



JANET T. MILLS
 GOVERNOR

MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
 COMMISSIONER

J. SAM HURLEY
 DIRECTOR

Board of EMS Meeting
 January 3, 2024, 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			
Brent Libby	X		
John Martel			
Matthew Sholl	X		
Steve Smith	X		
Andy Turcotte	X		X
Christopher Whytock			
Kate Zimmerman	X		

Staff: Jason Oko, Jason Cooney, Anna Massefski, Teresa Glick, Marc Minkler, Soliana Goldrich, Christopher Azevedo, Taylor Parmenter, Darren Davis, Robert Glaspy, Melissa Adams, AAG Samantha Morgan, Commissioner Michael Sauschuck

Stakeholders & Guests: Cameron Ouellette, Wil O’Neal, Eric Wellman, Brian Langerman, Fred Porter, Christopher Pare, Shawn Cordwell, John Lennon, Bill Montejo, Chip Getchell, Bob Hand, Benjamin Wallace Jr., Jeremy Ogden

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

PHONE: (207) 626-3860

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

1. Introductions
2. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest
Bill Cyr will recuse from 23-301
3. Modifications to the Agenda
Chair Drinkwater moves Maine EMS Director Confirmation and Stabilization Rule Proposal above Investigations in the agenda.
4. Public Comments
None
5. Maine EMS Director Confirmation
Commissioner Sauschuck made the recommendation to confirm Wil O’Neal as the Director of Maine EMS.

MOTION to appoint Wil O’Neal as the Director of Maine EMS, subject to the approval of the Commissioner, in accordance with 32 MRS 2-B §84 (1)(E) (Libby, seconded by Beals)

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

Motion Carries

6. Stabilization Funding Rule Proposal for Public Comments
Commissioner Sauschuck provided an overview of the Stabilization Funding. 30 applications have been received for about \$2.2 million, but many services still need to provide supporting documentation. A panel will review the applications.

The Rules Committee considered a concept document to move forward for public comment.

MOTION to move the proposed rule for EMS Stabilization for public comment. (Libby, seconded by Cyr)

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

Motion Carries

7. Investigations
 - a. Investigations Committee December 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

MOTION to accept minutes as submitted, with a correction of the date to December 21, 2023. (Drinkwater, seconded by Downing)

(Yes) Smith, Downing, Drinkwater, Beals

(Abstain) Gerrish

Motion Carries

- b. Flewelling Application

Summary: The applicant for a new Ambulance Operator license failed to disclose criminal convictions for Misuse of Public Benefits Instrument, a class D crime, and Theft by Unauthorized Taking or Transfer, a class E crime, in 2016. The Committee recommends the Board preliminarily deny the application, citing unprofessional conduct rules and that the applicant has not demonstrated sufficient rehabilitation to warrant the public's trust.

MOTION to accept the committee's recommendation (Libby, seconded by Smith)

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

Motion Carries

c. 23-301 Case Review

Bill Cyr recused and left the room.

Summary: The licensee allegedly did not complete the required clinical training during their Paramedic licensure course and falsified training records. The Committee recommends the Board dismiss the complaint citing lack of sufficient evidence due to the time lapsed from when the alleged violation took place.

MOTION to accept the committee's recommendation (Libby, seconded by Beals)

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

(Recused) Cyr

Motion Carries

Bill Cyr returned to the meeting.

d. 23-317 Case Review

Summary: The licensee failed to ensure the documentation of at least 57 EMS calls for service, in an electronic Maine EMS patient care report. The Committee recommends the Board preliminarily deny the renewal application and offer a consent agreement to issue the license with a censure and probation for one (1) year, during which time the Service Chief or Training Officer must coordinate and ensure all personnel complete a documentation course with a MEFIRS component, at least two hours in length, and the course must be preapproved by the Maine EMS Education Coordinator. The service must also submit quarterly QA reports to the investigator during the probation period, demonstrating they are meeting their target items for FY 2024 reported in their QA plan.

MOTION to accept the committee's recommendation. (Beals, seconded by Gerrish)

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

Motion Carries

8. Old Business

a. Meeting Minutes

i. December 6, 2023

MOTION to accept the minutes as submitted. (Beals, seconded by Cyr)

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

Motion Carries

9. New Business

a. AEMT Student Minimum Competencies

Leah Mitchell from the Education Committee provided an overview of the AEMT student minimum competencies.

MOTION to approve the AEMT Student Minimum Competencies. (Beals, seconded by Libby)

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

Motion Carries

b. Community Paramedicine – Vehicle Branding

The Board discussed whether services with Community Paramedicine designations that brand their vehicles with the phrase "Community Paramedicine" or "Community Paramedics" but are not licensed at the paramedic level advertise themselves as providing a level of care other than that at which they are licensed.

MOTION to interpret Chapter 3, Section 7(3) of the rule to allow all services with Community Paramedicine designations to brand their vehicles with "Community Paramedicine" because that designation is not license-level specific. Use of the term "Community Paramedics" by a service that is not licensed at the paramedic level, however, is potentially deceptive or confusing to the public as it may indicate the service is licensed to provide care at the paramedic level. (Beals, seconded by Cyr)

(Yes) Allen, Beals, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Smith

(No) Libby

Motion Carries

The Board discussed the terms "Community Paramedicine" and "Mobile Integrated Health," which would best describe current practices.

MOTION to direct the community paramedicine committee to look at the current statute and current rule to determine what needs to be changed to more align with current practices and what the future intent will be (Libby, seconded by Downing)

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

Motion Carries

c. Community Paramedicine – Catchment Area

The board discussed the feasibility of approving a community paramedicine application that includes the entire state of Maine as the catchment area and how that could impact the development of community paramedicine programs in the future.

MOTION to direct the Maine EMS staff not to grant any community paramedicine plans that identify they will provide services beyond their current mutual aid agreements, and to bring those plans to the board for approval, and the applicants must provide public and agency notice. (Libby, seconded by Gerrish)

(Yes) Allen, Beals, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Libby

(No) Smith

Motion Carries

d. Vote on By-Laws

MOTION to approve the Maine EMS Board by-laws as presented. (Libby, seconded by Cyr)

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

Motion Carries

10. Other

- a. Next Board meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2024, at 9:30 am, via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 11:53 am