

THE EMS NEWSLETTER

MARCH AND APRIL 2008

WI EMS ADVISORY BOARD—BACKGROUND

Background: The Wisconsin EMS Advisory Board is a 13-member council appointed by the Governor from the ranks of EMS and health care professionals that advises and consults the WI DHFS EMS Section regarding issues impacting EMS in the state of Wisconsin. The WI EMS Advisory Board is comprised of five (5) committees entitled EMS Administration/Management, EMS Disaster Management, EMS Education/Training, EMS Info Management and EMS Systems Development tasked with projects in specific areas of EMS.

Purpose: The purpose of the *EMS Newsletter* is to enhance the communication network for reporting the activities of the WI EMS Advisory Board to all EMS service agencies and EMS providers throughout Wisconsin. The bi-monthly *EMS Newsletter* will provide reports and updates on the various projects and tasks that are assigned to the committees and sub-committees of the WI EMS Advisory Board.

Goals and Objectives: The goals and objectives of the Board are to strive to support all EMS providers in the state of Wisconsin in the delivery of quality patient care. The WI EMS Advisory Board represents *you* - the field EMS provider. Your feedback is essential to the effective functioning of the Board. Please feel free to contact any member of the Board with your recommendations for improving EMS in Wisconsin.

WI EMS ADVISORY BOARD—APRIL 2008 MEETING

The following reflects a synopsis of the activities of the WI EMS Advisory Board and the committees of the Board during the course of the April, 2008 meeting at the Sheraton Madison in Madison, Wisconsin:

EMS Administration and Management Committee - Travis Teesch, Chairperson:

1. Funding Assistance Program The EMS Administration and Management Committee is currently tasked with reviewing the Funding Assistance Program within the state of Wisconsin:

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Background information regarding the WI EMS Advisory Board
- Report from the April 2008 meeting of the WI EMS Advisory Board
- Meeting times/dates and location for the WI EMS Advisory Board
- Contact information for the WI EMS Advisory Board Membership



"... praise is fine for some, but I feel truly blessed that you have chosen me to serve in the field of EMS".

- excerpt from "An EMS Prayer"

WI EMS ADVISORY BOARD—APRIL 2008 MEETING (CONTINUED)**WI EMS Advisory Board****Meeting Schedule**

**Tuesday/
Wednesday**
August 5-6, 2008

**Tuesday/
Wednesday**
October 7-8, 2008

**Tuesday/
Wednesday**
December 2-3, 2008

* All committees of the WI EMS Advisory Board meet on Tuesdays.

The full Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesdays.

Meeting Location:

Madison Sheraton Inn
706 John Nolen Drive
Madison, Wisconsin

Background: The 1989 WI Act 102 provided supplemental funds to EMS service agencies from \$2.2 million in funding - \$1.4 million to be used as supplemental funds for the purchase of ambulances, EMS equipment/supplies and/or other EMS training and \$800,000 to be used for EMT-Basic training. The \$1.4 million fund is allocated based on a payment of \$3588 plus .03 cents per capita reported as population served by the EMS agency.

Task: On July 1, 2005 the relationship between the WI DHFS EMS Section and approved training centers eliminated the direct billing/reimbursement process for EMS training. Subsequently, a new formula for the \$800,000 fund was revised to *1/3rd* - based on service area population, *1/3rd* - based on # of licensed EMTs and *1/3rd* - based on ambulance call volume.

Task Review: To ensure the \$800,000 fund was distributed with optimal equity to all EMS service agencies within Wisconsin, the EMS Administration and Management Committee was mandated to conduct a review of funding capabilities for EMS training for all EMS agencies in Wisconsin approximately one (1) year following the implementation of the new formula. To facilitate the review of this funding capability, the EMS Administration and Management Committee will be developing a survey instrument for the purpose of communicating with each EMS service agency in Wisconsin to determine any hardships encountered for funding EMS training in the wake of the new formula.

2. ***Future Projects/Tasks - EMS Administration/Management:*** development of guidelines for emergency driving, revisions to WI administrative rules

EMS Disaster Management - Mark Fredrickson, Chairperson:

1. ***Future Projects/Tasks - EMS Disaster Management Committee:*** review of distribution of \$375K grant from OJA, development of guidelines for evacuation planning, review of system for patient tracking/MCI.

EMS Education and Training - Gloria Murawsky, Chairperson:**1. Proposal for Revised EMT-Basic Refresher Curriculum:**

The EMS Education and Training Committee recently completed the task of developing options for formats for the EMT-Basic Refresher curriculum:

Background: Five (5) pilot projects for the EMT-Basic Refresher course were developed by the Committee with the objectives (1) to provide options for delivering EMS training including web-based didactic or credit for EMS conference/seminar attendance, (2) to provide flexibility in scheduling to facilitate manpower/apparatus logistics and (3) to reduce costs for training.

Task: After reviewing the pilot projects, the following proposal was prepared for the delivery of the EMT-Basic Refresher course for the future:

WI EMS ADVISORY BOARD—APRIL 2008 MEETING (CONTINUED)

- **Option 1:** EMS providers can elect to attend a conventional EMT-B Refresher course delivered through an WI EMS Section -approved EMS training center to include (1) a new & emerging EMS topics overview in the interest of sustaining knowledge in current EMS issues, (2) a written examination and (3) three (3) practical examination stations within the format of the course.
- **Option 2:** EMS providers can attend 24 hours each biennium (minimum of 6 hours per year) of any continuing EMS education (online/web-based, EMS conferences/seminars) approved by the WI EMS Section and, in addition, attend a session through a WI EMS Section– approved EMS training center that will include new & emerging EMS topics, a written examination and 3 practical skills examinations within the format of the session.

