



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

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



MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

J. SAM HURLEY
DIRECTOR

EMS Labor Committee Meeting
February 5, 2021 at 8:00 AM
Zoom: <https://maine-ems-gov.zoom.us/j/91938401166>

MEETING MINUTES

“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 should strive to promote the core values of excellence, support, collaboration, and integrity. In serving on this Board, we commit to serve the respective providers, communities, and residents of the jurisdictions that we represent.”

1. Call to order - 0802
2. Reading of the Maine EMS mission statement
3. Attendance
 - a. MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Beals, Jay Bradshaw, Brian Chamberlin, Joe Conley, Joe Kellner, Rick Petrie, Matt Sholl, Steve Smith
 - b. MEMBERS EXCUSED:
 - c. MAINE EMS STAFF: Griffin Bourassa (staff rep), Sam Hurley, Marc Minkler, Chris Azevedo, Jason Oko, Darren Davis
 - d. PUBLIC PRESENT: Ronnie Rodriguez, Maria Russell, Benjy Lowry, Eric Wellman, James LaPolla, Aiden Koplovsky, Butch Russell
4. Public Comment
5. Acceptance of the January 22 meeting minutes

● **Excellence** ● **Support** ● **Collaboration** ● **Integrity** ●

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With offices located at the Central Maine Commerce Center, 45 Commerce Drive, Suite 1, Augusta, ME 04330

a. **MOTION** to accept the meeting minutes as presented by Joe Conley
seconded by Rick Petrie.

1. Roll call vote:

- a. Tim Beals – *yes*
- b. Jay Bradshaw – *abstained*
- c. Brian Chamberlin – *abstained*
- d. Joe Conley – *yes*
- e. Joe Kellner – *yes*
- f. Rick Petrie – *yes*
- g. Matt Sholl – *yes*
- h. Steve Smith – *yes*

6. Modifications to the agenda

a. None

7. Old business

a. Focus groups

- i. Working with University of Maine to conduct research into labor challenges facing the Maine EMS System – *Director Hurley*
 - 1. Director Hurley asked the committee to use an IRB process to do research so that methodology is reviewed. He stated this may have many benefits, including a more thorough process.
- ii. What issues and topics are the focus groups intended to further research?
 - 1. What made you get into EMS?

2. Why did you/are you thinking about leaving EMS?
 3. What barriers have you encountered in EMS?
- iii. Size and format of focus groups (e.g., how many groups, how many people in each group).
1. Rick recommended 8-10 participants per group.
 2. Dr. Sholl recommended that if the committee is interested in a specific demographic there should be a group dedicated to that demographic (e.g. a group for rural providers, a group for female providers).
- iv. How do we intend on identifying focus group members?
(demographics, license level, rurality, service type, etc.)
1. Licensees who have had a license for less than 1 year
 2. Licensees who have had a license for 1-3 years
 3. People who have left after gaining initial licensure
 4. Licensees who have had a license for 3-8 years
 5. Licensees who have had a license for 8-10 years
 6. Licensees who have had a license for 10+ years
 7. EMS service leadership
 8. Dr. Sholl emphasized the importance of getting input from underrepresented and minority groups within the Maine EMS system.
 9. Dr. Lowry recommended obtaining feedback from communities, such as town boards.
- v. Specific questions or topic areas.

1. On SharePoint

vi. Discuss a timeline on conducting focus groups.

8. New business

9. Other

10. Action items and next steps

a. Sam, Griffin, and Aiden to work on developing a more formal proposal for focus groups.

11. Next meeting date and time

a. Friday, February 19 at 8 AM

12. Adjourn

a. **Motion** to adjourn by Rick Petrie seconded by Joe Kellner at 0936