

EMT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2007
WHITE MOUNTAIN CAMPUS – NPC
4:00 PM – 6:30 PM

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Peggy Belknap	Lynn Browne-Wagner	Clint Burden
Brian Gardner	Bonnie Pastorino	Ron Squire
Tina Tessay	Richard Wallace	

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Randy Chevalier Che Kelley Darren McDowell Dr. Roger Williams

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

A. Brian Gardner led the meeting and had everyone introduce themselves.

II. DATA PRESENTATION BY LYNN BROWNE-WAGNER AND PEGGY BELKNAP

A. Lynn Browne-Wagner went over the National Registry Testing results for the EMT Basic Courses. 59 Exams were given, 16 failed 1st attempt = 73% pass rate. 59 Exams given, 10 did not pass the 2nd time = 83% pass overall. Of the 16 first time fails, 6 retook and passed the exam, 1 person failed their second attempt and 9 students have not retaken the exam.

The national average for EMT's who pass the exam the first time is 71% - our pass rate prior to the fall of 2006 was 50-60%.

The national average for Paramedics who pass the exam the first time is 67% - our rate prior to fall 2006 is 50%.

B. Lynn specified that our goal is to reach 80-90% pass rate on the first try. Ron Squire asked Lynn about the 9 students who have not retaken the exam if we do a follow up with them. Lynn stated no, and explained why some students never take the exam. Clint Burden mentioned that some students aren't dedicated.

C. Peggy Belknap presented data from Nellie Klingler but everyone was in agreement that they think the figures presented were wrong. We didn't think we had that many students going through our programs here and asked that she recheck the figures with Nellie. She did explain the importance of FTSE to those members who had no knowledge of what FTSE was.

D. All members stated they'd like to see a report broken up by the different courses and age groups. It would give us a better understanding of which courses are attracting the most students.

- E. Ron Squire asked why our students were not doing well on the trauma section on the National Registry testing results form that Lynn presented. Lynn, Clint Burden and Richard Wallace were surprised by these statistics as trauma is one of the easiest areas to learn. This is something we will be addressing in our classes more heavily and we'll see on the next national registry exam testing if these scores comes up
- F. Ron Squire asked how we can improve our courses and the cost to outfit each teaching location with the required DHS equipment. Brian and Lynn agreed that it would cost approximately \$6000 to have equipment at each location where a class is being taught. As it is, WMC has the equipment and the different locations borrow things as needed.
- G. Bonnie Pastorino presented each member with a print out from DHS with the list of equipment and supplies a program must have. Peggy requested an inventory list and Ron requested pricing on each individual item. Bonnie volunteered to get these figures together within a week.

III. DISCUSSION OF PRE REQUISITE COURSES

- A. Lynn discussed her concerns about the lack of understanding of basic language terminology and math skills. She feels the students are not ready to enter the EMT Basic or paramedic programs. She'd like to see pre-requisites for both courses to help weed out the students who won't make it through the program and to prepare students for what to expect during the program. Her suggestion is to add a pre requisite to the EMT Basic course of Medical Terminology and Anatomy and Physiology. This would be a 40-48 hour class. For the Paramedic program, she'd like to see Basic EKG and Math Calculations as a pre requisite and again, lasting 40-48 hours. Everyone in attendance agreed with her suggestion.
- B. Peggy mentioned that to be able to do this without missing a semester of classes would be to do a co-requirement for the first semester and then make it a pre requisite.
- C. Tina Tessay asked if there would be any waiver for someone who is already a CNA or someone who was once an EMT or paramedic. It was voted upon that the Program Coordinator would have the final say so in any waivers. A list of acceptable types of waivers would be made.

IV. SHOULD THE EMT BASIC COURSE BE LONGER?

- A. Lynn and Brian made a proposal to extend the program longer for the EMT Basic's as they have a lot of chapters to cover (43) in a 16 week class. Clint and Richard said this may cause a hardship for the departments who need EMT's right away. It was agreed that by offering the pre requisite course, a lot of the information that takes so long to explain would be covered in that course first.

- V. HOW OFTEN AND HOW MANY EMT BASIC AND PARAMEDIC COURSES SHOULD NPC OFFER?**
- A. Clint and Richard think a paramedic program could probably be offered every other year. Clint will take this up at the Chief's meeting on Sept 25th and see what their future needs are going to be.
 - B. Tina would like to see an EMT Basic class start in October and run through February in Whiteriver. This would miss the months that people are on standby for fire season. She was told we could accommodate this request.
- VI. WHAT OTHER EMS COURSES SHOULD NPC OFFER?**
- A. Clint would like to see an Emergency Drivers Training Course offered. Brian mentioned that Fire Science offers one, but Clint said it's not offered that much. We could coordinate with Fire Science to see what we could offer.
 - B. Richard said a 12 Lead EKG course would be good. Lynn mentioned that Deanne Freter will be teaching one of these.
- VII. ALS/BLS REFRESHERS VS CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES**
- A. Lynn asked if people would be interested in doing continuing education courses throughout the year, versus doing a refresher class all at once. Richard and Clint said they prefer taking a class where they can get it over with quickly instead of coming to several different classes throughout the year. They both feel NPC should offer more refresher classes so that they don't have to send so many people at one time to a class which leaves them short handed at the station.
- VIII. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**
- A. Clint said he felt the EMT Department needed to send out fliers with a list of the classes offered. He mentioned that a flier could be made up and passed out each month at the Tape and Charts that are held at NPC. These are held the 2nd Monday of every month in the Ponderosa Center. Bonnie said she would attend these meetings and have fliers to give to everyone.
 - B. Bonnie mentioned that if a certain department has specific needs, they can contact the EMT department and we can usually accommodate them. An example was that Whiteriver wanted a refresher course at Hondah and we're doing one for them. Clint and Richard were very interested in this.
- IX. ADJOURNMENT**
- A. Before adjourning, we agreed to meet again on February 14, 2008 at 10 AM.
 - B. During October we will correspond through e-mail
 - C. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.