2. Future Projects/Tasks - EMS Education and Training Committee: revision of WI administrative rules, review/revision of the Critical Care curriculum, development of EMS preceptor guidelines, final approval of the revisions to the WI Standards and Procedures Manual (currently under review by the WI Technical College Systems EMS Training Center Coordinators sub-committee) and review/revision of all EMS curricula compliant with the new EMS National Scopes of Practice.

EMS Systems Development - Brenda Fellenz, Interim Chairperson

1. Concepts for Marketing EMS: In light of the restricted funding available to the WI DHFS EMS Section for administering and managing EMS in the state of Wisconsin, the EMS Systems Development Committee is tasked with developing programs for "marketing" the EMS profession among WI legislators and the general public. Currently, the Committee is coordinating and facilitating the ongoing meetings of the EMS partners and EMS stakeholders - a consortium of professional organizations impacted by funding issues that affect EMS in Wisconsin.

2. Future Projects/Tasks - EMS Systems Development: developing EMS leadership programs for EMS service directors, directing EMS marketing initiatives through EMS partners, support for EMS funding, developing a "White Paper" regarding EMS in the state of Wisconsin.

Physicians Advisory Committee (PAC) - Dr. Charles Cady, Chairperson

Background: The Physicians Advisory Committee (PAC) is a 10-member council of EMS medical directors that serve in an advisory capacity to the WI EMS Section, the WI EMS Advisory Board and the agencies (ie: WI Technical College System) ancillary to the EMS community in the areas of EMS curricula and EMS scopes of practice.

1. Current and Future Projects/Tasks - PAC: reviewing templates for SOGs and the Critical Care curriculum, review for enhancing the EMT-IT scope of practice, development of online EMS medical director course, approved the use of the King-LT airway.



"A quality EMS system reduces both the human suffering and economic loss to society from the premature death and disability resulting from accidents or sudden illness. Wisconsin EMS is dedicated to developing and maintaining that system—ensuring that a uniform quality and standard of pre-hospital emergency care is available to everyone in Wisconsin."

WI EMS Advisory Board

Membership Directory

<p>Tracy Aldrich - Voting Member Steven Point Fire Department/PFFW Work: (715) 344-1833 Email: taldrich5@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Kenneth Johnson, MD - Voting Member <i>Chairperson, EMS Information Management</i> St Vincents Hospital/Infinity Healthcare Work: (920) 433-8351 Email: kjohnson@stvgb.org</p>
<p>Steve Bane (Vice Chair) - Voting Member West Allis Fire Department Work: (414) 302-8910 Email: sbane@ci.west-allis.wi.us</p>	<p>Cal Lintz (Chair) - Voting Member Northeast WI Technical College Cellphone: (920) 362-7391 (NWTC) Email: chester.lintz@nwtc.edu (NWTC)</p>
<p>Brenda Fellenz - Voting Member <i>Chairperson, EMS Systems Development</i> St Josephs Hospital - Ministry Health Care Work: (715) 387-9537 Email: brenda.fellenz@ministryhealth.org</p>	<p>Gloria Murawsky - Voting Member <i>Chairperson, EMS Education and Training</i> Milwaukee Fire Department Work: (414) 397-9651 Email: gmuraw@milwaukee.gov</p>
<p>Mark Fredrickson - Voting Member <i>Chairperson, EMS Disaster Management</i> Gold Cross Ambulance Service Work: (920) 967-6065 Email: mark@goldcross.org</p>	<p>Travis Teesch - Voting Member <i>Chairperson, EMS Administration and Management</i> Kaukauna Fire Department/PFFW Work: (920) 766-6320 Email: teeschtj@kaukauna-wi.org</p>
<p>Troy Haase - Voting Member Fond du Lac Fire Department/PFFW Work: (920) 322-3830 Email: local400president@charter.net</p>	<p>Two (2) Vacancies - Voting Members: <i>Currently pending appointments by WI Governor James Doyle.</i></p>
<p>Brian Litza, EMS Section Chief - Non Voting WI DHFS EMS Section Representative Work: (608) 261-6870 Email: litzabd@wisconsin.gov</p>	<p>Timothy L. Weir, Education Director - Non Voting Wisconsin Technical College System Representative Office: (608) 266-0995 Cell: (608) 436-2733 Email: timothy.weir@wtcsystem.edu</p>
<p>Don Hagen, Administrator - Non Voting WI Department of Transportation Representative Work: (608) 267-7520 Email: don.hagen@dot.state.wi.us</p>	<p>Michael K. Kim, MD, FAAP - Non Voting EMS for Children Representative U of W School of Medicine and Public Health Work: (608) 890-7519 mkkim@medicine.wisc.edu</p>

** If you have any questions regarding the activities of the WI EMS Advisory Board, please contact any member listed above. In addition, any voting member of the WI EMS Advisory Board is available at your request to speak at monthly EMS service agency meetings, conferences or seminars.*

Websites: Wisconsin Emergency Medical Services

Wisconsin DHFS EMS Section website: <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/ems>

Wisconsin EMS Advisory Board website: www.wisconsintraumacare.org