



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes September 15, 2005

### ATTENDEES

**Board Members:** Evan Bensley, Cheryl Blazek, John Copper, Bill Fish, Linda Frederiksen, Roger Heglund, John Hill, Lee Ridge, Rod Robinson, Tammy Snow, Tom Summitt

**Guests:** Jerry Johnston, Ray Jones, Steve Noland, Tom Boeckmann, Thomas Creighton

**Staff:** Karen Kreider

**Proxies:** Lori Reeves, Jeff Messerole, Bruce Thomas, Doug Reed, Rosemary Adam, Jeff Dumermuth, Brad Madsen, Ric Jones, Cindy Hewitt

**Absent:** Chad Torstenson

1. Call To Order – John Hill, Vice President – John Hill called the September 15, 2005 meeting of the IEMSA Board of Directors to order at 1:05 p.m.
2. Welcome/Determination of Quorum/Proxies/Call for Conflicts of Interest - A quorum was determined. Proxies were noted. No Conflicts of Interest were disclosed.
3. Minutes of August 18, 2005 – The minutes of the August 18, 2005 Board of Directors Meeting were approved as written. Heglund/Bensley/Unanimous
4. Guest Presentations
  - Tom Boeckman – HAN System – Tom distributed a brochure about Iowa's Health Alert Network and described the program and its challenges related to EMS, noting that EMS had not been included in the development of the program. The main advantages of using the HAN System include the alert system and the collaboration tool. Currently, there is no reliable way to notify EMS of emergency alerts. The program was discussed in depth. He noted that there might be some government funding to pay for the licensing costs. Tom requested that the board consider if EMS should or desires to be involved and then, what would be the best way to approach involving EMS in this program. Lee Ridge suggested that a survey tool be developed and distributed via the IEMSA listserve, the newsletter, the web site, and the conference. Lee volunteered to chair a committee to develop the survey. Karen will send exhibitor information to Tom. Funding has been set aside to ensure that area ambulances be a part of the HAN radio network (which currently includes local public health and hospitals).
  - NAEMT Response to Hurricane Katrina – Jerry Johnston, Acting President of NAEMT – Jerry brought the Board up to date on the role that NAEMT will play in this disaster. Jerry stated that the immediate assistance to the area is being handled by DMAT and other affiliated services. NAEMT identified the need for assistance for EMS providers that have been displaced, noting the following:

- The “Rescuer and Relief Fund” has been authorized. The NAEMT Board of Directors has pledged \$25,000 toward this fund as an initial contribution.
- NAEMT is working toward establishing a database of those willing to offer housing for those EMS workers and their families displaced by this hurricane. Additionally, NAEMT is exploring temporary employment opportunities for those left without jobs.
- NAEMT (particularly PHTLS) is working very closely with Dr. Guy and Dr. McSwain, through Vanderbilt University on coordinating EMS-specific relief functions.

NAEMT is now reaching out to affiliated states to encourage participation in this program. Jerry requested that IEMSA consider providing a contribution to the relief fund by soliciting donations at conference and perhaps pledging to match the funds raised during that effort. He also recommended that we offer a challenge to our members to participate in the 3 ways previously mentioned. He also noted that one could visit the NAEMT web site to find out about opportunities to do hands on assistance. A short-term task force to develop IEMSA’s response statement and its process for collecting donations at conference will be established.

5. Treasurer’s Report – Bruce Thomas – Karen read the Treasurer’s report in Bruce’s absence. Bruce reported that 67% of the year has passed and the finances appear in order and on track for a good performance up through the convention. Motion to approve the Treasurer’s report – Blazek/Bensley/Unanimous
6. Medical Director – Chad Torstenson – No Report
7. Office Administrator’s Report – Karen Kreider – Karen reported that
  - The new Membership software is up and running. As expected, it is streamlining quite a few processes. The on-line registration is also up and running and proving to be quite a benefit. Numerous individuals have taken advantage of this method of registration.
  - AAA Insurance Co. has approved IEMSA for Association Benefits. We will be publicizing this member benefit soon.
  - The Training Program Affiliate Membership has been completed and sent to all Training Programs along with the Education Calendar Poster solicitation. We have not had any response yet. Samples of the benefits and requirement for the Training Program Affiliate Membership were distributed.
  - Awards – Numerous award nominations have been received. The deadline for nominations is September 23rd. Bruce Thomas is chair of the Awards Selection Committee.
  - Ballot – 9 Board seats are up for re-election. Currently, there is one candidate for each slot. The deadline for nominations is September 23rd. No ballot will be sent if the current candidates run unopposed.
8. Bureau of EMS Report – Ray Jones
  - Bureau Chief Position – Ray has formally announced his retirement, effective January 19, 2006. A nationwide search will be conducted. It is the goal of the Department to fill the position before Ray leaves.
  - System Registry – The testing phase is currently in process. Franklin General Hospital is the first entity to test the system. Thomas Creighton reported on his

experience with the system, noting that vast amounts of training should be unnecessary, as it seems to be very user friendly.

