



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

Wednesday, 8 Feb 2023

0900-1130

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

**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Leah Mitchell, Sally Taylor, Stephanie Cordwell, Joanne Lebrun, Paul Froman, Mike Drinkwater, Cathy Gosselin, Ben Zetterman, David Mejia, Dennis Russell  
**Members Absent:** Amy Drinkwater, Aiden Koplovsky, Brian Chamberlin, Steve Smith  
**Staff:** Chris Azevedo, Jason Oko, Anna Massefski  
**Stakeholders:** Tom Gutow, Eric Wellman, John Lennon, Fred Porter

*“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. Meeting called to order at 0904. Introductions and roll call by Sally Taylor.

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Approval of the January 2023 meeting minutes.
  - i. Motion to approve the January minutes made by Joanne Lebrun and second by Cathy Gosselin. No discussion. Motion is carried.

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

- a. None

**IV. State Update:**

- a. Chris Azevedo
  - i. NREMT- Chris Azevedo discusses latest updates in NREMT certification exams.
    1. ALS re-design continues.
      - a. Site link: <https://nremt.org/Document/ALS-Redesign>
      - b. Expanded cognitive

- c. Clinical performance exam – Schematic Clinical Judgement Framework and Performance component
      - i. [https://www.nremt.org/getmedia/ca65bf09-ac71-41ab-8465-6336142de6dd/TEI-PE-Template\\_v3-040722.pdf](https://www.nremt.org/getmedia/ca65bf09-ac71-41ab-8465-6336142de6dd/TEI-PE-Template_v3-040722.pdf)
    - d. Interactive performance scenario sample question
      - i. <https://nremt-scenariodemo.startpractice.com/>
      - ii.
        - 2. AEMT and Paramedic PSEs sunset 1 Jul 2024
        - 3. BLS Exams – are looking to follow up AEMT and Paramedic by doing similar exams with BLS. No date
  - ii. Strategic planning
    - 1. LD – 244 131<sup>st</sup> Maine legislature referred to standing committee on Criminal Justice and public safety. Discussion by the committee to take place on 15 Feb 2023.
  - iii. Committee Co-Chair
    - 1. Sally Taylor’s name was submitted to the EMS Board Chair and was confirmed as committee co-chair by EMS Board Chair, Brent Libby.
  - iv. MDPB
    - 1. ALS Representative selection process
      - a. The process is in its second round. There will be five interviews on Tues 14 Mar 2023, after which a name will be selected to bring to the MDPB meeting in March.
  - v. Protocols
    - 1. Change sheets are being worked on by section authors, with Drs. Zimmerman and Collamore coordinating.
    - 2. Admin sections and Pink section remain for MDPB review.
    - 3. Stakeholder Protocol Change Forums – next one is Thursday, 9 March at noon.

**V. Old Business:**

- a. PSE Update
  - i. Sally Taylor and the group discuss direction that PSEs are headed in.
    - 1. Joanne Lebrun –
      - a. We had a lengthy discussion on this. We even had a date. We had decided to keep the PSE in its current form until the testing window has expired for all those who had a need to re-test.
      - b. Sally Taylor asks, more so, who is going to be in charge of these as programs transition. Also, there are re-entry candidates.

