



Meeting Minutes



Meeting Title:	Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC)		
Meeting Location:	AirCare Conference Room & Virtual Teleconference Environment (VTE)		
Meeting Date:	October 13, 2023		
Time:	10:00 a.m.		
Attendees:	<u>Council Members (X = Present):</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Daniel Edney, Chair <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Pete Avara <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tyler Blalock <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Claude Brunson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Mike Cole <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Mark Davis <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Clyde Deschamp <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. W. Duncan Donald III <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. Amanda Fontaine <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Rodney Frothingham <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Mark Galtelli <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Hugh Gamble <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. David Grayson <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Dennis Hebner	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Chris Howard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms. Suzanne Joslin <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. Amber Kyle <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Kendall McKenzie <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Jeremy Rogers* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Jason Stacy* <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Benjamin Scrivener <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Hans H. Tulip <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Eric Valles <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. Katherine Waddell* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms. Pam Wallace <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Jonathan Wilson <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Jeffrey Welborn <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Andy Woodard <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Ben Yarborough	
	<u>State EMS Medical Director</u> Dr. Bob Galli*	<u>Meeting Facilitator:</u> Mr. Christy Berry	
	<u>MSDH Staff Present:</u> Ms. Christy Berry Mrs. Macy Bassett Sam Burdine Ms. Kay Chambers Ms. Elaine Coleman Mrs. Teletha Johnson	Mr. Steven Jones Ms. Chasity Meadows Mr. Andrew Nguyen Ms. Melissa Parker Ms. Teresa Windham Ms. Tammy Wells	
	<u>GUEST:</u> Baptist Medical Center: Michelle Goreth	North MS Ground Ambulance: Ben Richards UMMC AirCare: Chester Sherme	
* via VTE ZOOM			



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	AGENDA TOPIC	NOTES
I	Call to Order and Opening Remarks	<p>Dr Edney called the meeting to order @ 10:02 and made opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He will serve as EMSAC chair until further notice. • Addressed the current issues with EMS and the system of care. • Working to get ahead of the issues and move forward. • Asked the council to put everything on the table to move forward for the greater good of EMS in the State. • Dr. Edney assured the group that he is available and requested all Advisory Councils to reach out as needed. • Will ensure all suggestions are considered and vetted through legal before acting on them.
II	Roll Call	Ms. Berry – quorum present
III	Old Business	Dr. Edney roll call and quorum was established with either in person attendees or Zoom
	Review Minutes of Previous Meeting	<p>Correction: Tyler Blalock was present at the last meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion – Mark Davis approves the minutes as written with correction. • 2nd – Dr. Wilson • No oppose.
	Bureau of EMS Report	<p>Mrs. Christy Berry provided the report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed previous action items. • Updated the council on some of the changes since Mr. Hall left the agency. • The new director should be announced very soon. <p><u>EMS Operational and Professional Services</u></p> <p>Mr. Jones shared the BEMS Operations update and discussed certification numbers and how the number of state certified personnel appears to be slowly increasing; and shared the status of EMSOF grant progress to include grantee meetings and dissemination of grant applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Donald asked how we plan on finding out why so many professionals are leaving the field. • Mr. Jones advised that we plan to conduct a survey following the recertification process to assist in gathering that



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		<p>information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A general discussion on the topic of certification numbers not changing much over the past 5 years was held. • Benji Sessums added the way the classes are being conducted means things are changing but most of the decrease is due to the financial issues the students are facing. • It was suggested that the legislative branch be brought in to offer solutions regarding students' financial aid. • Dr. Edney informed us that we could reach out to other states to get a foundation on how they are obtaining the number of providers in the state. • Mr. Galtelli stated that we will require a larger number of Basics to cover the number of individuals moving to advanced roles. • Dr. Cole stated that the pay from insurance companies has declined while the number of calls has increased. • The standard of care should be the same statewide regardless of population or reimbursement. • EMS is not tax-based supported. Almost 70% of most calls are not collected. • Dr. Stacy asked why they can't leave the county on a transfer if they are the only unit in the county. Steven advised that is up to the county and how their contract is written. This is not mandated in rules and regulations. • Dr. Gamble asked about the state paying tuition for EMS students, but the student would then have to work in an area that needs that level of care for a specific period of time. Mark Galtelli advised this is currently not being offered. • Mr. Sessums advised there are several high school students in the EMS educational programs being funded. There are 8 programs offering this service for high schools. Mr. Galtelli discussed recruitment in high schools and how it streams to other paths in the EMS field. • Dr. Edney brought up that everything is moving to a regional system but that the one size fits all approach will not work in this issue. It is important for the group to talk to the legislators but is more important for a unified approach. • Dr. Edney advised there are some things that we can change



