



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

8 Dec 2021

0900-1130

Online via Zoom

Meeting Link: <https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/82789080665>

Minutes

- Members Present:** Aiden Koplovsky, Joanne Lebrun, Amy Drinkwater, Mike Drinkwater, Steve Smith, Dennis Russel
- Members Absent:** Leah Mitchell (excused), Paul Froman (excused), Ben Zetterman, Stephanie Cordwell, Brian Chamberlin, David Mejia
- Staff:** Chris Azevedo, Marc Minkler, Jason Oko
- Stakeholders:** Cathy Gosselin, Rick Petrie, Jeffrey Brown, Eric Wellman, Steve Almquist, Michael Hersom, Sally Taylor

*“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: 0905 hrs**

- a. Introductions
- b. No quorum is present for this meeting. Not all members listed were present at the beginning of the meeting
- c. The group decides to proceed with the meeting, noting that any motions needed will have to be tabled for the January 2022 meeting.

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Approval of the following minutes was tabled, due to lack of a quorum:
  - i. August
  - ii. September- no quorum.
  - iii. Oct, Nov – meeting cancelled

**III. Additions/Deletions to Agenda:**

- a. **Region 1 vacancy**
  - i. Cathy Gosselin introduced.

#### IV. State Update:

- a. Jason Oko discusses new Education Module and issues.
  - i. CEH records
  - ii. Entering course applications
  - iii. Videos have been made for both of the above and are available on the Maine EMS YouTube channel.
- b. Marc Minkler
  - i. Discusses EMS-C efforts with virtual reality education in the past few months.
- c. Chris Azevedo
  - i. NREMT update
    - 1. NREMT has established a monthly panel of subject matter experts to assist in continuing implementation and revision of the new ALS certification re-design.
      - a. Program objectives
      - b. Concerns with implementation
      - c. Service-level on boarding, credentialling
      - d. Training center biases
    - 2. The panel meeting minutes are available on the NREMT web page: <https://www.nremt.org/Document/ALS-Redesign>
    - 3. It is strongly recommended that committee members and stakeholders read and review, and understand this content as Maine EMS proceeds with its PSE replacement process. Discussion as to importance and need for reviewing and understanding NREMT's process.
- d. 2021 Protocol Updates
  - i. Protocols and Training
    - 1. Protocols went into effect 1 Dec. App went live on that date
      - a. App has some calculator updates being worked on.
    - 2. EMT SOP skills
      - a. Nebulizers are only skills mandatory
      - b. CPAP and 12-Lead acquisition only for services above EMT service level.
      - c. 1 Mar 2022 is training deadline.
  - ii. MEMSEd
    - 1. Naloxone "Leave Behind Course" to support new naloxone dispensation protocol went live 12 November
    - 2. 2021 Protocol Update course
      - a. Live 3 November
      - b. 2438 Enrollees
      - c. 2096 Completions
    - 3. Supplemental education modules still being worked on and put up as completed

- iii. Webinars
  - 1. 7 Conducted
  - 2. 1040 attended
- iv. Scope of Practice Skills Training
  - 1. Currently being conducted
  - 2. Materials on website
  - 3. About 102 Paramedic instructors. Increasing with IC applications
    - a. Many were paramedics, but licenses were lower
    - b. Many were FSI instructors, do EMS instruction, but never bothered to get IC

**V. Old Business:**

- a. PIFT update
  - i. Rick Petrie discusses.
    - 1. Scott Smith is working on curriculum updates to present to committee at January meeting. If approved, it will then go to the Board.
    - 2. Rick emphasizes that this is only an update to the education and not to the PIFT program itself.
- b. 2021 Protocol Update Education hot wash
  - i. Chris Azevedo
    - 1. Discussion of hot wash process with the state EMS Medical Directors and MDPB.
      - a. MDPB started their hot wash at their November meeting and continuing at their December meeting.
      - b. Chris Azevedo and Marc Minkler met with Drs. Sholl and Zimmerman and hot washed and discussed the process intensively. Discussion of that meeting.
      - c. The process that has been in place up to this cycle is no longer effective. Discusses issues encountered during the last two update cycles.
        - i. Time commitments much greater
        - ii. Dynamic response needed
        - iii. Much closer work with physicians needed
        - iv. Depth/breadth of protocols increased
        - v. Complexity of implementation increased
          - 1. Requires more resources and technical expertise
            - a. Writing, reviewing, editing
          - 2. Chris Azevedo reviews challenges encountered during both the protocol update process and the process for

developing the education, and how the two affected each other.

- d. At this point, there is dissent and objection expressed among the group, regarding the points being made by Chris Azevedo. One stakeholder leaves the meeting.
- e. Dennis Russell suggests that the discussion be tabled and that Sam Hurley (EMS Director) should be present for continuation of the discussion at the next meeting.
- 2. Committee Chair Aiden Koplovsky agrees that the current discussion, as it is progressing is not going to be productive, and that, in the interest of moving the meeting forward, that the topic should close until the January meeting, and the meeting should progress to the next topic.
  - a. This is agreed to by the group.
- c. Training Center Standards Revision status
  - i. Chris Azevedo
    - 1. Work on this item was paused work in August to concentrate on development and deployment of protocol update education.
- d. NREMT changes – student minimum competencies, sunseting of PSE for NREMT
  - i. Chris Azevedo
    - 1. Discusses aforementioned NREMT SME panel and discusses their concerns. Echoes that these same concerns will affect Maine EMS process for replacing the PSE.
    - 2. Discussion about how to proceed forward with this.
      - a. “Eric Wellman suggests gathering representatives, three from Education, Three from exam, three from training centers, and the EMS Education Coordinator, and suggests putting something together and get it to both groups (Education Committee and Exam Committee) for a February meeting.”
      - b. Eric Wellman volunteers to be of whatever assistance he can.
      - c. Steve Almquist
        - i. Would like to see this committee take advantage of this opportunity, with enthusiasm.

## VI. New Business

- a. Region 1 Vacancy
  - i. There is a current vacancy on the committee for Region 1 Representative. The position has been advertised with no expression of interest. The Regional Advisory Council for Region 1 has put forth their nomination for the position, Cathy Gosselin, who is present at the meeting.
  - ii. There is a committee vacancy process policy. After discussion, it is decided to proceed with further action at the January meeting.

**VII. Next Meeting**

- a. Aiden Koplovsky suggests dedicating January's meeting to discussion of what protocol update education and process for development will look like moving forward. February should be focused on the process of replacing and sunseting the current PSE for EMR/EMT.
- b. Sally Taylor, who is the Chair of the Exam Committee asks that that committee also be involved.
- c. Date and time for January meeting: Wednesday, 12 Jan 2022 at 0900 hrs.

**VIII. Adjournment: 1114.**