



MINUTES
January 28, 2014 Meeting
(Meeting deferred a week due to weather.)
of the Kentucky Trauma Advisory Committee
(Conducted by KDPH Video Teleconference MRN 1803822)
3:00 PM ET

Roll call of appointees - Richard Bartlett, Secretary

Appointees on the call:

Richard Bartlett, KHA
William Barnes, MD, Absent
Andrew Bernard, MD, ACS COT
Julia Costich, Absent
John Draus, MD, KY Children's Hospital (Appointment pending)
Richard Cales, MD, At-Large
Mary Fallat, MD, Pediatric Trauma
Linda Gayheart, Citizen Representative
Nicholas Hammonds, RN, KBN (Appointment pending)
Brian Harbrecht, MD, UofL Level-I
Laryn Mertz, RN, Level-III Trauma Center (Appointment pending)
Dan O'Brien, MD, ACEP
Charlotte O'Neal, RN, KY ENA
Michael Poynter, KBEMS
Shane Ratliff, KY Transportation Cabinet
Carol Wright, RN, (Level-III) (Outgoing appointee)
Sandy Tackett, RN, Pikeville (Level-II)
Allyson Taylor, KY Dept for Public Health Commissioner's Office

Others on the call

(May not be complete since everyone does not always speak-up, ID themselves, or speak clearly.)

Dr. Aaron Brown, Pikeville Medical Center
Leah Curry, Taylor Regional Hospital
Stephanie Devore, UK
Patti Halcomb, Rockcastle Hospital
Ben Hughes, RN, UofL Hospital
Robin Leidecker, Livingston Hospital
Renee McClure, Rockcastle Hospital
Genia McKee, KIPRC Safe Cities
Kathy (Watson) Peck, Twin Lakes Regional Hospital
Steve Sparrow, KIPRC Safe Cities
Jason Stiles, RN, Owensboro
Scott Suttles, Pikeville Medical Center
Rita Tabor, Medical Center Scottsville

Meeting was opened by Dr. Bernard.

Reviewed and approved **minutes** from November 26, 2013.

Educational items that were pushed out:

- BIAK Meeting March 7 at Cardinal Hill
- Two TNCC courses. Pikeville (Scott Suttles is the Coordinator), and UofL Trauma Institute (Theresa Baker is the Coordinator).
- ATLS at UofL March 6-7, with cadaver lab. Theresa Baker is the Point of Contact.

- University of Cincinnati and Midwest EMS Conference at Great Wolf Lodge outside Cincinnati.

Pending verification site visits?

- Owensboro is pending for May.
- Ephraim McDowell, focused review visit in September. No problems. They are good until 2015.
- Pikeville. Completing application for consultative visit in June-July time period. Verification by the end of the year.

Regarding Level-IV's coming up, nothing immediate. These are anticipated later this year.

Russell County Hospital

Rockcastle Hospital

Medical Centers Scottsville and Franklin

ACEP Report: Dick Bartlett commented on the ACEP Report on Emergency Services in Kentucky. He felt like the headline in the Herald Leader article made it appear that emergency care in the hospitals was in question. When you look at the ACEP report, and the Kentucky scorecard, the focus is primarily on emergency preparedness as a "system". Our feeling is that if you go back and look at the materials, and the scorecard in particular, the clinical aspects of what is being done in the ED is not in question. It is a lot of the "other things" that created the poor scores. For example, the study was looking for pre-established protocols for stroke and stemi destinations. That is not something the trauma system can control. This will have to be addressed by the Kentucky Board of EMS. There were comments in the report on accreditation for emergency preparedness programs, and this is something that both Kentucky Emergency Management and Kentucky Public Health Preparedness are working on. His impression is that this is not as bad as the report portrays.

Dr. Bernard noted that he appreciated Mr. Bartlett's response in the article, and Mr. Bartlett responded that he really went further with the reporter than was cited. He also commented on the development of standard protocol recommendations, guidelines, and inclusion of the CDC protocols which were listed as a deficiency. Mr. Bartlett noted that adoption of the CDC Field Triage protocols is another area that KBEMS plans to review in the near future. He told the reporter that we don't know who answered the questions, or what weight was placed on each question, but in terms of the trauma system we went from three verified facilities in 2008, to eleven today. She expressed an interest in doing another story on trauma in the future. The ACEP report was circulated to the KyTAC listserv, and can be found on-line.

