



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
152 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

ANNE H. JORDAN
COMMISSIONER

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2010
DECHAMPLAIN CONFERENCE ROOM

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

MINUTES (FINAL)

Members Present: Tim Beals (chair), Matt Sholl (ex-officio), Joe Conley, Peter DiPietrantonio, Richard Doughty, Judy Gerrish, Paul Knowlton, Steve Leach, Jeff Rowe, Geneva Sides, Percy Thibeault, Wayne Werts, Roy Woods

Staff: Jay Bradshaw, Drexell White, Dawn Kinney, Jon Powers, Kerry Pomelow

Regional Coordinators: Joanne LeBrun, Rick Petrie, Donnie Carroll, Steve Corbin

Office of Attorney General: Laura Yustak Smith, AAG

Guests: Dan Batsie, Dave Robie, Chris Pare'

1. Introductions not necessary
2. Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the July 7, 2010, meeting as distributed. (Thibeault; second by Gerrish). Unanimous.

3. Public Comments – none
4. Old Business – none
5. New Business

- a. Investigations Committee

MOTION – For the Investigations Committee to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2010, meeting. (Doughty; second by Knowlton) Unanimous.

MOTION – For the Board of EMS to ratify the Investigation Committee minutes of July 7, 2010 (Werts; second by Thibeault). Approved with one abstention (Ryan).

MOTION: For the Investigations Committee to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2010, meeting (Doughty; second by Leach) Unanimous.

MOTION: To ratify the minutes of the Investigations Committee meeting of August 18, 2010, with the following changes: case # 08-10, recommendation # 2 will state "Licensee agrees not to reapply for any type of license issued by the Board of EMS"; and in case #10-37, the licenses expiration date was June 20, 2010. (Ryan; second by Thibeault) Unanimous.

- b. Legislative and Budget Updates – Jay reported that the budget instructions for next biennium is to remain flat funded at the same level as the current fiscal year, with a request to replace rent funds that were removed in the current fiscal year. Jay also reported that

the department has requested approval from the Governor's Office to make changes to the EMS law as follows: remove the grandfathering clause for Ambulance Attendants, remove the reference to the Rules defining the EMS regions, add reference to the assistant state EMS medical director, remove the restriction that SBI background checks only apply to "initial" licenses, and update the confidentiality section to allow access to EMS records by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, for public health surveillance, linkage to patient medical records, and for research projects with the approval of the MDPB, the Board, and the MEMS Director.

Jay pointed any changes to AA and regional offices would also require a Rules change. Changing the statutory language simply provides the opportunity for the Board to make Rules changes at a future opportunity, if they decided to do so.

Jim Ryan expressed his concern with the confusion surrounding EMD and that under the current model, which has some responsibilities at ESCB and some at EMS, the net effect to dispatch centers is that there is no clearly responsible state agency.

c. Committee Updates

- i. Operations Team – Steve Corbin reported on the previous day's Ops Team meeting where agenda items included: regional offices following up with community and businesses who received AEDs under the Rural AED grants to be sure the units have been properly checked and maintained; changing the Practical Skills Evaluation process; updates from the regional offices on activities and training programs.
- ii. Data – Jon reported that there will be a major update to the MEMSRR system the evening of September 1. This update will result in a temporary outage as it merges the MEMSRR data with the licensing system and enables new functions for both systems. Following this update, the requirements for passwords will change to increase access security.
- iii. Education – Kerry and Dan Batsie distributed a draft of proposed changes to the CEH categories. These changes are to help better align Maine categories with those used by the National Registry and other states. The Committee will continue to work on a transition plan for presentation to the Board in November.

Kerry also reported that training center site visits are being scheduled and will be taking place over the next several months.

- iv. EMD – Drexell reported on efforts continue to improve QI reporting. The Windham center has closed and transferred responsibility to Cumberland County. The ESCB (E 9-1-1 office) has contracted with Mission Critical Consulting to survey PSAP all quality assurance activities, including but not limited to EMD. The PUC has released recommendations regarding consolidation of PSAPs. Written comments have been received and a public hearing will be held on September 22.
- v. Exam – nothing to report.

- d. Tri County EMS Regional Medical Director – the Tri County Board has recommended that Rebecca Chagrasulis, MD, be approved as the Regional Medical Director, filling the remaining term of Dr. Kendall who resigned from this position in July. Dr. Chagrasulis is well known and respected in EMS from her roles as a regional medical director, as the state EMS medical director, as an ED director and EMS educator.

MOTION: To approve Rebecca Chagrasulis, MD, as the Tri County EMS Regional Medical Director. (Leach; second by Doughty). Unanimous.

e. Other – none

6. Staff Reports

- a. MEMS – Jay reported that he has been invited to participate in a Next Generation 9-1-1 Forum in Washington, DC, to discuss how EMS services could use data from that system. The Forum is sponsored by the US DOT, who are paying all travel expenses.

Jay also reported that both he and Kerry will be attending the National Association of EMS Offices annual meeting in Norfolk, VA, which will be held the week of October 11.

- b. Medical Director – Dr. Sholl reported that revised draft protocols have been combined into a single document that is being reviewed and will be distributed to regional coordinators and the regional medical directors within the next week. Following MDPB review on Sept. 15, the draft will be distributed to others for review and comment. The deadline for comment will be established by the MDPB.

The MEDCU dispatch pilot project approved by the Board in July was reviewed by the MDPB and approved except for the protocol for intoxicated patients. MEDCU will be doing a presentation for the MDPB on their progress at the next MDPB meeting and hoping to go live shortly thereafter.

The MDPB will also be discussing an update to the Paramedic Inter-facility Transfer program (PIFT). The most recent PIFT program was implemented in 2006 and there is an interest and need to bring the program up to date and attempt to clarify both the goal of the PIFT program and the role of the service medical director, which is a PIFT requirement. Related to this discussion is the broader topic of inter-facility transfers, ranging from routine to critical care transport.

Maine Cardiac Arrest Survival Project (MCASP) – this group has been meeting to discuss the many changes that have come and are anticipated with regard to treating cardiac arrest patients. MCASP is discussing ways to disseminate contemporary information regarding cardiac arrest treatment and the system of care for these patients. Project participants include MEMS, CMMC, EMMC, MMC, AHA, regional EMS offices, Maine Cardiovascular Health, and an invitation has been extended to Maine Hospital Association.

7. Other

- a. Next Meeting will be Wednesday, November 3, 2010, at 9:00, at Maine EMS.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10.