. Daryl McNutt	Here
Mr. Carl Jordan	Here
Mr. Mark Resanovich	Here
Mr. Mark Marchetta	Here
Mr. Mark Burgess	Here
Mr. James Holcomb	Here
Mr. David Fiffick	Here
Ms. Vickie Graymire	
Ms. Charlene Mancuso	
Mr. Michael Senter	Here
Dr. Jonathan Groner	
Ms. Pamela Bradshaw	
Dr. Thomas Collins	Here
Mr. James Davis	Here

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Mr. John Kubincanek	Here
Mr. William Vedra	Here
Mr. Mark Mankins	Here
Dr. Wendy Pomerantz	Here
Dr. John Pakiela	Here

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Jordan welcomed all in attendance to the February EMS Board Meeting. A quorum was noted for the record.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 17th THROUGH 19th, 2007 EMS BOARD MINUTES

ACTION: Motion to approve the January 17th thru 19th, 2007 EMS Board minutes. Burgess first. Marchetta second. None opposed. Motion approved.

OPEN FORUM

No comments brought forward.

Stephanie Reed gave a presentation from the American Heart Association. Ms. Reed talked about where the AHA would like to go in their relationship with the State of Ohio EMS. She provided some history and a brief overview of who they are as an organization and why they do what they do. Ms. Reed stated that they are currently working toward their “Twenty Ten” mission which is to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular disease 25 percent by the year 2010. They’ve been working towards that mission for the last seven years with three more to go. Cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of all Americans and stroke is number three

Chairman Jordan thanked Ms. Reed for her presentation and stated that she touched on some of the things that were discussed at the Board retreat with regard to partnering with other organizations to be able to get things done. The Chairman said that Dr. C. keeps the Board connected with the American Heart Association in order to guarantee that we stay abreast of the information they provide and also gives us the opportunity to have input and participate in the programs that they’re putting together.

CHAIR’S REPORT, CARL JORDAN

No report given.

STATE EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR’S REPORT, DR. CAROL CUNNINGHAM

Dr. Cunningham presented a couple applications for RPAB approval. Dr. Steven Kelly of Region VII and Dr. David Miramontes of Region IV.

ACTION: Motion to approve new membership for Dr. Steven Kelly of Region VII and Dr. David Miramontes of Region IV as members of the Regional

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Physician's Advisory Board. Burgess first. Pomerantz second. None opposed. Resanovich and Marchetta abstained. Motion approved.

Dr. Cunningham stated that she had received a resignation from Dr. Michael Mackan. Due to the fact that he was a charter member of the RPAB system and a huge contributor to EMS in Ohio, Dr. Cunningham thought it would be appropriate to send Dr. Mackan a letter to acknowledge and thank him for his dedication over the years. Dr. Cunningham distributed a copy of Dr. Mackan's letter to the EMS Board.

Dr. Cunningham mentioned that the Board should have received via e-mail the draft of the National Scope of Practice that has been submitted to NHSTA. She asked the Board to please read it thoroughly and to direct any comments of concerns to her. Dr. Cunningham said that they are also re-drafting changes from NIMS. The first draft comments were due yesterday, but there is going to be a second comment period after release of the second draft. The EMS Board members were asked to notify Dr. Cunningham if they would like to review the second draft. They will accept the comments on the second draft up until March 26th.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, KAREN UNVER

Ms. Unver passed out copies of Mr. Cantrell's appellate decision and judgment entries. It is actually a published opinion and now when she does legal Research, the information is readily available on the computer.

There are two cases still active on appeal and stated that she didn't anticipate oral arguments on those for quite some time. There are also a few active cases that are currently scheduled for hearing within the next few weeks and several cases that have been resolved in the form of consent agreement.