Committee Structure: Dr. Bernard wanted to have a general discussion about the structure of the KyTAC going forward. Chair (Dr. Bernard), Vice Chair (Dr. Fallat) and Secretary (Dick Bartlett) are the three leadership positions, and have been in these roles since the group was formed in 2008. There were originally several sub-committees formed. That included a group on Education, Verification, Protocols, a PI subcommittee, and Finance.

Dr. Bernard felt that there needed to be a small ad hoc group to work on a set of By-Laws for KyTAC. He noted that Julia Costich, who is also a lawyer, has done an initial draft of By-Laws. Allyson Taylor, also an attorney offered to help. The group decided to let them work together on a draft, and present it to the group at a future meeting.

There was some question about the terms of officers, and it was noted that since this is not addressed in statute or regulation the committee can make its own decisions on this subject. It was generally agreed that the person's term would likely end when their appointment ends. Allyson Taylor indicated that all the paperwork has been forwarded for signature, and the KyTAC recommendations are expected to be accepted. Except for those who are filling unexpired terms, the end of newly appointed people will be 12/2017.

Dr. Bernard felt that while serving as Chair has been a great experience, five years is probably too long. He recommended that as the By-Laws are created this be shorter so that there is an infusion of fresh blood periodically. It was discussed that the officers should probably be from those who are appointed. Dr. Fallat nominated **Dr. Brian Harbrecht** to the position of **Chair**. This was seconded by Charlotte O'Neal and Sandy Tackett both seconded the nomination. Dr. Harbrecht had to step out to handle a surgical case. His term runs through 10/31/2015. There were no other nominations, so the record will show that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot.

Dr. Bernard noted that Dr. Fallat has served as **Vice Chair**, filling in for Charley O'Neal when he left the KBEMS and the committee. Dr. Bernard nominated **Dr. Fallat** as Vice Chair, to serve for the balance of her term of appointment 10/31/2015. He opened the floor for other nominations. Dr. Fallat indicated that Tuesdays are difficult for her, but she tries to keep up. She welcomed someone else to step up. There were no other nominations, so the record will show that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot.

The next position was **Secretary**, which **Mr. Bartlett** has held for over five years. He also fills in as the Kentucky Trauma Coordinator since there is no paid staff. Dr. Bernard recommended that until we have some funding to hire persons who could assume some of these roles. Mr. Bartlett said that what he does dovetails into his role at KHA, and he is willing to continue. There were no other nominations made, so the record will show that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot.

There was a discussion about committees, and who can serve as Chairs. The discussion was initially that we had talented people involved with trauma who could serve in these roles. Allyson would like to see some of this formalized, but Dr. Bernard noted that the five base committees have existed for several years as reflected in minutes.

Mr. Bartlett also noted that the Registrar's work group has been well lead by Trish Cooper at UK and Wanda Bowen at UofL, and this serves a good example of how this can work. Dick Bartlett made this into a nomination for **Trish Cooper** to head the **Data Subcommittee**; seconded by Dr. Fallat. There were no other nominations made, so the record will show that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot. Trish Cooper is not an appointed member of KyTAC, so she would serve until such times as this is clarified by future By-Laws.

There was a side conversation on a developing fiscal problem regarding financial support for the Kentucky Trauma Registry. Julia has received an invoice for the next year (starting in April), and we do not have grant or donated funds to cover that bill. Dr. Bernard reminded the group that the initial seed money came from MESA as a private donation. Dr. Bernard speculated on potential requests to Ky Chapter of ACEP and Ky Chapter of ACS COT. Mr. Bartlett noted that after some of the pending helmet and public education programs being developed, there be a very small amount of money left in the KHREF fund.

