



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



JANET T. MILLS

GOVERNOR

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK

COMMISSIONER

J. SAM HURLEY

DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
MARCH 2, 2022
ZOOM

“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.”

Board Members Present: Nate Allen, Tim Beals, Katelyn Damon, Rosie Davis, Laura Downing, Amy Drinkwater (Chair Elect), Judy Gerrish, Brandon Giberson, Rich Kindelan, John Martel, Maria Russell, Steve Smith, Andy Turcotte, Chris Whytock, Ex. Officio: Kate Zimmerman D.O.
Absent: Dr. Matt Sholl, Bill Cyr, Joe Kellner, Rich Kindelan, Tiffany Tscherne

Staff Present: Director Sam Hurley, Melissa Adams, Marc Minkler, Jason Oko, Darren Davis, Jessica Ricciardelli, Ashley Moody, A.A.G. Samantha Morgan

Stakeholders: Ben Wallace, Brad Chicoine, Chase Labbe, Chris Pare, Dayna Emerson, Don Sheets, Donald Burr, Dwight Corning, Ed Moreshead, Eric Wellman, James Lapolla, Jason Cooney, Jay Bradshaw, Joanne Lebrun, John Hoak, Keegan Wellauer, Miles Villalobos, Phil MacCallum, Rebecca Quinn, Rick Petrie, Sally Taylor, Dan Masselli, Aiden Koplovsky

CALL TO ORDER 9:30

1. Introductions
2. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest

None

3. Modifications to the Agenda
 - a. Protocol update training

4. Public Comments
- None

5. Minutes
 - i. February 25, 2022

MOTION: To accept the minutes to the February 25, 2022 meeting

Made by: Smith; Seconded by: Damon

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Damon, Davis, Downing,
Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Martel, Russell, Smith, Turcotte,
Whytock*

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

6. Directors Report
 - Director Hurley
 - a. LD 1858

This bill has been voted out of committee unanimously with amended language. It will require the Maine EMS Board to work collaboratively with the Board of Medicine to define where EMS has authority within the scope of this bill. It does have an emergency clause, and we will need to act once it's signed by the Governor.

- b. LD 1859

This bill has been voted out of committee. This has been referred to appropriations for \$200,000 to support the community studies under a grant model.

- c. LD 1973

This bill would require us to retroactively issue refunds for approximately 1,100 applications at a cost of \$50,000.

d. LD1988

This act is to establish a blue-ribbon commission to study EMS in Maine. This proposal has an emergency clause which would require immediate action if it passes.

The strategic planning contract is being returned signed to us today and will be forwarded on to the Commissioner for final signatures.

DHHS has requested our help with a \$100,000 campaign, using social media and other platforms to increase awareness around mental health.

We have selected a candidate for the licensing agent position. The paperwork will be signed by the end of the week.

David Davies, the Community Paramedicine coordinator introduces himself as the newest staff member of Maine EMS

a. Staff Updates

EMS-C

Marc Minkler

EMS-C is in the final month of pediatric surveys, we only have 40% response rate, we would like to hit 80%. We will be sending out more reminders this week to complete the survey.

The Office has signed a new VR contract with Health Scholars, continuing our renewal for the next year.

Education/Exam Committee

Chris Azevedo

We are currently working with the MDPB as they begin the 2023 protocol update.

Reminder to the Board, the AVOC program sunsets at the end of June.

The Exam Committee is working on training two new PSE administrators

The Education Committee is working on training center standards

Community Paramedicine

Jason Oko

The Committee meets next week to work on scope of practice protocols.

QA/QI Committee

Jason Oko

QI will meet soon to review the Naloxone newsletter

The Committee has some open committee positions that were advertised, and we have responses back from them that we will be reviewing.

Labor Committee/Data Committee

Darren Davis

The Labor Committee is beginning to complete the RFP process. The Committee is transitioning from the RFP work to looking at the NEMESIS data changes

Labor committee continues to look for strategies

Data Committee

Data committee looking to work on implementing the next nemsis version.

Maine Stroke Alliance/TAC Committee

Ashley Moody

Ashley is currently working with Dr. Zimmerman on Maine Stroke Alliance and the TAC Committee.

Ms. Moody is undertaking CARES revitalization and figuring out what data elements are needed; she is also working to revitalize CARES.