EMS STAFF LEGAL COUNSEL, HEATHER REED FRIENT

No report given.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT, RICHARD RUCKER

Mr. Rucker gave the Board an update on Mike Glenn, the former State Coordinator for Trauma and the Assistant Director for the Division of EMS, and stated that he had arrived safely in Germany. Mr. Rucker stated in regard to Mr. Glenn's replacement that he's not sure when the position will be filled due to the hiring freeze.

Mr. Rucker informed the Board that Rachel Moore has been added to the Division. She is the Telephone Operator who took Robin Lester's position in Testing.

Mr. Rucker stated he had received suggestions and comments on the mission statement from several Board members and compiled a list. The list was distributed to the Board and the mission statement topic was opened up for further discussion.

Mr. Jordan said that our current statement does not reflect a strong association with the EMS Board. Other than considering it at the Board retreat, he does not feel that this statement is always in the forefront of our minds.

Mr. Rucker reiterated the comment that Mr. Vedra made at the January retreat that our mission statement should be something that guides everything we do and everything we think about during our meeting planning for EMS in the state. It would be good to have a mission statement that we could hang up in our Board meetings and, as we discuss an item, the Board can confirm that our actions are compliant with our mission.

Dr. Collins asked how much does HB 401 play into what the mission of the Board is going to be.

Executive Director Rucker stated that the one action implemented by the new fire training bill that the Division has never done in the past is issue firefighter certification renewals. The Division of EMS always gives their initial certification, but now we will be responsible for renewing their certifications. We anticipate that the workload will more than double as we currently recertify 41,000 EMTs on a three-year cycle, and we do not know exactly how many firefighters we have. This bill will help us to finally determine that. We estimate that there are probably around 60,000 to 65,000. There are 99,000 certifications on our books, and we know that some of them are deceased, or are no longer practicing. Up until now a firefighter has been issued a certification for life. Now, if there is an investigation turns up wrongdoing, then we'll have to look at that. We will have to do more investigations than we have in the past.

The mission statement in and of itself should be all encompassing and the vision statement can be a little more specific to deal with each EMS and fire as well.

The current mission statement reads "to save lives and minimize disability to Ohio citizens and visitors by developing and continually enhancing statewide comprehensive systematic response to injury, illness and fire."

The Board said the current mission statement is too long.

After much discussion the Board agreed on "to promote quality and professionalism in the training, education, and delivery of fire and Emergency Medical Services to the residents and guests of the State of Ohio."

ACTION: Motion to approve the above mission statement as written. Burgess first. Senter second. None opposed. Motion approved.

Mr. Jordan then read the current vision statement and opened it up for discussion. The current vision statement and it reads "Ohio Division of Emergency Services will be a standard setting agency within the fire and emergency medical services industry by

providing bright, proactive, innovative leadership, dedicated to the ideals of efficiently reducing morbidity and mortality and property damage.”

After some discussion the Board agreed that the vision statement should read as follows; “The State of Ohio Division of Emergency Medical Services will provide leadership dedicated to reducing morbidity, mortality and property damage.”

ACTION: Motion to approve the above vision statement as written. Burgess first. Senter second. None opposed. Motion approved.

The goals of EMS that would be directly related to the vision:

- Streamline comprehensive testing and certification process.
- Ensure the integrity of EMS providers and firefighters.
- Improve education programs for EMS providers and firefighters.
- Establish and maintain regulatory standards for EMS providers and firefighters.
- Provide funding and research to improve the quality of EMS care.
- Provide avenues to improve safety and security of all Ohio citizens, visitors and property.
- Maintain and develop data systems to promote research for the support of evidence-based initiatives.
- Provide prompt and courteous service to all clients.

ACTION: Motion to accept the EMS goals as written above. Pomerantz first. Fiffick second. None opposed. Motion approved.

