



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



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

SAM HURLEY
DIRECTOR

Education Committee

Wednesday

11 Mar 2020

0900-1130

DeChamplain Conference Room

Meeting Minutes

Members present: Stephanie Cordwell, Brian Chamberlin, Joanne Lebrun, Mike Drinkwater, Amy Drinkwater, David Mejia, Aiden Koplovsky, Dennis Russell, Steve Smith, Leah Mitchell, Ben Zetterman (call-in)

Members Absent: Steve Merrill, Paul Froman

MEMS Staff: Chris Azevedo, Marc Minkler, Melissa Adams, Griffin Bourassa,

Stakeholders: Rick Petrie (call-in), Debbie Morgan (call in)

“The mission of Maine EMS is to promote and provide for a comprehensive and effective Emergency Medical Services system to ensure optimum patient care with standards for all providers. All members of this board/committee should strive to promote the core values of excellence, support, collaboration, and integrity. In serving on this Board/Committee, we commit to serve the respective providers, communities, and residents of the jurisdictions that we represent.”

I. Call to Order 0930

- a. Introductions
- b. Public comments- None

II. Approval of Minutes:

- a. December 2019 – previously approved.
- b. February 2020- Motion made to accept made by Joanne Lebrun and seconded by Dennis Russell. No discussion. Motion is carried.

III. Additions to Agenda:

- a. None

IV. State Update:

- a. Staffing update by Chris Azevedo
 - i. Licensing Agent Position- Griffin Bourassa has started his position as Maine EMS’s new Licensing Agent. Mr. Bourassa is present and introduces himself to the Committee.

- b. EMS-C
 - i. Marc Minkler
 - 1. Peds Preparedness Forum that was scheduled for last Sunday was cancelled due to COVID-19 travel concerns.
 - 2. EMS-C looking at doing some peds reference cards for providers
- c. Training
 - i. The Northern New England Resuscitation Academy that was scheduled for the last week of May, in Lincoln, NH has been cancelled for this year due to concerns regarding corona virus.
 - ii. The Maryland Resuscitation Academy is still on for 13 & 14 May. If anyone is interested in attending as a student and/or potential instructor for the Resuscitation Academy being set up here in Maine, please contact Maine EMS.

V. Old Business:

- a. 2019 Protocol Update Process
 - i. Chris Azevedo
 - 1. Section Authors for protocol update content have been assigned by the MDPB for each section. They wish to work in cooperation and concurrently with members of the Education Committee who will be doing the Education for each section. It is hoped that this will result in much more timely completion and better review and revision of the education product, than waiting until MDPB is finished overall and then beginning work on the education.
 - 2. Progress on revisions
 - a. Timeline shown to the group
 - b. "Ecchymotic" section is being done at this time. Work is almost complete on it.
 - 3. Overview of update process and Committee work expectation
 - a. Protocol aside regarding nitrous and opioid administration.
 - b. Assigning committee members
 - i. Chris Azevedo will get contact info for MD section authors and put all in touch with each other.
 - c. Discussion of work expectation, volume/scope of presentations
- b. AVOC Program Review
 - i. Training program Survey Monkey poll has been put out and is getting results
 - 1. Three most prevalent AVOC/EVOC courses being used are:
 - a. Maine state AVOC course
 - b. DOT/NHTSA course
 - c. VFIS EVOC

- ii. Presentation of review of Maine State AVOC program conducted by Maine EMS, and discussion of same.
 - 1. Question was asked regarding who actually approves the courses that are listed as equivalent? This has been delegated by the EMS Board to the Maine EMS Education Coordinator.
 - 2. Brian Chamberlin asks that committee members come back next month with a list of the objectives associated with the programs their services use, to be discussed and reviewed.
 - a. Maine EMS also asks that members include the standards reference upon which their respective EVOC/AVOC programs are based.
 - 3. Discussion let by Chair Stephanie Cordwell regarding what end Committee end goal is regarding AVOC program review.
 - a. End goal is to do away with AVOC, if feasible, and develop a pathway for personnel to meet the standards.
 - b. The Committee can work on a matrix of various existing programs and their objectives once we have collected the information on the various existing programs.
 - i. Include: instructor training requirements, course length, objectives met, references, didactic component, practical components
- iii. AVOC Instructor reciprocity and Training
 - 1. Training and maintenance of AVOC program instructors has always been an issue and has not been properly addressed for the life of the program. It was never properly accounted for when the program was originally set up.
 - 2. This will be much easier to accomplish if the state changes to acceptance of equivalent programs to satisfy statute, and no longer maintains or uses the existing state program.
- c. PIFT
 - i. Dr. Sholl is unable to attend meeting due to COVID-19 meeting obligations.
 - ii. Discussion of Committee plan of action regarding the PIFT program
 - 1. Chris Azevedo asked for list of the outdated curriculum items, and program issues and deficiencies. Committee replies that they do not think this is necessary for them to do and that issues are larger than a list of outdated materials.
 - 2. Suggestion made by EMS stakeholder to the Committee that the time has come for the state to do away with PIFT as it currently exists. The state no longer has the ability to support the program and the service of interfacility transport in Maine has outgrown this. He would like to see a proposal by MEMS that it would be the responsibility of the agencies and hospitals to develop a plan for patient transport and care that meets their needs.
 - 3. Leah Mitchell asks how licensure is affected.

- iii. The PIFT requirement is in Rules.
- iv. Discussion of action plan alternatives if MEMS gets out of PIFT business.
 - 1. It is suggested that for any care interventions which are above normal scope of practice, the transporting service should have an agreement with the hospital and a signed agreement with a Medical Director who is directly responsible for overseeing the protocols and performance of patient care by them. Under federal law, the sending facility is responsible for patient care. Those sending medical facilities should get a medical director and create an agreement with the services and agree on criteria for service and training.”
- v. Dennis Russell has asked the Board to put the PIFT question on their agenda.
- vi. Discussion inconclusive
- vii. Tabled further discussion until next meeting.
- d. Ad Hoc discussion of roles and responsibilities of the Education Committee.

VI. New Business:

- a. Review of DRAFT policy- tabled to next meeting.
 - i. Committee Framework
- b. Sam Hurley advises that it is coming that meetings will be going to online for the time being.

VII. Next Meeting:

- a. 8 April 2020

VIII. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Dennis Russell and seconded by Leah Mitchell. No discussion. Motion Carried