



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  
14 Sep 2022  
0900-1130

Online Via Zoom: <https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/82789080665>

**Meeting Minutes**

- Members Present:** Aiden Koplovsky, Brian Chamberlin, Joanne Lebrun, Amy Drinkwater, Paul Froman, Cathy Gosselin, David Mejia
- Members Absent:** Mike Drinkwater (excused), Leah Mitchell (Excused), Stephanie Cordwell, Ben Zetterman, Dennis Russell, Steve Smith
- Staff:** Chris Azevedo, Jason Cooney
- Stakeholders:** Eric Wellman, Scott Smith, Sally Taylor, Steve Almquist, AJ Gagnon, 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
  - i. Aiden Koplovsky
    1. There is no quorum present initially, but one was present later in the meeting, and the group was able to approve the minutes.
- b. Public Comment
  - i. None.

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Approval of July 2022 minutes
- b. Motion to approve July 2022 minutes made by Paul Froman and seconded by Joanne Lebrun. Motion is carried.

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

- a. Discussion of the co-chair position added by Chair Aiden Koplovsky.

#### IV. State Update:

##### a. Education – Chris Azevedo

##### i. NREMT

1. Paramedic Program Accreditation Decision Update
  - a. 17 Aug 2022, the NREMT Board of Directors rescinded their resolution to effectively drop their requirement for eligibility for certification at the paramedic level, from having graduated from a CAAHEP accredited program to graduation from a “state approved” program.
2. BLS Practice Analysis has begun
  - a. <https://www.nremt.org/News/National-Registry-of-EMTs-Announces-BLS-Practice-A>
3. Distributive education waiver (COVID) is permanent, effective 22 Sep 2022.
  - a. Applies to all requirements for continuing education, including recertification, state license and re-entry eligibility requirements, and refresher training after three failed examinations.
4. Continued Competency Initiative
  - a. <https://www.nremt.org/Document/Continued-Competency-Initiative>
  - b. 2019, NREMT began an effort to improve ways in which to verify continued competency. They’ve been looking at other healthcare professions and including some of those other methods used will change a great deal about how recertification is done. Much of this work has the potential to bleed over to state licensure and local credentialing for EMS providers.

##### ii. Rules revisions/NCCP

1. Competency component has been removed for the time being from NCCP in Chapter 5. This was done because Rules committee felt that the implementation outlined was insufficient in allowing time for services and clinicians to prepare. They will open up Rules again immediately and work on building an implementation plan that will be agreeable for services.
  - a. Joanne Lebrun asks some questions regarding NCCP Local Continued Competency (LCCR) requirement content.
    - i. Chris Azevedo explains how designation of LCCR content works, and that just because any given course is designated as LCCR content hours on the CEH application, that doesn’t mean all EMS providers must have that specific course. It just means that the course attendees may use that

course to apply to their own specific LCCR content hour requirement.

iii. 2023 Protocol Updates

1. Fourth update forum – 30 in attendance
2. Working with Dr. Collamore and MDs on
  - a. Process for cataloging and tracking all protocol suggestions
  - b. Process for ensuring good communications and feedback loop with suggestion authors
  - c. Process map for protocol suggestion process
3. There is heavy emphasis on getting the change documents correct and complete this time.
4. Gold, Orange, and Yellow sections have been completed. Green is underway. Next up is the Blue section.

iv. Strategic planning

1. Sam Hurley presented a structure model to the Board
  - a. Going from six regions to four. This will affect committee representation.
  - b. Education element with a pathway for leadership/management development bridge from community college to four-year college

v. AVOC

1. Assisted MFSI with VFIS instructor trainer course
  - a. They asked our assistance in providing clarification for the fire service instructors regarding necessary course items to satisfy statutory AVOC requirement.
  - b. NFPA 1451 has been revised to include ambulance vehicles.
  - c. They will teach EVDT with EMSVO components. Completion certificates will likely have check boxes to denote what their course covered.

vi. MEMSEd

1. Issue with reporting of course completion data
2. New courses
  - a. Violence in the EMS Workplace
  - b. Sleep Deprivation and Fatigue Training for EMS Professionals

**V. Old Business:**

- a. PIFT Education Sub-Committee update
  - i. Aiden Koplovsky gives the update on the PIFT meeting in Rick Petrie's absence.
    1. The sub-committee did meet following the July Education Committee meeting. Discussion continually came back to operational aspect of PIFT.

2. The group determined that until the operational aspect is settled, the educational aspect cannot be completed. So, the sub-committee decided that the educational planning process will go on hiatus for the time being, until the IFT committee is able to describe what the PIFT system will look like.
  3. Rick Petrie is continuing those conversations with the IFT committee to try and make those determinations as soon as possible.
  4. Aiden Koplovsky will keep in touch with Rick Petrie and Marc Minkler, who is office liaison to the committee, to monitor progress and ensure this doesn't fall off the radar.
- b. Supplemental meetings for Training Center Standards Interpretations
    - i. Aiden Koplovsky discusses additional dates
      1. 28 Sep 2022
      2. 26 Oct 2022
      3. Dates will focus solely on training center standards updates.
      4. Aiden will put those dates out for poll today.
    - c. Training Center Standards Document Revision, Interpretation #4
      - i. Chris Azevedo shares his screen, showing the standards interpretations. Chris Azevedo and Eric Wellman lead the review and discussion of the standards interpretations, picking up on Interpretation #4, where last month's discussion left off.
      - ii. Discussion involves responsibilities and qualifications of:
        1. Medical Directors
      - iii. Discussion continues with Interpretation #5 – Program Personnel, responsibilities, and qualifications
        1. Discussion of Program Director
        2. The discussion stops with Program Director qualifications
      - iv. The next meeting will pick up where this discussion left off, at education requirements for Program Directors, in Interpretation #5.

#### **VI. New Business**

- a. Discussion of new committee co-chair
  - i. Aiden Koplovsky discusses that Brian Chamberlin has asked to step down from his current role as committee co-chair. Aiden is hoping to hear, in the next few months, from some committee members who are interested in stepping into the role as co-chair.

#### **VII. Next Meeting**

- a. The next meeting will be the additional meeting, specifically for work on training standards revisions, on Wednesday, 28 Sep 2022.
- b. Date and time: 12 Oct 2022

**VIII. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 11:20 hrs.