



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 Mar 2022
0900-1130

Online via ZOOM platform: <https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/82789080665>

Minutes

- Members Present:** Aiden Koplovsky, Leah Mitchell, Paul Froman, Joanne Lebrun, Amy Drinkwater, Mike Drinkwater, David Mejia, Brian Chamberlin, Ben Zetterman
- Members Absent:** Stephanie Cordwell, Cathy Gosselin, David Mejia, Steve Smith, Dennis Russell
- Staff:** Chris Azevedo, Marc Minkler, Dave Davies, Melissa Adams, Jason Oko
- Stakeholders:** AJ Gagnon, Sally Taylor, Steve Alquist, Theresa Cousins, Rick Petrie, Chris Pare, Scott Smith

“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 February 2022 meeting minutes.
 - i. Motion by Paul Froman to approve the February meeting minutes. Motion is seconded by Amy Drinkwater. No Discussion. The motion is carried.

- III. **Additions/Deletions to Agenda:**
 - a. None
 - b. The floor is opened to public comments.
 - i. There are none

- IV. **State Update:**
 - a. Education- Chris Azevedo
 - i. 2023 Protocol Updates
 1. MDPB begins its bi-monthly protocol forums for discussion of proposed changes to protocols tomorrow, at noon.

- a. Protocol change forums will be held every other month, on the second Thursday of the month, at noon.
 - b. Each forum will highlight the current section being reviewed by the MDPB section authors and will present their proposed changes for comment by forum attendees.
 - c. The first forum will be held tomorrow, at noon.
 - d. The forum announcement and information has been posted on Maine EMS social media accounts and on the Maine EMS website and calendar, along with links to the meetings. The announcement has also been sent to Training Centers and Regional Coordinators.
 - ii. NREMT stakeholder 1:1 meetings with State EMS offices
 - 1. This is tentatively scheduled for tomorrow. As I will be attending the protocol forum, Director Hurley will be attending. I will provide a summary of the meeting for this group at its April meeting.
- b. EMS-C
 - i. Marc Minkler
 - a. EMS-C is in the last month for pediatric education survey. We've had a 58% response rate.
 - b. We are continuing efforts towards VR education. Working with some new services on this. If you have interest, I can do a demonstration, and will be happy to schedule something with you. We have added a few new programs: PALS class where you manage a team,
 - c. Also working with DHHS on obstetric resources due to various centers closing. State perinatal educator for the EMS-C program is working on BLS-O (BLS for Obstetrics). This is an 8-hour class that we are looking to trial in rural areas, because this is funded by a rural-based grant. More to come, as we develop this course and obtain resources.
- c. Community Paramedicine
 - i. David Davies
 - 1. Introduction as new community paramedic coordinator and staff member for Maine EMS.
- d. Licensing
 - i. Melissa Adams
 - 1. Working on the development process for EMS license renewal audit process.
 - 2. The Maine EMS office continues to get information requests for new licensure courses.
 - 3. Introduces new licensing agent- Jason Cooney, from Topsham. Starts on 21 March.

4. Jason Oko
 - a. 280 applications have been issued. Most in the last two weeks.

V. Old Business:

- a. Training Center Standards revisions update
 - i. Dennis Russel has offered to work on this with Eric and Chris.
 - ii. Eric and Chris discuss the process and progress thus far.
 1. Presentation and discussion of the companion “standards interpretations” document to be published along side the Training Center Standards revisions.
 2. This is very practical, especially as guidance for new training centers and net program managers and/or training center directors.
 3. This aligns with materials published by CoAEMSP in support of current paramedic program accreditation by CAAHEP
 - iii. Intent is to have material to present to the group at the April meeting for offline review and group discussion in the subsequent months.
- b. PIFT Education Update
 - i. Scott Smith and Rick Petrie present an update on status of PIFT education update.
 1. Materials presented to the group in a Google drive for review.
 2. Joanne, Amy, Paul did not receive the google drive link.
 3. Discussion regarding instructor eligibility and paramedic eligibility for the course.
 4. Marc Minkler from chat:
 - a. The bigger thing I’m truly seeing is that interfacility transfer has exceeded the ability of the system to manage. That Maine EMS may no longer be able to create a canned program for this as there are so many true complexities to this issue.
 5. Eric Wellman from chat:
 - a. The bigger thing I’m truly seeing is that interfacility transfer has exceeded the ability of the system to manage. That Maine EMS may no longer be able to create a canned program for this as there are so many true complexities to this issue.
 6. Leah Mitchell from chat:
 - a. Practical for PIFT has to be service specific as it would be different everywhere. There is no way to standardize that.
 7. Aiden

