



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

J. SAM HURLEY
 DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
 APRIL 6, 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, Bill Cyr, Katelyn Damon, Laura Downing, Amy Drinkwater, Brandon Giberson, Joe Kellner, Rich Kindelan, Brent Libby, John Martel, Maria Russell, Steve Smith, Tiffany Tscherne, Chris Whytock, Judy Gerrish, Kate Zimmerman

Staff Present: Director Sam Hurley, Melissa Adams, Marc Minkler, Chris Azevedo, Dave Davies, Jason Oko, Darren Davis, Jessica Ricciardelli, Ashley Moody, A.A.G. Samantha Morgan, Ron Guay; Dr. Matt Sholl, Dr. Kate Zimmerman

Stakeholders: Aiden Koplowsky, Butch Russell, Chip Getchell, Chris Montera, Dr. Bucknell, Christopher Pare, Chuck Crump, Dayna Emerson, Donald Burr, Dwight Corning, Howland FD, Jay Bradshaw, Jesse Thompson, Joanne Lebrun, Phil MacCallum, Rick Petrie, Sally Taylor, Shawn Cordwell, Steve Almquist

CALL TO ORDER 9:30

Introductions

1. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest

None

2. Modifications to the Agenda

- a. Amy Drinkwater requested a discussion regarding EMS Awards

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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

3. Public Comments

Joanne Lebrun voiced her concern regarding meeting in person as the virtual option has garnered more participation by the EMS community.

4. Minutes

i. January 24, 2022

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the January 22, 2022 meeting.

Made by: Beals; Seconded by: Kindelan

Roll Call Vote: (Yes): Allen, Beals, Cyr, Damon, Downing, Drinkwater, Giberson, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Whytock

Abstain: Russell

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

ii. February 24, 2022

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the February 24, 2022 meeting.

Made by: Drinkwater; Seconded by: Cyr

Roll Call Vote: Allen, Beals, Cyr, Damon, Downing, Drinkwater, Giberson, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne, Whytock

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

iii. March 2, 2022

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the March 2, 2022 meeting as amended.

Made by: Beals; Seconded by: Giberson

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen; Beals, Cyr, Damon, Downing, Drinkwater, Giberson, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne, Whytock

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

iv. March 14, 2022

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the March 14, 2022 meeting.

Made by: Kindelan; Seconded by: Gerrish

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Beals, Damon, Downing, Drinkwater, Giberson, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne, Whytock

Abstain: Allen, Cyr, Kellner

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

5. Directors Report

Director Hurley

a. Introduction of Strategic Planning Consultant

Chair Libby introduced Dr. John Bucknell from SafeTech Solutions. He will be charged with the strategic planning for the Board. He has already begun the process of interviewing stakeholders and will continue with the interviews over the next few months.

QI Committee

Jason Oko

The Committee is close to finalizing the Naloxone and Substance Use Disorder newsletter.

Data Committee

Jason Oko

The Data Committee is in search of a new Chairperson. The Committee is currently working through the NEMSIS data set to identify data elements to include in ePCR's.

Licensing

Melissa Adams

Ms. Adams informed the Board of the new licensing agent, Jason Cooney. Both licensing agents are working with services on license factor changes, one new non-transport service license application, and one transition from non-transporting to transporting service license application. They have worked through the second month of clinician licensing audits and identified an opportunity for process improvement that will be discussed during investigations.

EMD

Melissa Adams

The EMD QA review in March was presented in a different, more engaging format that will hopefully encourage increased participation in this bi-annual event.

EMS-C

Marc Minkler

Mr. Minkler provided the Board with a short presentation on licensed midwifery and homebirths in Maine for the EMD's in this forum.

The EMS-C Committee met in March and they voted to fill the open positions they had; these names will be forwarded to Chair Libby. The Survey that was sent out has a 95% response rate.

Education Committee

Chris Azevedo

Mr. Azevedo discussed education that is being developed for the audit process and for the upcoming changes education requirements for license renewal. Mr. Koplovsky advised that the Education Committee is working primarily on the transition to the portfolio model and increasing the availability of PSE administrator in the State.

CARES

Ashely Moody

Ms. Moody is working on the legal aspect for Maine to rejoin CARES. She also continues to work on a timeline for Cardiovascular Council reinvigoration. She is currently reaching out to hospitals to get in Rural Trauma Care visits. The Stroke Alliance is working on posterior stroke education which will be available on MEMSEd.

Director Hurley

The Office is working with another department on an explorer program to draw people 16-24 years of age to the field.

The Office is also working with another department to fund the installation of hotspots for high-speed internet in every licensed transporting vehicle in the state.

This project will likely induce a rule change to require newly licensed ambulance to have this feature available.

Maine EMS is working to hire a Deputy Director, a Program Manager for Substance Abuse Disorder, and two staff members to support the substance abuse disorder program.

6. Medical Director Report

a. MDPB

Protocol discussion forums are being planned on a bi-monthly basis and the office is working to promote engagement in these forums and through other resources on the Maine EMS website to submit recommendations or concerns to MDPB at any time regarding the protocols. The schedule is posted on the MDPB page of the website. They will also post change documents for transparency as they move through the review.

A sub-committee of the MDPB met on March 18 to interview BLS candidates. They will vote on who to recommend for this position at their next meeting.

