



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

9 Feb 2022

0900-1130

Online viz ZOOM,

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

### **Meeting Minutes**

- Members Present:** Aiden Koplovsky, Brian Chamberlin, Leah Mitchell, mike Drinkwater, Joanne Lebrun, Paul Froman, Amy Drinkwater, Stephanie Cordwell, Ben Zetterman, Steve Smith
- Members Absent:** Cathy Gosselin, David Mejia, Dennis Russell
- Staff:** Chris Azevedo, Marc Minkler, Melissa Adams, Jason Oko
- Stakeholders:** AJ Gagnon, Eric Wellman, Sally Taylor, Theresa Cousins, Rick Petrie, Rebecca Quinn, Don Sheets

*“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:**

- a. Introductions

#### **II. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Approval of December 2021 minutes. Motion to approve December minutes made by Paul Froman and seconded by Leah Mitchell. No discussion. Motion is carried.

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

- a. None.

#### **IV. State Update:**

- a. Chris Azevedo
  - i. NREMT

1. The EMS stakeholder group that is working in support of the ALS re-design project is holding one-on-one meetings with state EMS

directors. The meeting with the Maine EMS Director is scheduled for next week.

2. NREMT will be transitioning to a new software program for administering its examinations. There will be several temporary changes while this change is being effected.
    - a. Beginning 15 Apr 2022, all BLS cognitive exams will be available using OnVue online proctored exams, in addition to the Pearson Vue testing centers.
    - b. EMT exams are changing to a computer adaptive format for OnVue, in addition to already being so in the Pearson Vue testing centers.
    - c. AEMT cognitive examinations will no longer be available for OnVue, only at Pearson Vue testing centers.
  - ii. The Office has developed a standardized procedure for development of policies and procedures and will be collecting, cataloging, reviewing, and updating existing ones in the future.
  - iii. Discussion of MEMSEd contract with the Muskie School.
  - iv. EMS Board has formed a new “EMS Financial Health Committee” to review issues related to financial health and costs of ambulance service providers, and delivery of services by EMS services in the state.
- b. Marc Minkler
- i. Ashley Moody has joined Maine EMS as Systems of Care Coordinator. She is currently in the on-boarding process at Maine EMS. She has already attended several meetings.
  - ii. Continuing EMS-C pediatric care survey.
    1. Thank you for your participation in the survey.
    2. This was done 2 years ago.
  - iii. EMS-C will be pushing out a memo regarding issues with use of pediatric defibrillation pads. This was brought about by messaging from the Mass OEMS. Highlights issues with clinicians using pads which are incompatible with their AEDs and/or monitor/defibrillators. Reminder for clinicians to check their equipment to ensure compatibility. This should be out tomorrow. This is also going out nationally via NASEMSO.
- c. Melissa Adams - None
- d. Jason Oko - None

#### V. Old Business:

- a. Training center standards and Instructor standards.
  - i. Chris Azevedo
    1. This work was largely halted at the end of last summer due to both COVID and the need to focus on protocol update work.
    2. This is a large amount of work for any committee. Suggests putting together a focus group to finish the work consisting of an

office representative, a subject matter expert and one other person.

- a. The committee decides the group should consist of Chris Azevedo (Office), Eric Wellman (subject matter expert and collegiate training center representative) and one other person from a private/non-collegiate representative to be selected later.
- b. Discussion by the group regarding changes in EMS education that will affect Training Center Standards.
  - i. Melissa Adams suggests consideration of items in this work that may affect EMS Rules or need Rules changes.
  - ii. Mark Minkler adds consideration of removing continuing education requirements out of TC Standards
- ii. Deliverables for March meeting
  1. Selection of private/non-collegiate training center representative
  2. Update on status of progress.
- b. PIFT Update
  - i. Rick Petrie
    1. Met with Scott Smith. Will take all comments received to date and making changes to the program. Will use Maine EMS logo for slide template and try to have product for the March meeting.
    2. Joanne Lebrun
      - a. Raises concern that MDPB priority is community paramedicine. Emphasizes need to keep PIFT update from taking a lower priority, as these transports are done every day. Asks to remind MDPB of priority of progress for this process.
    3. Paul Froman
      - a. Echoes Joanne Lebrun's concerns. Need to see changes made before issues hit the Maine EMS office.
    4. Marc Minkler
      - a. I think PIFT is definitely lacking and needs tremendous resourcing and improvement, but I wonder if the discussion was related to the grant funding of the community paramedic coordinator that Maine EMS got - there has not been any grant opportunities for PIFT (sadly) and although it should not be pushed downwards in priority, the topic may have centered on CP because of this. But I agree 1,000,000 times to work on PIFT.

- c. AVOC Policy
  - i. Chris Azevedo
    - 1. This was drafted in August. The only thing missing was the mechanism for submitting programs to Maine EMS for review.
    - 2. There is a paper form ready, but Director Hurley wants to make this an online process.
    - 3. Will have this ready for March.
- d. EMT Student Minimum Competency portfolios
  - i. The Exam committee will continue work at their meeting later this month.
  - ii. Sally Taylor
    - 1. Wrote problem statement last month, which was shared.
    - 2. Moving forward, we will be defining the objectives. Timeline to be determined after objectives determined.
  - iii. A process map has been distributed to both Exam and Education Committee members for their review and discussion.
  - iv. Joanne Lebrun
    - 1. Idea of entry-level/student minimum competencies came up at Exam. Is this something that EdComm will be able to discuss with Exam?
    - 2. Sally Taylor- Yes. However, before we get to this, we need to define the objectives.
    - 3. Joanne Lebrun- I think now would be a good time to collect ideas regarding what is entry level, so we can have a good discussion regarding that when the time comes. There is a lot of expertise among the EdComm group.
  - v. Leah Mitchell
    - 1. Do we have an estimate regarding completion of objectives?
    - 2. Sally Taylor - we've briefly discussed May. But we can't make any definitive dates until we've defined the objectives.

## VI. New Business

- a. None
- b. Joanne Lebrun asks to provide some information from the last Ops Team meeting.
  - i. Maine has hired a Community Paramedicine Coordinator- David Davies. Mr. Davies is coming from Georgia and starts February 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - ii. RFP for strategic planning has been awarded to Safe Tech Solutions, out of Minnesota.
    - 1. They have done strategic planning for a number of states for EMS.
    - 2. Sam Hurley has provided a copy of a strategic plan they did for Alaska. So, this is pretty current. This is a good read, and provides a good representation of their processes. if you are interested in seeing such a document.

3. The Board didn't have an opportunity to discuss this at their February meeting. But, as Sam did discuss this at the last Ops meeting, I thought the group would like to know a little about this.

**VII. Next Meeting**

- a. Date and time: 9 Mar 2022, 0900 hrs.
- b. For next meeting
  - i. TC standards-
    1. The Maine EMS Office is to put out inquiries for filling the remaining role on the work group for non-collegiate training center representative.
  - ii. PIFT Education Update
    1. Scott Smith to present an update
  - iii. AVOC policy
    1. Maine EMS Office to present the application form

**VIII. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Paul Froman and seconded by Leah Mitchell. Meeting adjourned at 1015 hrs.**