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JOHN E. MORRIS
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2013
DECHAMPLAIN CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

Members Present: Judy Gerrish (chair), Jeff Rowe (chair-elect), Tim Beals, Joe Conley, Nate Contreras, Laura Downing, Nancy Jackson, Paul Knowlton, Julia Libby, Kalem Malcolm, Lori Metayer, Mike Senecal, Michael Schmitz, DO, Matt Sholl, MD (ex-officio), Brian Stockdale, Percy Thibeault

Staff: Jay Bradshaw, Dawn Kinney, Jon Powers, Don Sheets, Drexell White

Office of Attorney General: Lauren LaRochelle, AAG

Regional Coordinators: Joanne LeBrun, Steve Corbin, Marc Minkler, Rick Petrie

Guests: Dan Batsie, Gina Yamartino, Paul Silva, John Bagley, Crystal Bagley, Logan Perkins, Chris Paré, Brian Chamberlin

1. Introductions were made and Julia Libby was welcomed as the new representative from Mid Coast EMS.
2. Minutes
 - a. Jay Bradshaw noted that in the June 6, 2012, minutes a motion was made regarding the approval process and referenced the CP Task Force; however, the discussion held prior to the motion describes the CP Steering Committee.

MOTION: That with input from the Community Paramedicine Task Force that Maine EMS staff may approve applications on behalf of the Board, with progress reports at each Board meeting. (Beals; second by Contreras). Unanimous with one abstention (Libby).
 - b. **MOTION: To approve the minutes of the December 5, 2012, meeting as corrected. (Beals; second by Rowe) Unanimous with one abstention (Libby)**
3. Public Comments – None
4. Old Business
 - a. Report from the MDPB on LifeFlight of Maine policy review. Dr. Sholl reported that he has continued discussions with LOM regarding concerns about a policy regarding performing off protocol and potentially off scope of practice. Dr. Sholl recently met with Dr. Norm Dinerman who understands the concerns and is working to amend the policy and process under which LOM operates and the process used to review unusual circumstances.

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- b. Community Paramedicine – Jay Bradshaw reported that Delta Ambulance has submitted the remaining required application and requested a start date of March 18, 2013. Delta’s application will be reviewed by the Steering Committee on Feb. 14, 2013. Other applications to be reviewed at that meeting include: Calais Fire, Crown Ambulance, Searsport, St. George, and United Ambulance.

Dan Batsie is also working with several other services who have either submitted a preliminary application or expressed interest in CP.

- c. Personnel Committee – tabled until later in the meeting
- d. Board By Laws – report postponed until next meeting.

5. New Business

- a. Investigations Committee

MOTION: For the Investigations Committee to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2013, meeting. (Senecal; second by Knowlton). Unanimous with one abstention (Metayer)

Alan Leo reviewed the cases presented during the January 2, 2013, meeting.

MOTION: For the Board to ratify the Investigations Committee minutes of January 2, 2013, as amended. (Senecal; second by Schmitz). Unanimous with one abstention (Libby).

- b. Legislative and budget updates – Jay Bradshaw reported that the legislature is still working on the FY13 supplemental budget. There is no additional information about the FY14/15 biennial budget. MEMS will begin tracking and providing updates on legislation of interest to EMS. Already printed are:
 - i. LD 235 “An Act to Improve Insurance Coverage for Volunteer First Responders” which will extend Worker’s Compensation coverage to an injury that occurs at any time after the person receives notice of an emergency call.
 - ii. LD 298 “An Act Regarding the Membership of the Emergency Medical Services’ Board” which will add a second Board member representing Maine Fire Chiefs Assn and change the quorum requirements to 6 members.
- c. Overview of Emergency Medical Dispatch – Drexell White presented an overview of the EMD system and the Priority Dispatch process. Considerable discussion took place regarding the use of determinate codes and the requirement for services to have a service medical director in order to establish an alternative response plan.
- d. Committee reports
 - i. Education – Don Sheets reviewed the revised Clinical Behavioral Objectives that has been the focus of considerable work by the Education Committee.