2. Leah Mitchell–
  - a. This is a Maine EMS exam. Colleges don't have the bandwidth to support this with portfolios. This needs to move beyond training centers.
3. Joanne Lebrun
  - a. Discusses the possibility of Maine EMS being able to contract with a training center to support and run PSEs. Discusses possible intervals for holding PSEs and costs.
4. Paul Froman asks the group what the true impact of PSEs actually is, and how long do we need to continue PSEs for re-entry candidates and others. Do we need to develop a different pathway for re-entry candidates?
5. Sally Taylor discusses Paul Froman's question.
  - a. We don't know, quarter to quarter, how many re-entries there are going to be.
  - b. PSEs must be maintained until both all training centers have transitioned to PSEs and for two years after the last class using PSEs has completed.
6. Joanne Lebrun discusses concerns regarding high school program transition to PSEs regarding length of time PSEs must be maintained.
7. Eric Wellman explains that any CTE programs which are affiliated with SMCC will be changing to portfolio. However, at this time, transition is optional for CTEs. We should have some data to estimate how many candidates will still need PSEs in the future. The number of resources it takes to run a PSE decreases the likelihood that training centers who have transitions will continue running PSEs. The bandwidth is too great to do both.
8. Sally Taylor discusses some current re-entry candidate numbers.
9. Mike Drinkwater relates that there are three CTE programs that he knows of who have transitioned to portfolios. The various programs may be in different places regarding transition, depending upon which training centers they are affiliated with.
10. Joanne Lebrun discusses the coming Board evaluation of EMT portfolio data to make a decision regarding whether or not to keep that process. Advises that the group should be prepared to get some data and prepare a report for the Board regarding status and a recommendation. Otherwise, the window for maintaining PSEs will stay open.
11. Joanne Lebrun discusses whether or not there may be any PSE alternatives and discusses. Discussion by the group.
12. Chris Azevedo discusses the path that NREMT is taking with PSEs for AEMT and paramedic. It is unclear what they are going to do

for re-entry candidates at those levels, once those PSEs are sunsetted in July 2024.

- a. Some options include, but are not limited to:
  - i. Sending PSE candidates to other states
  - ii. Contracting a training center to run PSEs
  - iii. Developing a course for re-entry candidates that will satisfy the skills verification requirement.
- b. EMT Skills Portfolio Update
  - i. Eric Wellman gives an update on MCCS program transition.
    - 1. SMCC and YCCC have run at least six cohorts under portfolios. The program has been under constant review and update as it has been run.
    - 2. Discusses pass rates for EMT cognitive exams for first attempt and sixth attempt. Overall, pass rates have improved significantly, overall, with the cohorts using portfolios. Discusses some of the changes in program support that were required with implementation of portfolios and the differences they made.
    - 3. At the same time, feedback from employers reflects greater graduate demonstrated confidence and performance.
  - ii. Sally Taylor and Leah Mitchell discuss some positive feedback she's had from employers of portfolio process graduates.
  - iii. Sally Taylor recommends training centers conducting instructor orientation and education on the portfolios and the portfolio process.
- c. Training Center Standards
  - i. Review and discussion of Training Center Standards revision INTERP #8.
  - ii. Chris Azevedo shares his screen with the group and Eric Wellman reviews the changes.
    - 1. The remainder of subsection 8 – Training Center Fair Practices standards is covered, which completes review of the standards revisions for the standards requirements.
  - iii. The next steps in the process are to
    - 1. Incorporate the group feedback into the standards and interpretations documents
    - 2. Complete the formatting work and present the group with finished copies of both documents for a second review by the group.
    - 3. The finished document should be ready for distribution to the committee for final review at the March meeting. At that time, committee members can take the month of March to review it on their own and make suggestions, if needed.
    - 4. The committee can make the decision to vote for approval or for revision at the April meeting.

**VI. New Business**

- a. Explorer Program
  - i. Anna Messefski gives a short brief regarding the explorer program she is building for the state.
  - ii. This presentation will be carried over to the March meeting to allow time for the full presentation and discussion by the group.
- b. NCCP CEH Entry
  - i. Chris Azevedo and Jason Oko share their screen for the group and present the NCCP model for entry of CEH applications into eLicensing by instructors, and for entry of CEH credits into CEH records by providers.
    - 1. Discussion of the process with the group ensues.
  - ii. The intent is to present the ImageTrend model for doing so, to the committee and allow time for questions and input on the model.

**VII. Next Meeting**

- a. Date and time: Wednesday, 8 Mar 2023, at 0900 hrs
- b. Items to be put on agenda for March meeting:
  - i. Explorer Program
  - ii. NCCP model entry

**VIII. Adjournment:**

- a. Motion to adjourn made by Paul Froman and seconded by Cathy Gosselin.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 1129 hrs.