



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
 November 20, 2023, at 9:30 AM
 Via ZOOM and Chamberlain Conference Room
 Minutes

“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 Member	In Attendance	Late Arrival (if applicable)	Early Departure (if applicable)
Nate Allen	X		
Timothy Beals	X		
Bill Cyr	X		
Katelyn Damon			
Laura Downing	X		
Amy Drinkwater	X		
Judy Gerrish	X		
Brandon Giberson	X		
Brent Libby	X		
John Martel			
Matthew Sholl			
Steve Smith	X		
Andy Turcotte	X		
Christopher Whytock	X		
Kate Zimmerman	X		

Staff: Deputy Director Anthony Roberts, Jason, Oko, Jason Cooney, AAG Katie Johnson, Melissa Adams

Stakeholders & Guests: Joe Kellner

1. Introductions
2. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest
3. Modifications to the Agenda

● **Excellence** ● **Support** ● **Collaboration** ● **Integrity** ●

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With offices located at the Central Maine Commerce Center, 45 Commerce Drive, Suite 1, Augusta, ME 04330

4. Public Comments

Joe Kellner – There continues to be confusion in the healthcare community with the various vaccine requirements. He requests that the Board consider a statewide waiver of the rule related to the COVID-19 vaccination, as the rulemaking process may take three months to complete.

5. Old Business

- a. Consideration for adoption by the Board, Chapter 21 basis statement, modifications to the proposed rule recommended by the Rules Subcommittee, and replies to public comments received.

The Board discussed the proposed modifications to the Chapter 21 Rule as presented by the Rules Committee. It was noted that the proposed changes were in response to public comments received.

MOTION *to enter executive session pursuant to 1 MRS §405 (6)(E) to receive legal advice from council (Libby, seconded by Giberson)*

(Yes) Allen, Beals, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Libby, Smith, Turcotte, Whytock

Motion Carries

The Board entered executive session at 9:44 am.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:58 am.

MOTION *to adopt, with the associated basis statement and comment replies, the updated Chapter 21 Immunization requirement from the Rules Committee with the exception of the change made to number two (2) that struck licensed ambulance operators and number five (5) that changed the effective date from November 1, 2023, for influenza and January 1, 2025, for the vaccination adds, and remove the language that states to become affiliated with the entity for all the required vaccinations. (Libby, seconded by Beals)*

Discussion: Brent Libby provided clarification that the removed verbiage was to ensure there were no substantive changes to the rule so the rule would not be delayed.

The Board reviewed a copy of the rule with the changes proposed in the motion. The Board reviewed comments and responses to the rule.

(Yes) Allen, Beals, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Libby, Smith, Turcotte

(No) Cyr, Whytock

Motion Carries

6. New Business

- a. Request to authorize Board Staff to issue temporary service licensure for up to sixty (60) days pursuant to Maine EMS Chapter 3, §5(4).

Seven EMS agency renewals are impacted by a short-term absence of their medical director, who is required to affirm their affiliation and ability to serve in that role with the licensed EMS service. The Board has been given a memo requesting the issuance of a temporary license for up to 60 days for these services.

MOTION to issue a temporary service license to Bar Harbor Fire Department, Cranberry Isles Rescue, Mount Desert Fire-Rescue, Northeast Harbor Ambulance Service, Southwest Harbor/Tremont Ambulance Service, Southwest Harbor Fire Department, and Sullivan Fire Rescue, which will expire January 29, 2024, pursuant to Maine EMS Rules Chapter 3 §5(4), when the agency submits a renewal application that is otherwise complete.
(Giberson, seconded by Cyr)

(Yes) Allen, Beals, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Libby, Smith, Turcotte, Whytock

Motion Carries

MOTION to direct the Rules Committee to continue their work on Chapter 21 based on the items removed for approval today, to reconsider those, and begin a new process that could go to public comment. (Libby, seconded by Giberson)

(Yes) Allen, Beals, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Libby, Smith, Turcotte, Whytock

Discussion: Tim Beals clarified that this would be after Chapter 21 goes into effect, as proposed today.

(Yes) Allen, Beals, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Libby, Smith, Turcotte, Whytock

Motion Carries

7. Other

- a. Items for the next agenda
 - i. Update on the stabilization funding
- b. Next Board meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2023, at 9:30 am, via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 am