This lead to a discussion about a nomination for the **Finance Subcommittee**. There was a potential by Carol Wright of Shane Ratliff. Shane declined because of a potential ethics standards conflict of interest. Linda Gayheart said that she would be willing to lobby if Shane would take the Chair. Dr. Bernard felt that this would be a little "too close", and he didn't want to put Shane in that position. Mr. Bartlett suggested that we turn the nomination around, and have Linda be Chair and let Shane work with her since some of the money used to support data comes from Transportation. After attempting to get others to volunteer, Dick Bartlett nominated for **Linda Gayheart** (12/30/17) was made. There were no other nominations, so the record will show that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot.

On the **Education Subcommittee**, this group works to help encourage or coordinate the development of educational programs across the state. Carol Wright was the original chair of this committee. There was discussion about Laryn Mertz assuming this position, but that had never happened. Laryn Mertz nominated **Charlotte O'Neal**, the ENA representative, to the position through 12/31/15. There were no other nominations, so the record will show that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot.

There was discussion about the **Verification Subcommittee**. The group helps lead the effort to get facilities ready for verification, and to get the teams ready to go. He/she oversees the review and report-back process to the KyTAC and the Commissioner before formal designation takes place. Dr. Bernard has chaired this for several years. Carol Wright nominated **Ben Hughes**; seconded by Charlotte O'Neal and Laryn Mertz. There were no other nominations made, so the record will show that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot. Ben Hughes is not an appointed member of KyTAC, so he would serve until such times as this is clarified by future By-Laws.

The **Protocols Subcommittee** is responsible for developing and disseminating trauma related protocols for hospitals and EMS. Dr. Bernard reviewed the development of protocols that have already been developed and included in the Kentucky Trauma Hospital Resources Manual. He felt like there were opportunities for development of future protocol development. Mr. Bartlett told the group that Dr. Bernard had been recently appointed by the Governor to the Kentucky Board of EMS. This type of linkage is similar to what we used to have when Dr. Glen Franklin concurrently served on KBEMS, and was involved with their Medical committee. Mr. Bartlett nominated **Dr. Bernard** (10/31/15); and Carol Wright seconded that nomination. There were no other nominations made, so the record will show that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot.

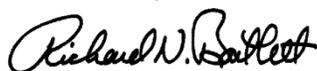
The **Process Improvement (PI) Subcommittee** was discussed next. Dr. Bernard encouraged the group to consider someone who is experienced and passionate about quality improvement. Laryn Mertz nominated Carol Wright for the position based on her years of previous experience and expertise in this area. Charlotte O'Neal seconded that nomination. Dr. Bernard noted that **Carol Wright** is also serving as UK's Trauma Program Manager at this time, in addition to serving as the Pediatric Trauma Coordinator and the Outreach Coordinator. Carol discussed doing it with Stephanie Devore's help, and noted that she also wants to make sure that Julia Costich at KIPRC was involved because data needs to be the driver of a PI program. Carol felt that she was very overwhelmed at the moment with a number of new duties, and wanted to decline. Mr. Bartlett reflected on discussions at the National Trauma Program Manager's meeting where "state" PI programs were encouraged. Dr. Bernard nominated Dr. John Draus (12/30/17) at KY Children's Hospital at UK, and Paula Ledford (not an appointee) at Ft. Logan. Carol Wright suggested that we nominate them as Co-Chairs - a Trauma Surgeon and a Trauma Nurse Manager. Dr. Fallat seconded that. There were no other nominations made, so the record will show that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot. Paula Ledford is not an appointed member of KyTAC, so she would serve until such times as this is clarified by future By-Laws.

Dr. Bernard encouraged the chairs to build strong working subcommittees, and motivate their groups to do great things. There are challenges ahead, including fiscal challenges.

There were discussions about a meeting schedule going forward, and the potential of doing some more frequent face-to-face meetings so the group can get to know each other, and have longer discussions on selected topics. Dr. Bernard suggested we go monthly for the next few months until new leadership gets established. There were some concerns about Tuesday as a potential problem, and the time of day. Mr. Bartlett will do a survey on this.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2014, at 3 PM ET.

Submitted by:



Richard N. Bartlett
Secretary, KY Trauma Advisory Committee
Emergency Preparedness/Trauma Coordinator
KY Hospital Association/KHREF