



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

WIL O'NEAL
DIRECTOR

Board of EMS Meeting
December 4, 2024, at 9:30 AM
Champlain Conference Room
Approved 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 (virtual)		
Bill Cyr	X		
Laura Downing	X		
Amy Drinkwater	X		
Judy Gerrish	X		
Brian Langerman	X		
Jack Lewis	X		
Brent Libby	X		
Julie Ontengco	X (virtual)		
Matthew Sholl	X		
Steve Smith	PENDING REAPPOINTMENT		
Andy Turcotte	X		
Christopher Whytock	X		
Kate Zimmerman	X		

Staff: Director Wil O'Neal, Deputy Director Anthony Roberts, Taylor Parmenter, Victoria Clyde, Alex Gibson, Amber McCormick, Anna Masefski, Darren Davis, Jason Oko, Melissa Adams, Jason Cooney, Soliana Goldrich, Robert Glaspy, Marc Minkler, Ashley Moody, Samantha Andrews

Stakeholders & Guests:

- In person: Joanne Lebrun, Chip Getchell, Heidi Bean, Robert Russell, Jordan McLaughlin
- Virtual: AJ Gagnon, David Ireland, Dwayne Lee Philbrook, John Coordts, Rob McGraw, Shawn Cordwell, Bob Hand, Dann Clark, Bill Montejo, "Amy – Lisbon EMS", Eric Melia, Eric Wellman, Derek Easler, Shawn Mitchell, Chris Pare, Don Sheets, Jason Peasley, Jesse Thompson, John

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Lennon, Sean Donaghue, Timothy Pieh, Sam Nepple, Aiden Koplovsky, Joe Kellner, Matt St. Pierre, Phil MacCallum, Mike Senecal

1. Introductions
2. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest
Gerrish and Lewis recuse from Case 24-350.
3. Modifications to the Agenda
None
4. Public Comments
None
5. Investigations

Gerrish and Lewis are recused.

a. Case 24-350

Summary: The licensee allegedly obtained a patient's contact information while caring for the patient as the primary patient caregiver and, after completion of the call for service, attempted to solicit a date and/or initiate a romantic relationship with that patient using that contact information. During the August, 2024 Board meeting, the Board accepted a consent agreement that suspended the licensee's AEMT and Instructor/Coordinator licenses for up to one year, and required the licensee to meet other criteria before reinstating their license.

AAG Samantha Andrews informed the Board that the licensee's attorney had reached out because the licensee wished to voluntarily surrender his licenses. Under the Board's Rules, license surrender must be accomplished by consent agreement, which is now presented to the Board for approval. The new proposed consent agreement contains admission to all of the facts listed in the facts section, admission to all of the violations in the original consent agreement except for one change due to redundancy with the facts of the case, a reprimand, and surrender of the licenses effective the date the consent agreement is signed. The consent agreement states the licensee may reapply after December 1st, 2025, and that the Board may consider the conduct covered in this consent agreement when considering a future application, and the Board may grant or deny a future application or take any action authorized by law at that time.

The Board discussed potential measures they could impose on future applications from this licensee.

MOTION: To accept the proposed consent agreement. (Libby, seconded by Cyr)

VOTE:

In Favor: Allen, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Langerman, Libby, Ontengco, Turcotte, Whytock.

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: Gerrish (Recused), Lewis (Recused)

MOTION CARRIES

Gerrish and Lewis return.

6. Old Business

a. Meeting Minutes

i. November 6, 2024

MOTION to accept the minutes as submitted. (Turcotte, seconded by Downing)

VOTE:

In Favor: Allen, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Langerman, Lewis, Libby, Ontengco, Turcotte, Whytock.

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

MOTION CARRIES

b. Maine EMS Director Update:

Given by Maine EMS Director Wil O’Neal.

The Director welcomes back Licensing Agent Jason Cooney from paternity leave. He also congratulates Jason Cooney on receiving the Department of Public Safety Unsung Hero Award.

The Director informed the Board that a military service member has recently reached out to the office for support in obtaining a license because they completed their EMS education under the PSE model, and were deployed before being able to test.

Positions Update: Active negotiations are ongoing with a candidate for the Office Specialist position. Interviews are underway for the Education Coordinator position, which the Director hopes to hire by the beginning of 2025. The Regional Coordinator positions are currently posted, and will be open until December 9th, 2024. The Director hopes to have these filled by mid-January. In the interim, the Director has put together a regional transition team assigned to different regions.

Region 1: Robert Glaspy and Anna Masefski

Region 2: Anthony Roberts and Anna Masefski

Region 3: Jason Oko

Region 4: Dr. Beth Collamore, with CEH support from Ashley Moody and Marc Minkler.

The Informed Community Self-Determination Grant has been opened, and is now posted. Allotments are first-come, first-served. Application information can be found on the Maine EMS website. The Director urges communities to apply quickly due to the limited funds available.

Chapter 27 needs one more Rules Committee meeting before it can be ready for the Board's review. The Director stated that the delay is in order to insert fully-realized changes suggested during the public comment period.

