

**FAEMSE
January 2009
Meeting**



**1/28/2009
10:30 AM
Daytona, Fl.**

Meeting Minutes

The meeting began at 10:30 PM with a welcome by President Danny Griffin. Mr. Griffin began the meeting by introducing Terry Schenck of the University of Miami. Mr. Schenck briefed the attendees on U of M's work on triage training. He pointed out that they offered a free computer program that involved triage practice, and that the program included the opportunity to earn two hours of CEU's. He told the group that the project would soon be sending triage training kits to Florida providers and schools. He further stated that U of M was working to assess different triage tools including START, SALT and SACO to determine their effectiveness.

Mr. Griffin moved that we accept the minutes from the previous meeting. The motion was seconded and when put to a vote, passed.

Mr. Griffin then summarized business conducted at the EMS Meeting conducted earlier in the day. He mentioned that matching grant applications were due the following Friday and that the forms for EMS Awards are out. He mentioned the possibility that there might not be a state meeting in April due to budget constraints at the state level. He also mentioned that in the latest Trauma Report that the incidence of children with domestic violence issues had increased 45% over the Christmas period of 2008 versus the previous year.

Louis Mallory then gave the financial report. He reported that FAEMSE's end of year balance was \$4484.72, and that the current balance was \$3744.53. He reported that the association currently has 103 paid members. He then introduced and demonstrated FAEMSE's new web site, adding that there will be a members only section after the upcoming membership renewal. He closed by briefly discussing an issue with institutional memberships. He reminded the group that these memberships had been eliminated due to the difficulty of keeping track of individual members under these types of memberships. He stated that those individual members who were having difficulty getting their organizations to pay for these memberships could have them billed as institutional memberships.

Next, Ricky Stone of the State Bureau of EMS spoke. He began by announcing that the scores were out for the previous year's EMT and paramedic exams. He stated that the EMT test had a 61% first time pass rate, while the paramedic exam had an 83% first time pass rate. He stated that the rule work shop conducted the previous day had gone well, and that the rule was open for public comments until February 1st.

Rob Holburn, the original author of the instructor requirements added that the language had been cleaned up some and that they had removed the requirement that program directors attend state meetings. He also discussed the exemptions mentioned in the rule,

stating that the exceptions provided for certified fire science instructors and others would expire 2 years after the rule went into effect. Dan Azaria asked when the expiration period was added to the rule, and Dr. Holburn replied that the provision had been in the rule from the beginning.

Dr. Marg Bowers asked if we will be able to offer the required instructor courses locally. Dr. Holburn replied that the intent is that train-the trainer courses will be offered at state meetings and that those instructors could conduct training at their home sites.

State Bureau of EMS Chief Bixler then arrived and briefly discussed state budget issues related to EMS. He stated that the bureau had not had any major cuts in the special session, but MQA had their budget cut by \$35 million. There was then some discussion about whether the April meeting could be held in Tallahassee, they discussed some possibilities, but the issue was not resolved.

Ricky Stone returned to his discussion of upcoming rules changes. He stated that some aspects of the Bureaus program requirements would be clarified.

Vicki of MQA then spoke about the new online EMT application status check system, which is now up and running. She stated the online application process should be up some time in 2009.

Danny Griffin stated that during the latest renewal 25,185 EMT licenses were renewed, and 19,902 paramedic licenses were renewed.

A member then opened a discussion about the upcoming EMS program guidelines and asked if the legislation would be changed to indicate the new guidelines over the old curriculum. Ricky Stone stated that the new standard is not a curriculum, and that it did not include objectives.

Dr. Bowers stated that the new standard would probably be rolled out at the NAEMSE meeting in August.

Jamie Greene then made a motion that the association purchase a plaque for Ed Wilson, honoring his retirement. The motion was seconded, and when put to a vote, passed.

Danny Griffin then opened a discussion about FAEMSE's awards program. Some discussion was made about the low number of nominees in previous years. After some discussion it was decided that the awards should continue to be given annually, but that the nominations be accepted at quarterly meetings.

There was then a discussion about Senate bill 948, then on the floor in the Florida senate, that proposed to change the requirements that students do clinical internships on an ambulance. The proposed change would allow students to ride on an "ALS vehicle" rather than an "ALS ambulance". There was significant discussion, and the consensus was that the wording should be changed to "field internships as defined by the Bureau of EMS in Rule". This seemed to be agreeable to everyone present, and the group went on to further business.

Danny Griffin then began a discussion about the statute requiring Florida trained EMT's to get certification within one year of program completion. There was some discussion

about the connotations of this rule., but it was pointed out that this was solidified in statute, and that the data regarding pass rate a year after training ended did not show that there would be any benefit to extending the deadline.

After some brief discussion about background checks by Andrea Brody, a motion was made to adjourn, the motion was seconded, and when put to a vote, passed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 PM.

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