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		<p>quickly, such as regulations. However, we need a detailed plan to take to the legislators to get the necessary changes implemented. We must think about the urgent issues and the practicality that goes with them.</p> <p><u>Grant Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMSOF Grant Applications are being generated and will be mailed out at the end of the month. We will be conducting educational visits for any new applicants. • Mark Galtelli asked if the amount of the EMSOF could be increased since there has not been one since around 1986. • AED Grant for Public and charter schools. A very small number have been received as of today. Dr. Edney asked that everyone reach out to their school districts and make sure they are aware of the grant. • Dr. Gambel requested that the “Stop the Bleed” kits be added to the grant. He was informed that this grant only includes the purchase of AEDs at this time and legislative changes would be required to add these kits. <p><u>Ambulance Inspections and Investigations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to date with inspections. Findings include: expired medication and supplies, equipment not properly charged, soiled linen and equipment, tears in the seats. Most of these issues are resolved prior to the inspector leaving the location. • Investigations: 2 current investigations. Awaiting response from the services. <p><u>Non-Transport EMS & Non-Emergency Vehicle Transport Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jones stated that there are currently four active fire departments enrolled in the program and nineteen in the process of enrollment. • Sam Burdine, the NTEMS Coordinator, is meeting with Fire Departments (paid and volunteer) to recruit for the program. • Currently only one service is licensed with the Non-Emergency Vehicle Transport program. <p><u>EMS-C Update</u></p> <p>Mr. Dawson shared a new grant awarded and should extend through March 2027. The Advisory committee has had initial meeting. Next deadline for HRSA is 12-15-2023 for a progress report. Working to make contacts with facilities and to establish hospital designation</p>



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		criteria.
	<u>Committee and Subcommittee Reports</u>	
	<u>MDTQA</u>	<p>Dr. Galli provided the report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narcan kit program, we can provide free kits to the community, but for the services we need to give them the kits and have a way to track them in the PCR's. With Dr. Carlton's departure, this will be discussed and updated soon. <p>Evaluate and update the MDTQA committee composition based on changing roles and locations.</p>
	<u>MTAC</u>	<p>Dr. Donald provided the report.</p> <p>He will go into additional details at their meeting this afternoon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requesting an increase in the authority to spend from 20 million to 32.2 million. They have sent out a survey to get additional data to support the above request. Rules and Regulations are being updated.
	<u>EMS Rules and Regulations</u>	<p>Dr. Wilson provided the update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current language being added to include the National Scope of Practice so all Medical Directors can approve the National Standards ranging from First Responders to Medics. That way as National Standards change the protocols will remain current once the Medical Director signs off on the update. Considering Community Paramedics, but for the seasoned Medics. Mr. Jones advised that we learned at the NASEMSO conference on Georgia's Community Paramedic program. They were issued a grant from NHTSA to initiate the program. North MS Ground requested that the language be clarified for RN's.
	<u>EMS Registry Committee</u>	Ms. Bassett advised they are working on the NEMSIS Data Dictionary for the 3.5 update.
	<u>Critical Care Paramedic</u>	Mr. Galtelli advised that there are no updates at this time.
	<u>MS EMS Educators Association</u>	Mr. Sessums stated the Association is going to meet at the MEMS



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		Conference. They are considering hybrid refresher blocks to keep them up to date with national standards. EMS students, NREMT-Prep and services can do recruiting. NREMT skills will stop 06/30/2024, with this they are discussing different ways to cover skills moving forward.
	<u>Mississippi Center for Advancement of Prehospital Medicine</u>	<p>Mr. Galtelli advised that they are discussing tuition grants. There are 25 Advance EMT's currently being paid for. They're focusing on the wellbeing of EMS providers mental health by working on how we change the way we look at the mental health needs for EMS.</p> <p>Dr. Edney requested that he be included in this program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EMS Memorial Gala will be May 25th at the Mississippi Museum of Art • The EMS Memorial has moved under the Foundation, and they are currently working on the following: draft design / possible location at the MS State Department of Health / requesting additional funding between \$50,000 and \$60,000 from the legislation. • Dr Wilson made a motion to ask the legislation for \$60,000 for the memorial and for it to be located at the Department of Health. 2nd by Dr. Cole. All in favor
	<u>MHCA</u>	<p>Mr. Jones reviewed current data for 2023-1st quarter - on modes of arrival for stroke and STEMI patients.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed current data for 2023-1st quarter - on mortality rates for stroke and STEMI patients. • Next MHCA quarterly meeting November 16, 2023 @ 6PM at University Heart.
		Statewide Symposium at the Sheraton- Flowood – January 26, 2024.
IV	New Business	<p>(2) Burn Centers in the state. Additional meeting to discuss some details before the next meeting will be late November or first of December, Dr. Edney will advised this date. Next meeting will be January 19, 2024 Location to be announced.</p>
V	Open Discussion/ Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No need for Executive Session • Next Meeting: April 14, 2023 at 1pm.



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VI	Adjournment	Dr. Wilson made motion to adjourn, 2 nd by Mark Galtelli, All in Favor Dr. Edney adjourned the meeting at 12:10p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

#	Step	Responsible	Due Date
I	Survey following the recertification process to assist in gathering that information.	Steven Jones	
II	Legislation related to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> financial aid for EMS students increase in EMSOF Grant funding. language in AED grant to include all schools. add Stop the Bleed kits and education along with AEDs for schools. funding for EMS Memorial (50K-60K)	Group	
III	Contact other states regarding HRSA Grant – Community Paramedic	Steven Jones	
IV	Clarify language for RNs working on critical care or specialty transport vehicles	BEMS	