At the behest of the Legislature, the Director has been working on reformatting the current Maine EMS Board. In the last year, two regional seats were dropped due to the changes in Chapter 15. In addition, the Board has three seats that are chronically empty. The Director will be bringing a more specific proposal for streamlining the Board in the near future.

c. Medical Directors' Update

Given by Statewide Medical Director Matt Sholl.

The MDPB is working on protocol reviews, currently in Green section.

There are two pilot projects currently being tracked by the MDPB: Sanford and Delta.

The MDPB is tracking some medication shortages. There was a recent shortage of IV fluids due to hurricanes in North Carolina and Florida. These shortages seem to be resolving, and MDPB is assisting agencies as needed. There is also a nationwide shortage of Cyanokit, which is not anticipated to be resolved until mid to late 2025. Poison Control requests that they be contacted before using any Cyanokit to ensure it is only used appropriately due to this severe shortage.

Operational K9 protocols have gone live.

d. Committee Vacancies and Applications Update

i. Application

1. Maine EMS is working on a unified application for all committees through a Microsoft Form. A list of committee vacancies will be updated at the January Board meeting.

2. There have already been 21 applications for the Data Committee.
- ii. The Chapter 26 evaluation panel needs 3-6 Board members. Board members should email the Chair if they are interested.

e. Board and Committee Preparation Update

- i. The Board recommends that the proposed timeframes and deadlines for meeting agenda items and materials be used by all of the Board's Committees in addition to the Board, to ensure one, streamlined process.

7. New Business

a. EMS ConnectME Program Update

- i. Given by EMS ConnectME Program Coordinator Anna Massefski.
- ii. EMS ConnectME is an academic opportunity for Mainers to learn about the field of EMS, connect with local healthcare and public safety professionals, and serve their communities.
- iii. The program has been implemented at 3 agencies across Maine and enrolled 25 Learners.
 1. Two of these Learners have since been hired by their agency.
 2. One of these Learners received media attention by becoming the State's first Level 2 Learner.
 3. The program on North Haven Island also received media attention for doing a community CPR and First-Aid event.
- iv. The program is graduating from its initial implementation phase, and seeking additional services interested in starting up a local program.
 1. The program is fully scalable and customizable, allowing agencies to share their unique local brand of EMS with their Learners and communities.
- v. If you are interested in starting or joining EMS ConnectME, reach out to Anna Massefski at anna.massefski@maine.gov, or (207) 248-9505.

b. Data Use Agreement for Syndromic Surveillance, with Maine CDC

- i. The Board's data use agreement with Maine CDC expires December 31st, 2024. A new agreement is proposed to continue this relationship.
- ii. The Board's legal counsel advised some amendments to the agreement that specify the Board's authority, clarify the authorized data, and provide guidance on handling of FOAA requests.

MOTION: To approve the agreement with amendments as proposed by the AAG. (Turcotte, seconded by Cyr)

VOTE:

In Favor: Allen, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Langerman, Lewis, Libby, Ontengco, Turcotte, Whytock

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

MOTION CARRIES

- c. Glenburn Fire Department New Transport License
 - i. Glenburn Fire Department is seeking licensure to supplement the response of their existing transporting agency, Northern Light Health, by gaining licensure from the Board to transport patients when that service's response is delayed or unavailable.
 - ii. The Board discussed a potential need for amending the applicable Rule to prevent it being prohibitive when communities step up to supplement EMS services.
 - iii. Licensing Agent Adams advised the Board that if the license is approved, and later Glenburn Fire Department then seeks to replace their transporting service, they would not need to reapply for licensure. She advised that if one of the services were to drop the 9-1-1 Primary Service Area from their License, that service would need to apply to change their licensure factors.

MOTION: To approve the license application and find that Board Rules Chapter 3 §4.2 Factors A-F as noted in the Staff Memo have been met to approve Glenburn Fire Department's transporting license. (Libby, seconded by Gerrish)

VOTE:

In Favor: Allen, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Langerman, Lewis, Libby, Ontengo, Turcotte, Whytock, Gerrish.

Opposed: None

Abstained/Rescued: None

MOTION CARRIES

- d. EMD System Update
 - i. Emergency Medical Dispatch Program Manager Adams provided an update to the Board:
 - 1. EMD Protocol 41: First Party Caller in Crisis, is being implemented statewide with Licensed EMD centers. Training is ongoing.
 - 2. As of the date of this meeting, there have been no calls transferred back to the 9-1-1 line from the Maine Crisis Line (9-8-8), after having been sent from the 9-1-1 line to the Maine Crisis Line (9-8-8).

8. Other

- a. Next meeting – to avoid any conflict with New Years, the Board has moved their January meeting to Wednesday, January 8th, beginning at 9am.
 - i. This meeting will begin with an adjudicatory hearing.

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b. Hearing scheduled for March 5th, 2025, immediately preceding the Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 AM. (Motion by Cyr, Seconded by Libby, Unanimous)