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JOHN E. MORRIS
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
APRIL 3, 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, Lori Metayer, Michael Schmitz, DO, Matt Sholl, MD (ex-officio), Brian Stockdale, Percy Thibeault

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

Office of Attorney General: Lauren LaRochelle, AAG

Regional Coordinators: Joanne LeBrun, Marc Minkler

Guests: Bill Harris, Rebecca Reagan, Chris Paré,

1. Introductions were made and all were welcomed.
2. Minutes – February 6, 2013
 - a. **MOTION: To approve the minutes of the February 6, 2013, meeting as corrected. (Beals; second by Thibeault)**
3. Public Comments – None
4. Old Business
 - a. Dr. Sholl reported that as he and others, including Dr. Norm Dinerman continue to discuss and review LifeFlight’s policy that discusses off-protocol treatment, the issue of an absence of a defined scope of practice for flight paramedics is evident. Drs. Sholl, Busko, Pieh, and Don Sheets are working on defining a scope of practice for this type of provider based upon the current protocols. Heather Cady (LOM) is polling air medical providers from around the country on scope of practice.
 - b. Community Paramedicine Pilot Projects – four services have been approved to start their CP pilot projects (Delta Ambulance, North East Mobile Health, United Ambulance, and Crown Ambulance). Approved, but awaiting final edits to their proposals are: St. George Ambulance and Calais Fire Dept. Other applications in various stages of development have been received from: Mayo Hospital, NorthStar, CA Dean, Searsport, Camden, and Castine, There will be a Steering Committee meeting scheduled to review completed applications in early May.
 - c. By Laws Report - none

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5. New Business

a. Appeal of staff decision – William Harris license denial.

Mr. Harris is appealing the staff decision to deny his EMT license application due to several previous convictions and that in the course of reviewing his application, additional convictions were found that were not disclosed by the applicant.

The chair then asked a series of questions regarding any relationships, personal or business, or personal/financial interest in the outcome. Board members answered no to all questions. The chair then asked if the Board wanted to proceed to allow information to be provided by staff and the applicant in terms of additional documentation or statements, to which the Board answered in the affirmative.

Dr. Schmitz arrived after the above questions were answered by Board members. He was asked the same questions and responded in the same manner as the other Board members..

(Tim Beals left the meeting at 10:32 AM)

Both parties presented information to the Board and responded to questions. The chair then closed the proceedings with regard to receiving testimony and moved into discussion among Board members.

MOTION: To grant William Harris a license with a Consent Agreement containing the following provisions:

- **Mr. Harris shall seek a fitness for duty evaluation from a mutually agreeable counselor,**
- **Mr. Harris shall provide reports from a qualified mental health professional every 6 months for a period of three years.**
- **In the event that any charges, other than minor traffic infractions, are made against Mr. Harris, he shall immediately notify Maine EMS and surrender his license until such time as the charges have been acted upon and reviewed by Board of EMS.**
- **The Fire/EMS chief or EMS supervisor under whom Mr. Harris is working shall provide quarterly reports to Maine EMS regarding Mr. Harris's performance in the following areas: anger management, theft, aggressive behavior, patient complaints, patient compliments, and honest.**
- **Mr. Harris shall seek and take anger management education.**

These conditions are based upon the Board's finding that Mr. Harris violated Maine EMS Rules, chapter 11 §1: 1 (4) failure to list criminal convictions for theft of services, rent check not paid, (5) Assault charge, (5)(a) Fraud, by not listing criminal convictions, (5)(f) criminal threatening, non-sufficient funds, and theft of services. (Conley; second by Thibeault) Failed (3/6/0).

MOTION: To table action on William Harris's appeal pending the applicant receiving and submitting a Fitness for Duty evaluation, which the Board will review. (Rowe; second by Jackson). Approved (9/3/0)

b. Investigations Committee

MOTION: For the Investigations Committee to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2013, with corrections in the meeting date. (Metayer; second by Knowlton). Unanimous.

Dawn Kinney reviewed the cases presented during the March 6, 2013, meeting.

MOTION: For the Board to ratify the Investigations Committee minutes of March 6, 2013, as corrected. (Thibeault; second by Jackson). Unanimous.

- c. Legislative and budget updates – Jay Bradshaw distributed copies of the current list of bills that involve EMS. The biennial budget has been presented to Appropriations and had a work session with Criminal Justice & Public Safety, and is anticipated to return to Appropriations for continuing discussion.
- d. Committee reports
 - i. Education – Don Sheets reported that the Education Committee has completed its work in several areas that have also been reviewed by MEMS staff and the Ops Team, and now need Board approval for implementation dates.

