



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
152 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

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COMMISSIONER

WIL O'NEAL
DIRECTOR

Education Committee – November 11, 2024

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

Members present: Aiden Koplovsky (Chair), Joanne Lebrun, Paul Froman, AJ Gagnon, Thomas "TW" Williamson, Dennis Russell, Cathy Gosselin, Amy Drinkwater, Mike Drinkwater, Leah Mitchell, Ben Zetterman, Steve Smith

Members Absent: Brian Chamberlain

MEMS Staff: Jason Oko, Anna Masefski

Stakeholders: John Lennon, David Ireland

- 1) Introductions/Call to Order
 - a. Quorum present, meeting begins at 0903
- 2) Maine EMS Mission Statement is read by Koplovsky
"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 clinicians. 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 clinicians, communities, and residents of the jurisdictions that we represent."
- 3) Public Comment
 - a. Lennon asks for guidance expanding Maine Medivax program to allow EMTs to administer flu vaccines. States he has been asking Maine EMS for 12 months. His service supplements school to administer flu vaccines and is in line with previous allowance for EMTs to administer COVID vaccinations. Lennon states he has been working with Anthony Roberts. Koplovsky states he is familiar with the education for the COVID vaccinations. Suggests starting with the MDPB. Russell states the original Medivax program did not have EMT scope in it, but believes it is not a big leap today (and that Medivax is outdated and has not been updated in many years). Also suggests exploring community paramedicine as another option. A. Drinkwater asks if MDPB has been approached, Lennon states he has not. Koplovsky will assist offline.
- 4) Approval of previous minutes
 - a. **Motion to approve October 9, 2024 minutes made by Froman and seconded by A. Drinkwater. No changes. Passes unanimously.**
- 5) Changes to agenda
 - a. Froman would like to discuss the future meeting schedule. Koplovsky adds to the agenda.
- 6) State Update
 - a. Koplovsky reads update from Minkler (who is at EMSC meeting) and that the Education Coordinator position has been reposted. Minkler also was invited to and went to NREMT in

Columbus to review new EMT and EMR exam and was impressed with depth and resources to manage exam and ensure it is thoughtfully done and is evidence based and educationally sound.

7) Old Business

- a. PIFT – The IFT Committee met and are working on transition planning to the new Transfer & Transport Committee – AJ Gagnon was voted at last meeting to be the recommended EdCom representative

8) New Business

- a. Survey – Lebrun worked on this and was distributed as a revised survey to group. Russell thanks Lebrun for her work and feels it will be an interesting survey to have the results from. **Froman makes a motion to send the survey to all Maine EMS licensed Instructor Coordinators as written, Russell seconds.** Mitchell asks for clarification on questions 11 and 12 and info intention. Asks about who you teach for and role and if this was specific to use of IC license or just teach for in general. Oko asks if we can move from survey monkey to Microsoft form as the state does not use survey monkey and this puts it on state system. Asks for he and Darren Davis to review the survey. State he and Darren have the experience to better ask questions and format and review the language. Koplovsky is not opposed but concerned about timeliness and workload to office to convert. Oko feels that this can be achieved. Mitchell asks about intent of the questions and data in the survey. Discussion by group on this and clarification. Koplovsky asks group about converting to a state form and have Oko/Davis review questions for phrasing. Mitchell feels review and flow would add value. Lebrun adds that flow already has logic built into the survey monkey but is not visible in this pdf of the survey. Koplovsky brings up survey monkey and confirms Lebrun statement on survey logic and if converted to Maine system, logic needs to remain intact. **Froman amends motion to add agreeing to convert to state format, to be completed and sent to ICs by January 1, 2025. Oko asks for all questions and logic to be sent to him and he can get back to committee by end of week, Koplovsky emails Oko the entire survey. Zetterman seconds amended motion, No objections, motion passes.** Koplovsky thanks LeBrun for all of her hard work on this survey.
- b. Vacant positions on Education Committee – Koplovsky states the following are vacant
 - i. Community College Representative
 - ii. Regional changes and move from 6 to 4 regions.Zetterman falls under new region 4 and Gosselin falls under new region 1, Koplovsky and A. Drinkwater fall under new region 3, Chamberlain and Lebrun fall under new region 2. Koplovsky proposes bring to the Maine EMS board to eliminate his position in region 3 and allow himself to fill the community college vacancy, and to retain both Chamberlain and Lebrun until one vacates that position, which would then eliminate that position. **Russell makes a motion to approve this plan, Zetterman seconds, no objections, Koplovsky will bring to Maine EMS board for consideration.**
- c. Next meeting – December 11, 2024 conflicts with finals week for many, Russell asks if any timely issues to be addressed, Koplovsky states none. **Russell makes motion to cancel December 11, 2024 Education Committee meeting, second by Froman, No objections, motion passes.**
- d. EMS license data – Koplovsky looked at state aggregate data from 2017 on and looked at pass rates through 6th attempt. EMR is not included due to low N value. Gosselin asks for clarification on data about passing numbers through 6th pass and if this was students who needed 6 attempts or just within the 6 possible tries. Koplovsky clarifies it is “within” 6. Asks about why so many EMT students in 2022 vs current. Mitchell states there was a large influx of money and was available 2020-22 and then tapered down in 2023 when it ended, based on each program usage. Feels we will likely not see such a large influx again without significant funding. Russell asks if we could determine the NREMT pass rate vs actual Maine EMS licensure as well as if they have completed 10 or more run sheets since passing – i.e. did we get people on the street. Koplovsky

concur. Group discussion on this and tracking individuals from student account in training center licensure course through Maine EMS licensure. Discussion on which TCs have been entering students into licensure – most have been doing so. M Drinkwater states some of the CTE students are just exploring and using this as a steppingstone and often do not become licensed and may skew some of the numbers. Lebrun states she has a number of folks who are licensed as vehicle operators who have taken the EMT class (sometimes multiple times) but seem to not ever test. Mitchell is concerned about people taking up seats for “exploration” vs those who know they want to get licensed, especially with limited funding and spots in classes. Discussion on creating reports on this and learning information. Massefski joins and offers to help with the EMS ConnectME program and EMS exploration. A Drinkwater would like to add to January agenda to learn more about the program. Koplovsky would like to discuss a presentation offline with Massefski.

9) Next meeting to do

- a. Koplovsky will speak with Board Chair about position changes**
- b. Oko will convert survey to Microsoft forms**
- c. Russell will enter his TC data into licensing on students, Oko will run data report on how many have become licensed, feels this could be ready for January 2025 meeting**
- d. Koplovsky and Massefski will meet and discuss future presentation to EdCom**

10) Motion to adjourn by Russell, second by Mitchell, no objections. Meeting adjourned at 1013.

11) Next Meeting January 8, 2025 at 0900.

Minutes by Marc Minkler.