

**ALABAMA CHAPTER
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 6, 2007**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The ALACEP Board of Directors met on September 6, 2007 at the Medical Association building in Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Tom Arnold, President.

Those in attendance were:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Thomas L. Arnold
Dr. Neil Christen
Dr. Bryan Balentine
Dr. Steven T. Baldwin
Dr. Carl W. Barlow
Dr. David J. Garvey
Dr. William K. (Kirk) Hawley
Dr. John M. McMahon, Jr.
Dr. Jeremy Rogers
Dr. Annalise Sorrentino
Dr. Michael Sternberg
Dr. Rick M. Weber

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. John E. Campbell
Dr. Hillary Hendrick
Dr. Frank S. Pettyjohn

OTHER PRESENT

Dr. Jim Galbraith
Dr. Michael Bindon
Dr. Wayne Bruner
Denise C. Louthain, Staff

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 10, 2007 MEETING

Motion was made by Dr. John McMahon to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2007 meeting.

Second was by Dr. Annalise Sorrentino and carried.

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Tom Arnold stated that he had received several things by email from National ACEP and that he or Denise would email the articles to the membership: (1) A list of Federal and State legislators

matched to the ALACEP members; (2) A Pennsylvania ACEP white paper on crowding and boarding; and, (3) Information on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield settlement on how they will pay and what standards they will use.

Dr. Arnold brought up for discussion what the Board would like to do in honor of Dr. David Andretta who was killed recently in a climbing accident. He stated it was his understanding that UAB had established a crisis fund in his honor. Dr. Bryan Balentine stated that this is correct, that the Department of Emergency Medicine at UAB had established the fund but details on how the money would be used is not yet established with some ideas being an annual scholarship or annual award in Dr. Andretta's honor. Several ideas were discussed and the Board decided that every year at the annual meeting ALACEP needs to recognize those members that have died during the last year. Motion was made by Dr. Steven Baldwin to donate \$500 to the UAB, Department of Emergency Medicine crisis fund in memory of Dr. Andretta. Second was by Dr. Bryan Balentine and carried. Motion was made by Dr. Kirk Hawley that the Executive Committee explore the general issue of a long term, on-going memorial for Dr. Andretta and come back with recommendations for action at the next meeting. Mention was made of possibly naming the Poster Presentation portion of the conference in his honor. Second was by Dr. John McMahon and carried. Motion was made by Dr. David Garvey that the resident poster presentation competition have an award named in honor of Dr. Andretta and the award be no more than \$1500.00. Second was by Dr. Rick Weber and carried.

Further discussion was held concerning an ALACEP crisis fund for future use. Motion was made by Dr. David Garvey that the Executive Committee come up with an amount, a cap for the Executive Committee for individual amounts, and rules of use to be presented to the Board in December. Second was by Dr. Kirk Hawley and carried.

Dr. Arnold stated that National ACEP asked each state to appoint a key contact person to receive information on the Report Card. He asked if any Board member would like to serve and Dr. Steven Baldwin volunteered.

IV. TREASURER'S/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Bryan Balentine called everyone's attention to the Alabama and Tennessee ACEP Educational Conference Financial Report that was included in the packet. The Board was overall pleased with the finances for the conference. Some discussion was held concerning the lack of participation from nurses and how we might generate more interest. Dr. Jeremy Rogers volunteered to talk to the President of ENA about their possible participation in the future.

Lunch was provided by ARISTOI and Rich Street and Kate Gardner were thanked for providing the wonderful lunch.

Upon reconvening, the other financial reports were reviewed: Balance Sheet for July 31, 2007 and Profit and Loss from January 1, 2007 through July 31, 2007.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Neil Christen gave the ITLS Relations report and stated that the International ITLS Editorial Board had been discussing the need for a standardized BTLS Assessment video but did not have the funds to produce it professionally like they felt it would need to be done. He indicated that they had thought about corporate sponsors and they had also thought about asking ALACEP to sponsor it utilizing some of the royalty funds they receive every year. He said they estimated it would cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000. He said Dr. Campbell is not present today but he supports the project but would never dream of demanding ALACEP to support it even though he had donated the royalties to ALACEP which amounts to \$30,000 per year. He further stated the purpose of the video would be

to demonstrate patient assessment using the proper sequence, proper pneumonics, etc. and it would be used worldwide for instructors and students. Dr. Balentine said he felt we would be good stewards of ALACEP's money in reinvesting it in medical education that would be used worldwide and all the Board members agreed. Motion was made by Dr. John McMahon to accept the next royalty check from International ITLS and donate it back for the cost of the Patient Assessment video up to \$15,000 with the stipulations being that the video be dedicated to Dr. John Campbell, with the preamble to the video be an introduction by ALACEP, that the contents must be approved by Dr. Campbell and that they include the standard disclaimer. Second was by Dr. Kirk Hawley and carried.

Dr. David Garvey gave the Education Committee report stating that dates for the 2008 Conference are June 9 – 12, 2008 at the same location. It was decided to sign the contract with San Destin Golf and Beach Resort after we hear from the Tennessee Chapter of ACEP. Dr. Garvey asked that anyone with ideas for a theme for next year to contact him.

Dr. Steven Baldwin gave the Practice Management/Reimbursement Committee report. The continuing Medicaid problems were discussed including the prior authorization obstacles. It was discussed that the problems probably should be elevated to the AMA and the National ACEP level arguing the public health issues.

Dr. John McMahon gave the EMS Committee report stating that there had been no meetings since the last ALACEP Board meeting but the following meetings are scheduled: State EMS Advisory Board, September 13 and the State Emergency Medical Control Committee, September 25. Dr. Steven Baldwin brought up some issues concerning car seats in ambulances and the alternative airway issue.

Dr. Tom Arnold stated that Denise asked the Board to support the Southeast Alabama EMS Region's application to continue as the lead EMS agency in that region and read aloud a letter of

support. Motion was made by Dr. John McMahon to approve the support. Second was by Dr. Steven Baldwin and carried. After brief discussion, motion was made by Dr. John McMahon to send a letter to Dr. Williamson stating that ALACEP is pleased with the current success in EMS and Trauma in Alabama and that we applaud the renewal of funding as the current providers seem to be making improvement in EMS in Alabama. The letter should also encourage the Health Department to seek permanent funding for EMS. Second was by Dr. Rick Weber and carried.

Dr. Jeremy Rogers brought up problems with psychiatric patients in the emergency department, asking other Board members for advice on how they handle them. After much discussion it was decided that several of the Board members would ask for a meeting with the Probate Judges' Association to discuss the problems.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise C. Louthain
Executive Director