MOTION: To approve the Clinical Behavioral Objectives dated 2/5/13 with a modification using generic language to describe “high definition simulation”. (Senecal; second by Jackson). Carried with one abstention (Rowe)

- ii. Data – Jon Powers reported that the Data Committee has not met since the previous Board meeting. Jon also asked for feedback regarding the annual MEMSRR report

that was distributed with the Board packets. MEMS will be sending this report to service chiefs later this week and upload it to the web site.

- iii. Exam – Drexell White reported that the committee has not met since the previous meeting.
- iv. EMD – Drexell White reported that the EMD Committee has not met since the previous Board meeting and that there are a couple of bills in the legislature regarding EMD. One would reduce the number of PSAPs and another would require state funding for a 3rd party to provide EMD QA for regional PSAPs. These will be added to the MEMS Legislative Summary and updated as appropriate.
- v. Ops Team – Steve Corbin reported that at its meeting on February 5, the Ops Team discussed the Regional Resource Center work plans, the 2013 EMS week insert, regional updates, and several other business matters.
- e. Awards Committee – Paul Knowlton, Percy Thibeault, Joe Conley, and Laura Downing agreed to participate in the review of nominees for 2013 EMS Awards. Nomination deadline is March 15, 2013.
- f. Other - none

6. Staff Reports

- a. MEMS – Jay Bradshaw reported that the revised EMS Rules have been approved by the Attorney General's Office and filed with the Secretary of State. Public notice was published on Feb. 6. The summary of changes and adopted rules will be posted to the MEMS web site within the next couple of weeks.

Each year during EMS Week, there is an EMS Memorial Bike Ride. The route changes each year, and this year will begin in Rockland, ME, as a tribute to long time rider, Dr. Frederick LaRochelle. More information on the ride can be found at www.muddyangels.com.

Recently there have been a number of ambulance services who have received unannounced site visits by an individual presenting a letter and ID indicating they are a contractor working with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the re-verification process. The manner in which this is being done raises a number of security concerns and MEMS has been working with the Maine Intelligence and Analysis Center (MIAC) to verify that the request and individuals are legitimate. Jay has also contacted national EMS leadership and will be connecting with CMS directly about their verification process and how state EMS offices can assist.

Delta Ambulance and North East Mobile Health will be the first EMS services to participate in a pilot project with Maine Health InfoNet, which will enable EMS providers to access patient information electronically. Pending results of this pilot project, this resource may be expanded to other EMS services. Maine EMS is also working with Maine HIN to integrate MEMSRR reports into the HIN.

- b. Medical Director report
 - i. Dr. Sholl reported that work is continuing and on track for the 2013 protocol revisions. Once the MDPB has completed its review and recommendations, the Education Committee will review the educational impact of the proposals and report back to the MDPB. The online training resource proved to be very helpful during the

2011 revisions and feedback provided during that update will be used in developing the 2013 roll-out.

Dr. Sholl also reported that he and Jay met with Drs. Sheila Pinette and Stephen Sears (Maine CDC) for an update on the current flu season and as part of the ongoing dialog between CDC and EMS. It appears that Maine has experienced a plateau in the outbreak of flu cases and may be on a decline.

Dr. Sholl also reported that the QI Committee has been discussing doing a follow up to the aspirin QI survey and discussing another survey topic.

7. Judy Gerrish requested a motion to remove from the table the Personnel Committee report.

MOTION: To remove this item from the table and enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter (Knowlton; second by Thibeault).

Unanimous.

Executive session started at 12:00

MOTION: To exit Executive Session (Thibeault; second by Rowe). Unanimous

Executive session ended at 12:10

Judy Gerrish reported that in Executive Session the Board discussed the performance evaluation of the EMS Director.

MOTION: To write a letter to Commissioner Morris in support of the work being done by Director Jay Bradshaw. (Rowe; second by Thibeault). Unanimous.

8. Other – Letter from Joyce Thomas, Harpswell Rescue regarding concerns about quality improvement and the impact of documentation requirements upon EMS providers. Considerable discussion recognizing the responsibilities of ambulance service directors, and providers – and the critical importance of good documentation and active quality assurance programs. Several suggestions were offered for inclusion into a response to Ms. Thomas.
9. The next scheduled Board meeting will be on Wednesday, April 3, 2013 @ 9:30 AM
10. Meeting adjourned at 12:35 PM.