



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
April 16, 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 - 0805
2. Reading of the Maine EMS mission statement
3. Attendance
 - a. MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Beals, Jay Bradshaw, Brian Chamberlin, Joe Conley, Joe Kellner (0815), Rick Petrie, Steve Smith
 - b. MEMBERS EXCUSED: Matt Sholl
 - c. MAINE EMS STAFF: Griffin Bourassa (staff rep), Sam Hurley, Melissa Adams
 - d. PUBLIC PRESENT: Benjy Lowry, Aiden Koplovsky, Justin Hurlburt, Ronnie Rodriguez
4. Public comment
 - a. None
5. Acceptance of the February 19 meeting minutes

● Excellence ● Support ● Collaboration ● Integrity ●

PHONE: (207) 626-3860

TTY: (207) 287-3659

FAX: (207) 287-6251

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 Jay Bradshaw
seconded by Joe Conley. DISCUSSION:

1. Roll call vote:

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

6. Modifications to the agenda

a. None

7. Old business

a. Focus group update – *Director Hurley*

- i. Concerns that if Maine EMS conducted the focus groups that participant information would not be protected from FOAA. To help resolve this Director Hurley contacted Marcella Sorg, Ph.D., at the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. Dr. Sorg has submitted the proposal to the IRB and would head the project moving further. It is expected that the University of Maine would have their portion of the project concluded at the end of the summer.

- ii. Director Hurley recommended the committee now move forward with collecting other information such as finding out how many vacancies there are in the Maine EMS system, and where.
- iii. Rick Petrie- questions about what legal issues were incurred as it relates to FOAA. Questions about recording the focus groups and the importance of that measure.
- iv. Jay Bradshaw- Concern about the complexity of this project. However, those concerns are offset by his level of confidence in Dr. Sorg. Emphasized the importance of confidentiality and doing thorough research.
- v. Joe Kellner- Recommended the committee provide an update to the Board of EMS. The purpose of the project is unchanged, but the timeline may be unexpected to some members on the Board.
- vi. Jay Bradshaw- Questioned the cost associated with having UMO conduct the focus groups.

b. **MOTION** to have Maine EMS work with the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine for the purposes of conducting focus groups for the purposes of developing a survey by Rick Petrie seconded by Jay Bradshaw. **DISCUSSION:** Jay added comment that legal opinion seems to change every time Maine EMS gets a new attorney and reinforced the value of Dr. Sorg. Aiden requested to be included in future meetings with UMO. Director Hurley said he would include Aiden in future meetings.

1. Roll call vote:

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

c. Rick would like to address a better way to communicate with the group.

Stating “the group can not do it’s work if it’s not informed.” Jay requested that Maine EMS work to get information to the committee members further in advance.

8. New business

a. The committee discussed moving forward with polling EMS agencies to see how many vacancies there are for funded positions that exist currently.

- i. Brian Chamberlin suggested Maine EMS ask about how many agencies apply for SAFER grant funding.
- ii. Jay suggested committee members take time over the next two weeks to think about questions that should be put into a survey like this.

9. Other

10. Action items and next steps

a. Committee members and stakeholders to think of questions to include in a survey about current vacancies. Questions should be emailed to Griffin by

Monday, April 26, at 8 AM. The questions will be compiled into one document emailed to the committee.

11. Next meeting date and time

a. Friday, April 30 at 8 AM

12. Adjourn

a. **MOTION** to adjourn by Brian Chamberlin seconded by Rick Petrie at 0903