

## MEMO

January 17, 2017

To: Sub-committee for future position of BEMS as a freestanding board Members

From: Donna Newchurch / Nancy Bourgeois

Re: Summary of 1/10/17 Meeting

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*Attendees: George Alamond (Shreveport Fire); Susan Bailey (BEMS); Nancy Bourgeois (LA ACEP); Jeff Elder, MD (EMS Certification Commission); Chad Guillot (BR EMS); Kirk LaCour (EMS Task Force); Curry Landry (LAA); John Lane (Shreveport Fire); Mark Majors (Med Express); Donna Newchurch (LAA); Gary Peters (Advanced EMS); Chad Roberson (LA Fire Chiefs Assn); Collin Summerfeld (BR EMS); Traci Travis for Butch Browning (OSFM); Jeff Watson (Bossier City Fire Dept); and Tracy Wold (Pafford EMS)*

*Invited but not in attendance: Butch Browning (OSFM – sent Traci Travis); Arthur Lewis (BR EMS); Chad Major (Professional Firefighters Assn); Skip Pinkston (Shreveport Fire);*

*Requested to receive copies of meeting invites and summary notes: Senator Fred Mills; Christine Peck (Sen H + W); Amanda Trapp (Legislative Staff)*

*Documents distributed: Agenda; Memo detailing EMS Task Force approved Subcommittee purpose and function; SCR 40 of the 2011 Session which formed a EMS Professional Services Working Group and their deliverables; SCR 40 Final Report submitted to Senate and House H + W Committees as well as a list of all participating members of the workgroup; SB 262 of the 2013 Session which sought to establish free-standing Board of EMS; HB 930 of the 2008 Session which established the Human Service Districts as free standing boards; HB 272 which established the Louisiana Emergency Response Network; Potential fee schedule provided by Susan Bailey; 2-9-17 BEMS Assessment and Recommendations Memo from Butch Browning to Rebekah Gee, MD*

An updated meeting agenda was distributed. Donna Newchurch detailed the purpose and function of the sub-committee as approved by the EMS Task Force on May 16, 2017. Newchurch, though she tried to identify an additional chairperson, will remain the chair. Nancy Bourgeois will assist with note taking as needed to provide a summary of the meetings.

First action of the committee was to determine the support of the full standing board concept for BEMS. Jeff Watson, Bossier City Fire, motioned that the Subcommittee recommend to the EMS Task Force that a free-standing board of EMS be established and required legislation developed, filed, and moved through the Legislative process with a second by George Alamond, Shreveport Fire. Members present voted unanimously in favor with Susan Bailey abstaining from the vote.

### SCR 40

In 2011, there was a committee that did a lot of the preliminary work as part of SCR 40. Newchurch referred to the 14 page Executive Summary, especially comments on pages 10 and 11 regarding “location options.” All present agreed it is time to take action on those options.

### SB 262

In 2013, BEMS was proposed to become a part of LERN but a substitute bill was pulled at the last moment and BEMS remains in OPH as a part of LDH.

### Board Composition

Watson noted the composition of the Board as detailed in SB 262 was simply too large.

Kirk Lacour discussed the need for the group to make recommendations on the composition of the board. He felt we need a list of stakeholders and perhaps multiple tiers of participation. This would help determine how many members should be on the board, their expertise and appropriate representation.

Majors noted balanced representation should be based on the purpose of the Board. All agreed that large boards are unwieldy.

It was recommended that the Commission and BEMS roles would be combined as the board. Dr. Elder stated that the board should have all of the functions of the commission which would no longer exist just as the Board of Medical Examiners does. The long-term goal would be to have the BEMS responsible for all functions of a health care board such as LSBME and LSBN, including disciplinary actions.

There are 4 major responsibilities of the BEMS: Education, Minimal operational requirements, examination, licensure, renewal requirements.

Bailey suggested that a definition of stakeholder be provided to the Task Force for their review.

Wold suggested that we prepare a list of possible stakeholders to the Task Force and let them respond based on the recommendations.

Elder suggested that we look at the current Commission composition and add to it so that the list is not too cumbersome, and all are represented.

We will have a crosswalk and come with the lists for our next meeting.

Bailey will contact NASEMSO to view any materials they may already have available. Landry will pull sample legislation from other states; Newchurch will work with them as they focus on composition.

### HB 930

The deliverables from the November 28, 2017 meeting convened by Senator Mills were discussed. Per Senator Mills’ recommendation, the Human Services Districts and their

relationship to LDH was reviewed. LDH had an MOU with the new board, the staff were transferred, t.o. and benefits, equipment and furniture were transferred as the Human Service District Boards were established. Newchurch has requested a copy of the new board status and legislation and budget information. Note: if there is an issue and the new board has major difficulty then LDH can step in as a failsafe.

#### Fee Schedule

All agree the fee schedule will be important when becoming a free-standing board. This sub-committee will be used to make recommendations on how fees should be structured and report the findings to the Task Force. All agreed the newly established Board should have the flexibility to address financial needs of the entity.

#### Other

Incorporating Ambulance Standards and licensing into the functions of the new Board were presented for consideration. Newchurch to research how federal funding for these services might impact including these functions in the new entity.

Newchurch asked if there were suggestions for other members of the Task Force or in the EMS community that should be on the sub-committee. Terry Blanchard was recommended as the president of LANREMT.

Meeting dates and times were discussed. An effort will be made to have meeting around Task Force meetings. There will be a conference call on Wednesday Jan 17 and every Wednesday until task is complete. Newchurch will send out call-in information.

#### Next steps

Research by Susan and Curry.

Crosswalk of possible membership for board and determine stakeholders.

Propose a time frame and required action steps

Decide what paperwork, reports, documentation are needed. At this time Newchurch will take the responsibility for securing items identified by the SubCommittee.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10pm.