MOTION: To approve September 1, 2013, as the effective date for the updated Clinical Behavioral Objectives. (Contreras; second by Metayer). Unanimous.

MOTION: To approve the change in hours awarded for EMS refreshers effective May 1, 2014. (Rowe; second by Jackson). Unanimous.

MOTION: To approve the changes in the standardized CEH list, effective May 1, 2014. (Rowe; second by Metayer). Unanimous.

(Dr. Schmitz left the meeting at 1:15 PM)

- ii. Data
 - Jon Powers reported that work is continuing on progressing toward NEMSIS 3.0, which will take EMS data an important step closer to Health Level Seven International (HL-7) standards for interoperability of health information technology. Mr. Powers also reported that Maine EMS has implemented an online support system which tracks help tickets and requests for information.
 - Jay Bradshaw reported that there are several requests for access to MEMS data:
 - MOTION: To approve entering into an MOU with the Bureau of Highway Safety, the State Fire Marshal's Office, Maine CDC, and Bassett Health Care Systems, which have also been approved by the MDPB. (Rowe; second by Contreras). Unanimous.**
 - **MOTION: To approve, subject to approval by the MDPB and with a signed MOU, allowing access to MEMSRR by: USM-Muskie School for purposes of evaluating EMS data quality; and to Maine Medical Center, Eastern Maine Medical Center, and Central Maine Medical Center for purposes of collecting data regarding: Stroke, Therapeutic Hypothermia, and other elements as identified by the International Cardiac Arrest Registry (INTCAR). (Rowe; second by Jackson). Unanimous.**
- iii. Exam – Drexell White reported that the committee will be working on reviewing information regarding Practice Skills Examinations (PSEs).
- iv. EMD – No meeting since February Board meeting; the next one is scheduled for April.

- v. Ops Team – Joanne LeBrun reported the meeting on April 3, discussion included: Child Passenger Seat training, EMS Week insert, EMS Awards, EMS Memorial & Education site, and changes relating to the revised EMS rules. Also discussed was the need for services to have an approved MEMS Junior Rescue Program if they are accepting students under 18 years old for clinical ride time.
- e. Southern Maine EMS Medical Director. Dr. Sholl reviewed Dr. Zimmerman’s background and interest in EMS.

MOTION: To approve Kate Zimmerman, DO, as the Southern Maine EMS Medical Director. (Thibeault; second by Contreras) Unanimous.

- f. Other – Jay Bradshaw asked for clarification on the Board’s previous motion regarding access to confidential information contained in the EMS run report data.

MOTION: To clarify that release of confidential run report information is included in the previous motion because of its important to the research being conducted. (Contreras; second by Libby) Unanimous.

- g. EMS Awards – Jay Bradshaw reported that the Awards Committee had a conference call to discuss the nominations for 2013 Awards and made the following recommendations:
Excellence in EMS: Joanne LeBrun and Sally Taylor; Lifetime Achievement: Francis “Skip” Stewart-Doré; EMS Merit: Peter Boucher. Steve Lucas, EMT/Driver, Cherryfield Ambulance will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.

The awards will be presented at a ceremony on Saturday, May 18, at the site of the new EMS Memorial and Education site.

- h. EMS Memorial Bike Ride – Jay Bradshaw and Matt Sholl discussed and encouraged Board members to participate in the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride which will start in Augusta immediately following the Awards Ceremony.

- i. **MOTION: To authorize staff to make name changes to forms and documents as needed to align with the license levels as defined in the EMS Rules, effective May 1, 2013. (Stockdale; second by Conley) Unanimous.**

6. Staff Reports

- a. MEMS – Jay Bradshaw reported that MEMS has had discussions with the Bureau of Labor Standards regarding EMS providers who are under 18 years of age. The current BLS Rules only address junior firefighters and while it has been casually also applied to EMS, that has not been specifically referenced. MEMS will be proposing draft language for BLS to address this gap and support their efforts to revise that Rule.
- b. Medical Director report – Dr, Sholl reported that work is continuing on the 2013 protocol revisions and the latest pre-release draft has been sent to Ops and MDPB members for review. Next steps will be to reformat the protocols and release a draft for public review. The effective date will be established after input from Education, Ops, and the MDPB.

Dr. Sholl also reported that the QI Committee is discussing PIFT and Aspirin projects. Don Sheets and Dr. Sholl have been recording a podcast called “Fireside Chats with Don and Matt” that is now available for listening at MEMSEd and on iTunes. The podcasts go about

an hour and contain an update on EMS activities, a Q&A session, and discussion topics. There is no charge for the podcasts and CEHs are available.

7. Other – none
8. The next scheduled Board meeting will be on Wednesday, June 5, 2013 @ 9:30 AM
9. Meeting adjourned at 1:48 PM.