STAFF REPORTS

- **Recommendation of Continuing Education Site Approvals, Ellen Owens**

Initial Approvals

	Name	Personnel	Contingencies	County
1.	Cardinal Joint Fire District	Matt Rarick, Program Coordinator George Ellis, M.D. Medical Director	None	Mahoning
2.	Tri-County Ambulance	Matt Handley, Program Coordinator Dr. Mark Swift, Medical Director	None	Columbiana
3.	LifeCare Medical Service	Raymond Poynter, Program Coordinator Jack Mitstifer, M.D. Medical Director	None	Summit
	Total: 3			

ACTION: Motion to approve the above listed sites without contingencies. Pomerantz first. Marchetta second. None opposed. Motion approved.

Renewals

County	Approval #	Exp Date	Name	Contingencies	
1	2022	09/30/2006	Bridgeport Vol. Fire & Emerg. Dept	None	Belmont
2	2183	02/18/2007	Cridersville Volunteer Fire Depart.	None	Auglaize
3	1028	04/30/2007	Fairlawn Fire Dept	None	Summit
4	2043	03/31/2007	Harrod Rescue	None	Allen
5	1101	04/30/2007	Porter-Kingston Fire District	None	Delaware
6	1107	04/30/2007	Sandusky F.D. Division of EMS	None	Erie
7	2169	11/30/2006	Somerton Volunteer Fire Dept	None	Belmont
8	2186	02/18/2007	St. Joseph Health Center	None	Trumbull
9	2036	01/31/2007	Harrison Fire Department	None	Hamilton
10	2045	03/31/2007	Reily Township Fire Department	None	Butler
11	2184	02/28/2007	Community Mercy Health Partners	None	Clark
12	1013	04/30/2007	Huber Heights Fire Division	None	Montgomery
13	1012	04/30/2007	Colerain Township	None	Hamilton
14	1045	04/30/2007	Greenville Area Rescue	None	Darke
Total: 14					

ACTION: Motion to approve the above listed renewals without contingencies.
 Burgess first. Marchetta second. None opposed. Motion approved.

2007 Statistics: New Programs – 5
 # Certificate of Approvals due to renew in 2007: 234
 Renewals – 20
 # Certificate of Approvals left to renew in 2007: 213
 Reinstatements – 1
 Expired / Relinquished – 1

- **Accreditations, Ellen Owens**

Accreditation Renewals

Accred #	Exp Date	Name	County	Level(s)	Contingencies
341	10/31/2006	Ohio Fire Academy	Licking	FR & EMT-B	None

ACTION: Motion to approve the above listed accreditation renewal without contingencies. Davis first. Burgess second. None opposed. Motion approved.

Off-Site Training Requests

Accred #	Name	County	Off-Site Location	County	Level(s)
392	Tri-Rivers/Marion General Hospital Paramedic Training Program	Marion	LaRue Fire Department	Marion	FR
			Elm Valley Joint Fire Department	Delaware	FR
122	Medina County Career	Medina	Barberton High School	Medina	FR, EMT-

	Center				B
008	Stark State College of Technology	Stark	Wayne Twp Fire Department	Tuscarawas	FR

ACTION: Motion to approve the above listed off-site training. Pomerantz first. McNutt second. None opposed. Motion approved.

Ms. Owens stated that pursuant to prior Board Order, the following institutions have submitted signed consent agreements: EMS Case Number 2005-406-308, Ehove Ghrist Adult Career Center, Accreditation No. 113, EMS Case Number 2006-469-308, Safety Training Solutions, Inc., Accreditation No. 377, EMS Case Number 2006-470-308, Collins Career Center, Accreditation No. 005 and EMS Case Number 2006-517-308, Central Ohio Technical College, Accreditation No. 350

With some of the above consents there was a change in the language in regarding submission of strategic plans and reporting of statistics. With the change in the rule for statistics moving from 65% first attempt to 80% overall the language previously in the consent really didn't work since they would not be reporting their statistics at the end of the class based on whether or not they were above or below 65%. The language has been changed in the consent and the reason that it is before you today is that part of that was that they would submit their statistics in a format approved by the Board.

ACTION: Motion to approve the language consent template. Fiffick first. Pomerantz second. None opposed. Motion approved.

