

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROFESSIONS
MARCH 13, 2003**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Lynn - Director for PEMSS, Sharon Tillman – TDH, Janet Bohachef – Program Director for the MLT Program, Grady Milton – White Deer EMS, Dr . Neumann – Northwest Texas Hospital.

EX-OFFICIO'S PRESENT: Dave Bulla – Program Director, John Smoot – Instructor, Cathy Nelson – Instructor, Bill Crawford – Division Chair, Jeff Doiron – Director, Continuing Health Care, Kim Lacey – Administrative Assistant.

1. Chair – Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Introductions- Everyone introduced themselves and the site they represent.
3. Minutes – The minutes were approved with two corrections: Item 4. HIPPA should read as HIPAA, and Item 7B: APEP should read as CPEP.
4. Dr. Neumann – “On behalf of the Department of Emergency at Northwest Texas Healthcare Systems, please accept our appreciation of what your program and staff at Amarillo College have accomplished in the prehospital professions program. The students are coming to the hospital well prepared, knowledgeable, skilled, and behave with courtesy and professionalism. Amarillo College has our full support”.
5. Jeff Doiron – Upcoming workshops are Germ Warfare: The New Reality, will be held on Friday, April 25 and HIPAA: Implemented, will be on Friday, April 11. The Tri-State Symposium is being planned, but due to budget restraints there may be a decrease in speakers, vendors, etc.
6. Marianne Jones – Absent
7. Terry Bavousett – Regrets missing the meeting today, however, he sent a letter with Sharon Tillman, which Bulla read to the committee. See attached.
8. Old Business - Self Study and Accreditation through the Department of Health - Dave is in the process of updating their self study and will be working with Smoot, Nelson, and Crawford discussing cost vs. benefits of continuing the process.
9. New Business
 - A. EMSP – Bulla gave John and Cathy a big thank-you for their tireless effort and the time they put in daily.

- B. Pinning Ceremony – The student Pinning Ceremony will be at the Hoffbrau on May 1.**
- C. Oral Exit Exam – Oral exam will be held April 28.**
- D. National Registry – Texas is the 43rd state in the nation to adopt the registry. The current pass rate in the program is about 75%. Approx. 95% pass on their second try. The state average is 50%. The program have always taught at the National Registry level for very long time, which is why the program is not seeing low numbers like other programs in the state. Nelson reported that she uses sample questions by the National Registry to help her teach some courses.**
- E. Paramedic to RN Bridge – Smoot, Bulla and Nelson are serving on the Advisory Committee and have been impressed with the way it’s been handled and so far paramedic students will need an Associate Degree in EMS as an entry requirement. There will be more information on the Bridge Program at a later date.**
- F. AAS & Certificate Programs - The program accepted 22 students in the EMT I class.**
- G. EMT P – There will be 23-25 graduating this spring, and three will graduate with a certificate.**
- H. Update on Courses – Evolving curriculum: Prehospital life support has been rewritten and faculty will be teaching out of a new book this spring. Information is constantly changing at the national level with all EMS courses.**
- I. Basic EMT – There are currently 55 students excepted last fall. Lots of interest in the EMT course.**
- J. Grading Scale – Raised the bar on the initial EMT class to 75% or better. Attrition has not been noticed, students seem to do well, and rise to the occasion. The rationale is the National Registry Exam results average 6 points below than the class average.**
- K. BIP Refresher – TDH changes and National Registry changes have been implemented and with that, there will be some rewriting of courses.**
- L. Off Campus – Owens Corning and Happy EMT classes have totaled over 30 students and are conducting these courses with a grant from TX DOT. State reimbursement was 3600 contact hours and no overhead for the college.**
- M. BoysRanch – Currently there are 19 students in the Basic EMT class.**
- N In-Kind Agreements – In working with PEMSS, 1000 contact hours have been generated with “zero” overhead to the college.**

O. Paramedic Student Representative – Bulla introduce Ben Thomas. Ben is a two year Blue Blazer at Amarillo College. He had nothing to report.

10. Additional Business – The Paramedic Refresher course will finish soon. Crawford discussed the budget cuts for all Jr. Colleges in the state and said that AC had to find 1.5 million dollars and it seems that next year that amount will double. All programs at AC are being scrutinized and are being looked at. Administration is looking at faculties who have extended contracts, budgets, travel, and operating expenses. This is serious situation for AC, but much more serious for some of the smaller colleges in the state. He did not feel the EMSP Program was in any jeopardy.

Lynn and Bulla have been asked to put together a PowerPoint presentation on EMS in Texas. It will be used as a Public Service Announcement to educate the public and will be made available to EMS personnel throughout the state.

11. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 1:30.

Minutes were written and submitted by Kim Lacey, Administrative Assistant, on March 13, 2003.
