

**FAEMSE  
July 2009 Meeting**



**6/29/2009  
10:00 AM  
Orlando, Fl.**

## **Meeting Minutes**

The meeting began at 10:00 AM with a welcome by President Danny Griffin.

Mr. Griffin began the proceedings by presenting plaques to outgoing board members Jamie Green and Marcie Heatherington, thanking them for their service. He then presented Dr. Linda Swisher with a lifetime achievement award and a lifetime membership in FAEMSE for her long service as the educational representative on the State EMS Advisory Board. He then announced that Dr. Marjorie Bowers is retiring from EMS education this year, and the FAEMSE presented her with a lifetime achievement award for her decades of distinguished service to EMS education.

Mr. Griffin then welcomed new board members, John Todero, Narina Stepanovski and Rob Holburn. He then announced the winners of the FAEMSE awards for 2009. They include:

EMT Instructor of the year:	Thomas McCrone
Preceptor of the year:	Jeff Malley
EMS Instructor of the year:	Terry Eaton
EMS Program Director of the year:	John Todero
Paramedic Instructor of the year:	Gina Hart

Lisa Walker of the State of Florida, Bureau of EMS spoke next. She advised the group that the bureau was finalizing the EMS instructor criteria, and working with legal advisors on the medical director requirements language before finalizing them. She stated that although the state law addressing rides on ALS Non-transport vehicles (formerly SB 948) had passed, that this law required there to be a bureau rule covering this topic before these rides could be considered part of the field internship, and that these rules had not yet been developed.

Mr. Griffin then began a discussion about the achievements of the previous year. He noted that in the last year FAEMSE had helped develop state rules regarding EMS training program equipment, and EMS Instructor criteria as well as developing a strategic plan for 2009. He stated FAEMSE was currently working on the 2010 strategic plan. He pointed out that since he became president FAEMSE's official membership had increased from 30 to 120.

Luis Mallory then gave the financial report. He stated that at the start of the fiscal year the organization had \$4500.00, that we'd spent approximately \$3000, and that we had a net income of about \$2100, for a total current balance of \$6622.86. He stated that the organization currently has 120 regular members, 4 corporate members and 4 honorary members.

Jaimie Greene then spoke about the new educational standards for EMS. He suggested that we begin working on a legislative package to address these upcoming changes in the structure of EMS, as put forth by NHTSA. Dr. Joe Nelson, state EMS medical director, stated that the plan is to move forward with NHTSA's recommendations as written. Danny Griffin stated that it is in FAEMSE's interest to keep the Bureau of EMS from pulling out of the project. Dr. Nelson replied that the state isn't going to avoid adopting the new guidelines, and that the Federal Government is moving to implement the new guidelines. Shari Turner asked how much preparation we should do for something we aren't sure is going to happen.

Tony Belo stated that there would be lots of training required, and asked what we are doing about that. Mr. Griffin asked if Florida will adopt the Advanced EMT level of training, and if Florida programs needed to begin teaching that. Jaimie Greene stated that we needed some direction from the bureau.

Dr. Nelson stated that Chief Bixler isn't sure how the bureau will proceed. He doesn't know what changes in the education system would be required if they adopted all four levels of training proposed by NHTSA (Emergency Medical Responder, Emergency Medical Technician, Advanced Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic). He is unsure of the effect of adopting all four levels on the training centers and on EMS providers. If adopting these levels will cause a hardship for the training centers system, then the bureau won't do it.

Shari Turner stated that there are statutory issues that need to be resolved before we can go to the new standards. She stated that part of the NHTSA package included all state training centers becoming CoAEMSP (Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions) accredited. She added that this would be the biggest issue if the changes are adopted.

Narina Stepanovski stated that she had spoken to Greg Margolis of NREMT, and he told her there was no mechanism to make non-NREMT Paramedics into NREMT Paramedics, but that they would set a date by which new paramedics entering the field would have to be Nationally Registered. He stated there was a large concern over homeland security issues related to this decision.

Jaimie Greene stated this was supposed to be completed by 2013, and that we needed to proceed.

Felix Marquez stated that CoAEMSP accreditation is a five year long process. Jane Bedford suggested that FAEMSE do an assessment to see what programs needed help meeting the requirements.

Jaimie Greene stated that the aeromedical group did a one day workshop to get some issues resolved, and suggested that FAEMSE do the same. He suggested that we involve the Department of Education so the Curriculum Frameworks could be adapted to the new standard, and that we involve the Bureau of EMS and national participants as well. Dr. Nelson stated that Dr. Hatch from CoAEMSP could also attend. Mr. Greene then made a motion that FAEMES explore the possibility of conducting a one day summit to resolve these issues. Dan Bulecza seconded the motion. Jane Bedford

then suggested that we should conduct a needs assessment Mr. Griffin suggested that the needs assessment go to the training centers. There was then extensive discussion on the subject. Jaimie Greene suggested we look at the new education standards, compare it to the current standards, and the new training levels, then adjust the curriculum frameworks, then adjust the legislation. He stated that the summit would guide this process. Dr. Linda Swisher then suggested that we do some strategic planning, as it would give us direction. Shari Turner asked what we need to do to change the 98 curriculum. Jaimie Greene then withdrew the motion, as it had become clear that there was no consensus on the direction the project should take.

Jane Bedford and Danny Griffin then began a discussion about the strategic vision project. Ms. Bedford stated that we have to submit an action plan in the next two weeks. Beginning with item 3.1 in the strategic visions plan (<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/demo/ems/Stratplan/TeamCharter2008.zip>), Mr. Griffin mentioned that there was an issue with getting some testing data back from the state and NREMT. Betsy Hines stated that they were able to provide state data and could get NREMT data if needed. Mr. Griffin then moved to item 3.5, which involves updating the continuing education requirements. He stated the goal was to remove the statutory requirement that there be two hours of HIV training and possibly add a requirement for 2 hours of pediatric training. He finished with a discussion of item 3.6, stating that the addition of the seven areas defined by NHTSA to the continuing education requirements was being addressed in the legislative committee.

Next Stephen Grant from Gainesville Fire Rescue spoke about an issue he discovered at their agency. Apparently there is no current requirement that paramedics maintain a CPR card anywhere in state rule or law. There was some discussion about the issue but no conclusive decision was reached as to a solution to the problem.

Dr. Swisher then made a motion to appoint Louis Mallory as the new Executive Director of FAEMSE. The motion was seconded by Christine Clemens, and when put to a vote, passed. The meeting was then adjourned.

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