



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 Jun 2023  
0900-1130

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

**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Mike Drinkwater, Joanne Lebrun, Amy Drinkwater, Stephanie Cordwell, Aiden Koplovsky, Ben Zetterman, Leah Mitchell, Cathy Gosselin, Dennis Russell  
**Members Absent:** Brian Chamberlin, Steve Smith, Paul Froman  
**Staff:** Megan Salois, Jason Oko, Darren Davis  
**Stakeholders:** Theresa Cousins, Eric Wellman, AJ Gagnon, 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. Meeting called to order by Aiden Koplovsky, who calls roll and makes introductions

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Approval of May 2023 meeting minutes.
- b. Motion to approve the May 2023 meeting minutes is made by Joanne Lebrun and seconded by Amy Drinkwater. No discussion. Motion is carried.

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

- a. No additions or deletions for today's agenda

**IV. State Update:**

- a. State update
  - i. Chris Azevedo is on leave and unable to attend this month's meeting. Today's meeting is supported by Megan Salois, SUD Coordinator, from Maine EMS.

1. The following documents were distributed by Chris Azevedo, by email, for group review prior to today's meeting. PDF – Maine EMS Staff Update to the EMS Board
  2. PDF – NREMT AEMT Change Proposals
  3. PDF – AEMT Press Release-CAAHEP-CoAEMSP
- ii. Aiden Koplovsky queries the group for questions or comments regarding the three documents
1. Aiden Koplovsky comments that there will be some group discussion regarding the AEMT program changes in the future, and briefly discusses coming input that will be needed from the group in the future.
  2. It is also noted that the coming volunteer AEMT program accreditation does not require Maine EMS to also require accreditation for AEMT programs.
    - a. Joanne Lebrun discusses some clarification points regarding the AEMT program changes.
      - i. The cognitive exam will include a comprehensive clinical performance, computer-based exam.
      - ii. The practical will consist of student minimum competencies.
      - iii. Once this is in place, we will no longer be sending students to New Hampshire for NREMT psychomotor skills tests for AEMT or Paramedic.
    - b. Aiden Koplovsky acknowledges that this is correct and discusses the specifics.
    - c. Eric Wellman adds additional discussion of the clinical performance exam specifics.
    - d. Aiden Koplovsky and Eric Wellman discuss the change to "scaled score reporting" as the mechanism for candidate exam feedback across all NREMT certification levels.
  3. Aiden Koplovsky discusses the NREMT initiative for evidence-based guidelines for writing exam questions and utilizing the Pre-hospital Guidelines Consortium upon which to base initial exam questions and continuing education guidelines. These guidelines will be updated every two years.

**V. Old Business:**

- a. EMS Board request for committee accomplishments and goals for the next two years.
  - i. Aiden Koplovsky discusses the letter drafted by himself and Sally Taylor and submitted to the Board. Amy Drinkwater discusses the current status.
    1. Board Chair Brent Libby has advised that he has not received the requested committee goals and objectives responses from all the

committees. He is awaiting the remaining responses and will advise on this at the next Board meeting in August.

- b. PSE continuation and licensure re-entry process
  - i. This is a placeholder on the agenda for this topic.
  - ii. Dennis Russell asks for the current status regarding this.
    - 1. Aiden Koplovsky discusses. There are a few training centers that continue to offer PSEs on a semi-regular basis. Chris Azevedo has been working with re-entry candidates to get them into those exams, most of which have been coordinated by Atlantic Partners and Sally Taylor.
    - 2. Joanne Lebrun comments that she hasn't offered any PSEs, but her training center is willing to do them as needed and has been supporting exams as an exam administrator.
    - 3. Joann Lebrun discusses PSE purpose, planning and support. Sally Taylor's retirement from Atlantic Partners EMS has the potential to affect exam delivery.
    - 4. Group discussion of options to develop a re-entry exam algorithm.
      - a. Joanne Lebrun suggests development and use of a rubric that training centers could use to evaluate psychomotor skills verification processes of out-of-state programs.
      - b. Aiden Koplovsky will discuss ideas presented with Chris Azevedo prior to the next Education Committee meeting.
- c. Follow-up items:
  - i. AVOC clarification policy submitted
    - 1. DRAFT REVISION-AVOC Policy Appendix B submitted by Chris Azevedo for committee review.
    - 2. Aiden Koplovsky discusses with the group that the revision is a clarification of the current requirement that any course must have both a psychomotor skills practical element as well as a didactic component. Chris Azevedo has been working with developers of commercial programs to ensure they encompass Maine EMS requirements. There is no need for voting action by the committee.
  - ii. CEVO instructor course instructor training requirement for practical skills course.
    - 1. This topic will be revisited for the next meeting.
    - 2. Joanne Lebrun discusses the practical skills requirement of the standard and the possibility that the didactic and practical skills components be separated so that a person may complete a commercial didactic-only course and then have the practical component completed by a "qualified" service-level "practical skills" instructor. This is in reference to a discussion at a prior meeting of the Rules Committee regarding AVOC training.

3. Aiden Koplovsky discusses the differences between initial AVOC training and service-level driver credentialing and refresher training.
4. The group discusses.
  - a. Joanne Lebrun asks if the committee should make a recommendation to the Board that instructor training for commercially available EVOC/AVOC programs be regularly available in Maine and supported by NHTSA funds?
  - b. Aiden Koplovsky discusses that this may be a good idea. However, the challenge is that there needs to be someone to put together and coordinate and administrate any such effort, especially if it includes grant funds. The question would remain as to who would be the one to do this? The office is already short of resources to do the work it is doing, which was emphasized in the response to the Board regarding committee goals and objectives.
  - c. Discussion amongst the group.

## **VI. New Business**

- a. Resignations
  - i. David Mejia resigned from the committee as Non-Municipal Service Representative.
  - ii. Sally Taylor has retired from EMS, which leaves an At-Large Educator position, as well as the Co-Chair position, open.
  - iii. Aiden Koplovsky suggests that those positional vacancies be advertised. The group agrees, with the priority being filling the Non-Municipal Service Representative and the vacant At-Large Educator positions.
  - iv. Leah Mitchell asks, since the committee just recently engaged in a co-chair process, if it wouldn't be fair to simply re-consider the other applicants who were not selected from that process? Discussion by the group.
  - v. Aiden will reach out to the other interested candidate(s) from the last process to solicit interest. If they are interested, their names can be brought forward to the group, as well as any newly interested parties.
- b. PIFT
  - i. Aiden discusses that the Committee is in a holding pattern until the operational changes are determined and agreed upon by the Board.
  - ii. Discussion by the group.

## **VII. Next Meeting**

- a. Date and time: 12 July 2023 at 0900.

## **VIII. Adjournment:**

- a. Motion to adjourn is made by Dennis Russell and seconded by Amy Drinkwater.

b. Meeting adjourned at 1008 hrs.