Licensing

Melissa Adams

Ms. Adams is continuing to work with Mr. Oko on the new licensing auditing process.

7. Medical Director Report

a. MDPB

Dr. Zimmerman

MDPB has started to review the protocols for the 2023 update. The MDPB will be interviewing for the open BLS position at the next meeting.

TAC

The Committee is working on the state trauma plan revisions with stakeholder involvement.

Maine Stroke Alliance

The Alliance has elected Dr. James Morris as Chair for their Board.

8. Investigations

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the February 24, 2022 meeting.

Made by: Giberson; Seconded by: Gerrish

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Beals, Drinkwater, Downing, Gerrish, Giberson, Turcotte

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

- a. **Summary 21-201:** A licensee allegedly produced a fraudulent COVID-19 exemption letter to a potential EMS employer. The Committee recommends offering the licensee a consent agreement revoking their license; if the licensee refuses the consent agreement, this case will move to a hearing.

MOTION: to offer the licensee a consent agreement to voluntarily surrender their license citing violation of Chapter 11 §1 (15) and (19); if the licensee refuses the consent agreement we will move to a hearing.

Made by: Whytock; Seconded by: Tscherne

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Damon, Davis, Downing, Gerrish, Giberson, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

Whytock leaves meeting 10:25

- b. **Hughes Application Review Summary:** Mr. Hughes is seeking a paramedic license with reciprocity from his current Massachusetts Paramedic License. On his application, Mr. Hughes disclosed disciplinary action on his professional license resulting from patient care and documentation violations. The Committee recommends issuing the license with a letter of guidance citing the importance of maintaining familiarity with Maine EMS pre-hospital care protocols; the letter is to remain on file through March 31, 2025.

MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committee's recommendation.

Made by: Beals; Seconded by: Gerrish

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Damon, Davis, Downing,
Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne,
Turcotte*

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

9. Old Business

- a. Labor Committee Update
Steve Smith

The Labor Committee has completed their workforce survey which should be distributed to all current and former providers. They are still waiting for an update from UMO regarding the IRB and workforce study. They are also working on a waiver to get clinicians who are no longer licensed back into the workforce on a temporary basis.

- b. Immunization Exemption Form

MOTION: To approve the exemption document as amended.

Made by: Giberson; Seconded by: Martel

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Damon, Davis, Downing,
Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne,
Turcotte*

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

- c. Regional Contract Modifications

Director Hurley is requesting permission from the Board to move forward with the presented contract for the regions.

MOTION: To authorize the regional contract modification.

Made by: Damon; Seconded by: Turcotte

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

10. New Business

a. Awards Committee Membership

Director Hurley is looking for Board members create an Ad Hoc Committee for EMS week awards and he is also requesting members to volunteers to sit on the Awards Committee for 2022.

MOTION: To create and Ad Hoc committee with five positions, including the Director, a member of the Ops Committee, and three members of the Board to review award nominations and select recipients for EMS week.

Made by: Tscherne; Seconded by: Damon

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

The following Board members have volunteered to be the Board Members assigned to this committee: Judy Gerrish, Tiffany Tscherne, Katelyn Damon

b. Data Sharing Approval

Darren Davis will prepare information regarding data sharing for the next Board meeting.

c. Protocol Update Training

MOTION: To direct the Office to notify services of clinicians on their roster that need to complete the online protocol update, encouraging them to complete it as soon as possible, but no later than March 31, 2022, as

well as EMT clinicians that need to complete the skills expansion education by June 1, 2022

Made by: Smith; Seconded by: Gerrish

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock

No:0

MOTION CARRIES

Whytock returns: 11:32

Chair Libby joins at 11:45

d. Financial Health Committee

The current Board members of this committee, Dr. Martel, Joe Kellner, and Andrew Turcotte have proposed a list of stakeholder membership for consideration in forming the committee makeup.

MOTION: To adopt the proposal for committee makeup, with interpretation of CMS definitions for rural and non-rural as they apply to the Maine EMS system.

Made by: Libby; Seconded by: Giberson

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Damon, Davis, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith, Turcotte

Abstain: Downing

No: Tscherne

11. Other

- a. Items for next meeting's agenda
- b. Waiver Request from Labor Committee
- c. Protocol Update follow up
- d. Data Committee

- e. Next meeting date (April 6, 2022)

13. Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn

Made by: Tscherne; Seconded by: Libby