7. Investigations

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the March 24th Investigations Committee meeting.

Made by: Gerrish; Seconded by: Drinkwater

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● **Collaboration** ●

● **Integrity** ●

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*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Beals, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson
Abstain: Kellner
No: 0*

MOTION CARRIES

Summary 22-220: A licensee failed to disclose previous criminal history on an application resulting in EMD licensure in 2020 and on an application for an EMT license submitted in February 2022.

The Committee recommends issuing the license with a warning.

MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committees recommendation to resolve case 22-220.

Made by: Kindelan; Seconded by: Whytock

Roll Call Vote: Allen, Beals, Cyr, Damon, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Kindelan, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne, Whytock

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

Simmons EMT Application Summary: An applicant for an EMT license with a history of a criminal conviction for OUI, a class D misdemeanor offense in 2016.

The Committee recommends issuing the license with a letter of guidance citing the importance of professional standards and conduct; the letter is to remain on file for two licensing cycles

MOTION: To approve the Investigation Committees recommendation.

Made by: Smith; Seconded by: Cyr

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Cyr, Damon, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Keller, Kindelan, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne, Whytock

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

Delegation Order Revision Proposal

MOTION: To approve the delegation as proposed.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Beals

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Cyr, Damon, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Kindelan, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne, Whytock

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

8. Old Business

a. Protocol Update

Mr. Oko explained that staff members have been trying to review training and identify courses that covered one or more skill under the expanded scope of practice. The Office can identify students who have and have not completed scope of practice training as well as the protocol update. Overall, there is a lack of standardization with the process for licensees to complete protocol updates and required scope of practice training.

The Board supports the Rules Committee taking this issue up and returning with a proposal.

9. New Business

a. Labor Committee Waiver Request

Smith advised the committee is proposing a waiver of rules which would eliminate the barrier of successfully completing the required exams. The waiver proposal would allow temporarily licensing an applicant at the EMT level who has previously held an EMS license that expired within 5 years of application and demonstrates affiliation with a service that affirms they will provide education and support over the period of the temporary license, up to one year but not beyond April 30, 2023, to be eligible for an authorization to test with NREMT through their re-entry process. At the end of the temporary licensing period, the applicant would only be eligible for licensure if they have met the traditional pathway identified in rules.

*Kindelan leaves meeting

MOTION: To grant the waiver with the revision that it will expire July 31, 2023.

Made by: Beals; Seconded by: Russell

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Beals, Giberson, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith, Tscherne

No: Allen, Damon, Downing, Drinkwater, Whytock

MOTION FAILS

*Whytock leaves meeting

b. Data Sharing

Maine Health is seeking Hospital Hub access for Memorial Hospital in North Conway, NH.

MOTION: To approve the Maine Health request for the purpose of accessing identifiable patient records for a period of five years.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Drinkwater

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

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

Portsmouth Regional Hospital is seeking to expand their request for Dover and Seabrook remote emergency departments to access Hospital Hub.

MOTION: To approve the Portsmouth Regional Hospital request for the purpose of linkage accessing identifiable patient care records for a period of five years.

*Made by: Giberson; Seconded by: Drinkwater
Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Cyr, Damon, Downing,
Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Libby, Martel,
Russell, Smith, Tscherne*

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

Dr. Scott, Deputy Director of the Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety, a CDC-NIOSH occupational health and safety research center, is requesting extracted data for the purposes of injury surveillance in agricultural, forestry, and fishing industries. They have data sharing agreements with NH and VT and previously with ME.

MOTION: To approve the NIOSH request for a period of two years for the research, to include extracted data as requested that may or may not be patient identifiable.

*Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Giberson
Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Cyr, Damon, Downing,
Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell,
Smith, Tscherne*

MOTION CARRIES

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Lincoln Laboratory, is contracted by the Maine DHHS Office of Behavioral Health and is requesting access to for the purpose of developing a predictive model for the demand for crisis services in Maine.

MOTION: To table this request for the Office to seek information addressing the concerns presented by the Board.

*Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Martel
Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Cyr, Damon, Downing,
Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell,
Smith, Tscherne*

MOTION CARRIES

Director Hurley is requesting to grant direct a data use agreement to The Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center of USM for the purpose of accessing deidentified data regarding substance abuse disorder.

MOTION: TO approve the data sharing agreement for de-identifiable patient data for a period of five years.

Made by: Libby; Seconded by: Drinkwater

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Drinkwater, Giberson, Martel

No: Beals, Damon, Downing, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Russell, Smith, Tscherne

MOTION FAILS

c. COSSAP Grant Approval

MOTION: To authorize dispensation of the grant.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Tscherne

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

No: 0

MOTION CARRIES

d. EMS Awards

Director Hurley advised that the online form for nominations (also available as a printable form) will be available this Friday on the Maine EMS website and links through social media. Nominations will close April 22, 2022. We will announce the recipients during EMS week and because the Hall of Flags is still closed, we will coordinate localized ceremonies and social media to recognize each of the recipients.

10. Other

a. Items for next meeting's agenda

- i. Revisions to Workforce Committees waiver request
- ii. In person meetings discussion
- iii. Onboarding for new Board members

b. Next meeting date (May 4, 2022)

11. Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn.

Made by: Drinkwater; Seconded by: Downing

12:58