- Budget – The Federal Budget is being cut from \$136 million to \$100 million.
- Grants – HRSA: FY 05 – 75% of this grant is vouchered (\$570,000); entities desiring to participate in this program have until September 30, 2005 to apply. Part A: FY 06 - 18 contracts have yet to be returned, noting that 65% of the contracts had been returned within the first 10 days.
- Bureau's Response to Hurricane Katrina – Iowa's emergency response system has been tested; the systems works but is inadequate to handle the needs of a situation as devastating as Hurricane Katrina. Ray noted that the EMS community needs to be more involved in the state's process. The issue of reciprocity was discussed as it relates to displaced EMS workers entering the Iowa workforce. This issue has not yet been resolved.

#### 9. Committee Reports - Working Committees

- i. Legislative – Ric Jones – No report
- ii. Public Information and Education – Evan Bensley - Evan reiterated that the Calendar project is in process. Evan introduced Thomas Creighton and noted that a request has been issued from the NCIEMS to promote the publication and sale/distribution of the "Procedures for Emergency Care," a first aid flip chart, on IEMSA's web site. Thomas circulated a sample of the flip chart. Karen will work with Thomas to get the appropriate information published on the web site.
  - Newsletter – Rosemary Adam – Karen reporting for Rosie; reminded Board members that Deadline for December newsletter is November 17<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in writing articles, i.e. Hurricane relief, service highlights, etc., were encouraged to submit them to the IEMSA office via e-mail by Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>.
- iii. Membership – John Hill reported that membership numbers continue to rise; membership statistics were shared. John urged Board members to follow up on the Affiliate recruitment efforts in their regions. Karen can provide lists of members per region, upon request.
- iv. Annual Conference – Brad Madsen – Karen reporting for Brad read the following request: 'You have all been so very good at pitching in and helping out during the conference in the past, I humbly ask each of you to come through again this year. We need all the help we can get from Board Members during the conference for things like stamping, registration, etc. I hope that you can all be there. I'm very pleased (and not at all surprised) with the great job that the various committees are doing. Things are progressing smoothly.' Karen added the following: even though the conference registration materials have recently been mailed, over 70 registrations have been received. Colleen Bingman is back to help with the data entry. The High School Students will be joining us again this year to help at registration and wherever needed. Karen requested that board members notify her of their rooming & meal needs for conference. A sign-up sheet was passed around to facilitate this and Brad's request for conference volunteers. Roger Heglund, chair of the Exhibit Hall Committee reported that most of the main floor spaces have been sold and budget has almost been met.
- v. SEQIC – Brad Madsen – Karen read the report that Brad provided:
  - The first meeting in almost a year took place in August. Rick Sidwell is now the Committee Chair. Lots of good data have been compiled which was shared with the group at the last meeting. We think that are able to glean a few "pearls" from the data thus far. Here are a couple of preliminary examples...

#1 - Over all - the median time it took for trauma patients to reach the OR INCREASED slightly from 2003-2004. It is hoped that this is an anomaly based on increased reporting from 03 to 04. Will be watching.

#2 - Data suggests that trauma patients presenting by ambulance are entered into the "system" faster than those who arrive by private vehicle. (Median time of injury to OR).

#3 - Data suggests that ISS scores have improved for head injured patients taken to the ED by EMS from 2003 - 2004. Though it can't be proven yet, this improvement coincides with the release of the TBI training program during that time period; one could hypothesize that the training has worked.

Not everyone is submitting data yet, Most of you know that there have been "issues" with Firehouse software. A patch has been created and is currently being sold to users of Firehouse allowing users to submit data. Many services (including mine) will be submitting data after the first of the year through Firehouse.

#### 10. Old Business

- Update on Benchmarking – Linda reported that the Benchmarking group met on September 14.<sup>th</sup> This meeting included a presentation by Press Ganey on their performance survey tools. She reviewed Press Ganey's services and the costs for the survey tool, noting that IEMSA members could get a discount on these products. She noted that they highly recommended that Tom Widmer get a booth at conference; Karen will send exhibit registration information to Mr. Widmer. The next Benchmarking meeting is scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>; the location is to be announced.
- Drug Screening – The letter from the Bureau to Linda Frederiksen responding to Linda's concerns about drug screening responsibilities and potential liabilities was shared. Discussion on this issue continued.
- Scholarship – Cheryl distributed her notes related to the development of the IEMSA Scholarship and requested feedback. She requested that a committee be developed to hammer out the details. Tammy Snow, John Copper and Evan Bensley volunteered to work with Cheryl on this project. Upon the Board's review of the proposed funding levels, it was determined that the funding she proposed is appropriate. It was also recommended that, once awarded, the funds be paid directly to the training institutions. Cheryl stated that it is her goal to have information and guidelines available at conference.

11. New Business – No new business items were announced.

12. Adjournment - A Motion to adjourn was made at 3:20 p.m. Bensley/Summitt/Unanimous