- a. I'd like to take Leah's suggestion and bring this back to the sub-group that is developing the PIFT education revisions, for discussion.
- b. Questions and discussion regarding who needs to take this? What is the timeline?
- c. Rick Petrie:
 - i. Do the above and come up with a proposal for the April EdComm meeting. Tentatively schedule an agenda item for the May EMS Board meeting.
- d. Paul Froman
 - i. Focus is on the quality of education, but the rabbit hole is "who can take this."
- e. Marc Minkler
 - i. I love the idea that everyone gets an update on this. But consider, when this gets discussed, that requiring this will create a financial burden for services.
 - ii. Rick Petrie- this was a major source of concern when the program was first developed. The Board made it an optional program, and services had to ensure their personnel were adequately trained.
- f. Sally Taylor
 - i. Would you mind putting these points into a document and sending it out to us? SEE RECORDING AND COORDINATE WITH AIDEN.
- g. Rick Petrie will set up a separate meeting regarding this topic.
 - i. Amy Drinkwater asks that this be made available for stakeholders to listen in.
- h. Leah Mitchell from chat:
 - i. PIFT is not a requirement for a service it is an option, so the financial aspect is truly optional for a service.
- c. AVOC Equivalency application
 - i. Chris discusses application form.

VI. New Business

- a. **None**
- b. Joanne Lebrun for any other items of business
- c. Amy Drinkwater
 - i. What is the group going to be working on regarding IC hours? Is there any work coming where we are going to be updating education, or are the committee meetings going to be focusing on work done by smaller groups?

1. Chris Azevedo- there is joint work with Exam, coming for work on PSE replacement.
 2. Leah Mitchell – We should be mindful of the time it actually takes this group to work on projects. The smaller groups are doing very good work on items, whereas the larger group is better for approving work than actually doing the development or revision work itself.
- d. Brian Chamberlin
- i. In answer to Amy’s question (regarding IC hours), the idea was to try to get some items off the table. I do see us functioning as doing some of the review for the group work. So, I see us as actually accomplishing the IC piece.
 - ii. Also, a reminder that strategic planning process is coming up and we can have a role in that, regarding the way education needs to change and other items. We need to make sure our voices are heard in this process.
- e. Melissa Adams
- i. The skills evaluation requirement for license renewal is an item coming up for discussion. This group may have an impact with that.
 - ii. There also may be some possible roles for planning education around QA measures.
- f. Amy Drinkwater
- i. I just wanted to get an idea of the items we’d be working on, so that IC work is being done and we can get those hours of work in.
- g. Joanne Lebrun
- i. Some things we’ve needed to look at periodically, is that there often is drift. When we look at some of our foundational programs, are there things that are significant and related to Maine that we want to ensure our providers are learning?
 - ii. We often get reports from staff member who attend conferences regarding education and goings-on (NASMSO, NAEMSP).
 - iii. Regarding what Melissa stated about licensing, we, as the education committee, may need to take a look at NCCP, because there will be services that will be asking us where those resources are, what the content look like, etc., so that we can ensure that there’s clarity throughout the system about those resources.
 - iv. We always need to update the standardized CEH list.
 - v. This also applies to policies and ensuring they’re up to date.
- h. Chris Azevedo
- i. While we’re mentioning policies, it’s worth mentioning that we are working on a policy whereby we can have an efficient process for processing applications for CEH credit for college work.
- i. Joanne Lebrun
- i. This would be an opportunity to bring a presentation to the committee on what is happening with the NCCP transition. This would be beneficial to

have this in due time before the transition actually hits. Chris volunteers to present next meeting.

VII. Next Meeting

- a. Date and time: 13 Apr 2022, at 0900 hrs.

VIII. Adjournment:

- a. Motion to adjourn made by Paul Froman and seconded by Ben Zetterman.
- b. Adjourned at 1047 hrs.