*******15 minute Break*******

Nancie Bechtel was here to provide clarification for issues raised at the January Board retreat regarding some of the barriers for EMS. (This was a project grant that was received from the Department of Public Safety and the amount of dollars that will actually be allocated to the EMS training schools is about \$89,000. The committee had to look at how we would make recommendations based on using \$89,000 to increase training at EMS schools. The target region the committee was given in the grant was central and southeastern Ohio. The first thing we were charged with doing was to collect data on the perceptions from the schools of what they would need to train more EMS providers. The survey was created with the project team and had a lot of participation from the EMS training schools and from EMS providers. The surveys were sent to all the EMS schools in central and southeastern Ohio and the return rate was 61%. The committee identified topics for discussion and decision-making by the Board. One of the solutions that people talk about when discussing recruitment for EMS providers is marketing.

There are three things that over 50% of the respondents identified that were significant hurdles for EMS providers: 1) lack of financial aid is a barrier to training more providers 2) testing was the highest of the three items that 73% of schools cited. A lack of test-taking skills among students is a barrier to getting students through the program and certified 3) lack of certified full time EMS instructors. One of the recommendations was to spend the \$89,000 to create the test banks. The test banks were two-fold; one was to help improve test-taking skills of the students and the second was to help get them prepared for the national certification exam.

- **Extensions, Executive Director Richard Rucker**

ACTION: Motion to ratify extensions that were processed for the period of January 1, 2007 through January 31, 2007 as requested. Burgess first. Pomerantz second. None opposed. Motion approved.

- **Certifications, Executive Director Richard Rucker**

ACTION: Motion to ratify the 1256 active EMS Certifications issued for the period of January 1, 2007 through January 31, 2007. Burgess first. Mankins second. None opposed. Motion approved.

ACTION: Motion to approve the requests for exemptions regarding continuing education for three individuals serving on active military duty. Pakiela first. Mankins second. None opposed. Motion approved.

ACTION: Motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing investigations and Consent Agreements by roll call vote at 12:30 Fiffick first. Pomerantz second. None opposed. Motion approved.

Roll Call

Mr. Daryl McNutt	Here
Mr. Carl Jordan	Here
Mr. Mark Resanovich	Here
Mr. Mark Marchetta	
Mr. Mark Burgess	Here
Mr. James Holcomb	Here
Mr. David Fiffick	Here
Ms. Vickie Graymire	
Ms. Charlene Mancuso	
Mr. Michael Senter	Here
Dr. Jonathan Groner	

Ms. Pamela Bradshaw	
Dr. Thomas Collins	Here
Mr. James Davis	Here
Mr. John Kubincanek	Here
Mr. William Vedra	Here
Mr. Mark Mankins	Here
Dr. Wendy Pomerantz	Here
Dr. John Pakiela	Here

*******Board returned from Executive Session at 1:30*******

ACTION: In the matter of EMS Case No. 2005-7-101, the Board recommend to accept consent agreement to adopt previous consent. Pomerantz first. Burgess second. None opposed. Davis and Holcomb abstained. Motion approved.

ACTION: In the matter of EMS Case Numbers 2005-453-102 and 2006-117-101, the Board recommends to accept the following consent agreements. Pomerantz first. Collins second. None opposed. Holcomb and Fiffick abstained. Motion approved.

ACTION: In the matter of EMS Case No. 2005-441-308, the Board moves to accept the withdrawal of the application for renewal of a certificate of approval and to close the case. Pomerantz first. Davis second. None opposed. Holcomb and Fiffick abstained. Motion approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **EMS-C Committee, Dr. Wendy Pomerantz**

The Ohio Pediatric Disaster Preparedness Subcommittee met on January 12 at the Ohio Department of Transportation. This subcommittee discussed pediatric dosing instructions for the Strategic National Stockpile and pediatric participation in disaster drills. The next meeting will be May 11.

The EMS-C Committee has created a summary from the Emergency Department Survey for presentation to the EMS Board at April's meeting.

The EMS-C Mannequin Grant application has been sent electronically to all Ohio initial and continuing education sites as of January 8, and has been available on the EMS website since that time. Application deadline is February 28.

Ohio Safe Kids Coalition held their annual meeting on January 3. The meeting included discussion of changes in Safe Kids Worldwide and how they will impact Ohio Safe Kids.

- **Data, Tim Erskine**

No report from the committee. Mr. Erskine said that he proposed the creation of a research committee during the Board retreat. It seemed like a good idea, but no action was taken. The Board and their various committees have questions that can be answered. The problem is he doesn't know what those questions are the Board and committees may not necessarily know how to ask them. This is where the research committee would be beneficial to ensure that the information flows back and forth.

Mr. Jordan said that he and Mr. Erskine had spoke and that there were a number of things that had to be done before the committee could be put together.

Mr. Erskine stated that he felt that a research committee itself could be formed now if the Board wishes. However the current data advisory groups (Trauma Registry Advisory subcommittee and Incident Reporting System Advisory Committee) is required by the administrative code and there would need to be a change in the OAC to bring those to a close. The memberships of those committees are very valuable and their services should be retained by the Board. Forming the research committee doesn't require any legislative change, but the administrative code would need to be rewritten to eliminate or edit sections four and thirteen to close out those committees. Mr. Erskine had created a rough first draft of meshing the two chapters together to help streamline things administratively as well. Mr. Erskine stated he would make sure that those go out and start the process.

Mr. Jordan said he felt that would be a good idea to get those out to each Board member. He want to make sure that everything we do is transparent and that everyone is aware of what is going on.

- **Education Committee, Mark Marchetta**

No report given.

- **Firefighter and FSI Committee, Executive Director Rucker**

Mr. Rucker shared with the Board that the Fire Committee will meet February 22nd and 23rd Thursday and Friday at Violet Township Fire Department to continue drafting the fire rules for the new fire training bill. The committee has established the goal of updating the firefighter objectives for firefighter 1 and 2 including emergency vehicle operations. February meeting was canceled due to weather and the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14th at 10 a.m.

- **Grants Committee, Mark Burgess**

No report given.

- **Homeland Security Committee, Mark Resanovich**

The committee held a work session with ODPS media services where we worked on extracting from the drill we did in August for Chempac. The training DVD was finished and is working to put it all together with the PowerPoint. Next meeting is scheduled for March 20th at 1:00 p.m.

- **Medical Oversight Committee, Mark Resanovich**

No report given. Next meeting scheduled for March 20th, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

- **HB375 Workgroup, Mark Resanovich**

The workgroup met February 20th, and made assignments. We gathered some information specifically regarding the RPAB. Data and additional information from other organizations will be obtained from Dr. Cunningham and Laura Tiberi from ACEP, and some of the hospital groups. Next meeting scheduled for March 20th, 2007 at 2:30 p.m.

- **Trauma Committee,**

No report given.

OLD BUSINESS

No comments brought forward.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Resanovich said that he would like to see a letter sent to Dr. Mackan on behalf of the EMS Board. Dr. Mackan has been very active and an advocate of EMS and EMS providers throughout the state for greater than twenty plus years. He was the chairman of the Ohio ACEP EMS Committee. Dr. Mackan developed the Star of Life for ACEP.

ACTION: Motion to approve a letter of recommendation be written and sent to Dr. Michael Mackan on behalf of the State EMS Board. Resanovich first. Burgess second. None opposed. Motion approved.

The Board stated that they would like to invite Dr. Mackan to a Board meeting and present him with a plaque of recognition from the State of Ohio.

Mr. Rucker said that we will make plans to invite Dr. Mackan during EMS week in May and make a special presentation.

OPEN FORUM

No comments brought forward.

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ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Motion to adjourn. Pomerantz first. Davis second. None opposed.
Motion approved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.