



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

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



MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

WIL O'NEAL
DIRECTOR

INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 13:00-15:00

45 Commerce Dr. Chamberlain Conference Room, Augusta, ME 04333

ZOOM: <https://maine-ems-gov.zoom.us/j/91542570561>

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,91542570561# US

MINUTES

Call to Order at 13:04 by Chairperson Turcotte

"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 committee should strive to promote the core values of excellence, support, collaboration, and integrity. In serving on this committee, we commit to serve the respective providers, communities, and residents of the jurisdictions that we represent."

Attendance:

- Members: Judy Gerrish, Laura Downing, Andrew Turcotte, Amy Drinkwater, Brent Libby
- Staff: Jason Cooney, Melissa Adams, AAG Samantha Andrews
- Stakeholders and Guests: Jennifer Wakefield, David Ireland, Dustin Carroll, Jonathan Vacanti, Phil MacCallum, Amanda McPherson

Public Comment

Modifications to the Agenda: Melissa Adams requested to add 25-904 Sentinel Event Report to the end of the investigation items; a memo was provided to the committee members for review.

Meeting Minutes: February 25, 2025

MOTION to approve the meeting minutes. (Libby, Drinkwater)

Yes: Gerrish, Libby, Drinkwater, Turcotte

No: None

Abstain: Downing

PASSED

Investigations

1. Case 24-878 (Melissa) Informal Conference

Summary: The licensee has applied to renew their EMT license, disclosing a deferred disposition for OUI with terms that include education and an assessment for counseling. The applicant has a

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history of OUI convictions. The committee previously tabled this case to invite the licensee to participate in an Informal Conference.

The licensee is present.

Disclosure: Libby advised he had previously worked with the licensee, but it was many years ago. He denies conflict and agrees he can be impartial.

MOTION to enter an executive session pursuant to Title 1 MRS §405.6.F. for the purpose of discussing information contained in records held confidential under 32 MRS §91-B. (Gerrish, Downing)

Yes: Gerrish, Downing, Drinkwater, Libby, Turcotte

No: None

Abstain: None

PASSED

Entered executive session at 13:10

Returned to public session at 13:38

Drinkwater left the meeting during the executive session.

MOTION to issue the license with a letter of guidance recommending continued counseling and AA attendance, and a reminder of the duty to report any new criminal conviction to the Board within ten (10) days, to be kept on file for three (3) license cycles. (Libby, Gerrish)

Yes: Gerrish, Downing, Libby, Turcotte

No: None

Abstain: None

PASSED

2. Case 24-346 (Jason) Informal Conference

Summary: It is alleged that the licensee, who was the EMS clinician primarily responsible for patient care, caused a physical or emotional injury to a patient as the result of deviating from the applicable standard of care, on one (1) occasion. The committee previously tabled this case to invite the licensee to participate in an Informal Conference.

The licensee is present.

MOTION to enter an executive session pursuant to Title 1 MRS §405.6.F. for the purpose of discussing information contained in records held confidential under 32 MRS §91-B. (Libby, Downing)

Yes: Gerrish, Downing, Libby, Turcotte

No: None

Abstain: None

PASSED

Entered executive session at 13:50

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Exited executive session at 14:30
Drinkwater returned at this time.

MOTION to recommend the Board resolve the complaint by offering a consent agreement with a warning citing a violation of 32 MRS §90-A.5.F. Violation of any reasonable standard of professional behavior, conduct, or practice that has been established in the practice for which the licensee is licensed, specifically the practice regulated by the Maine EMS Rules, Chapter 5 §4.A., which states A licensee may perform emergency medical treatment when the licensee practices in accordance with Maine EMS protocol. (Libby, Turcotte)

Yes: Gerrish, Downing, Libby, Turcotte

No: None

Abstain: Drinkwater

PASSED

3. Vacanti Application Review

Summary: An applicant for a reciprocal license at the EMT level disclosed several criminal convictions between 2011 and 2019.

Turcotte recused himself. Libby will run the meeting in his absence.

MOTION to issue the license with a letter of guidance reinforcing self-care and the duty to report any new criminal conviction to the Board within ten (10) days; to be kept on file for three (3) license cycles. (Libby, Downing)

Yes: Gerrish, Downing, Drinkwater, Libby

No: None

Abstain: None

PASSED

4. 25-904 Sentinel Event Report

Summary: A ground ambulance service utilized a non-transporting service's licensed EMS vehicle to continue transporting a critical patient to the hospital after the ambulance that was transporting the patient was disabled in a crash. The EMS vehicle was following the ambulance and was immediately available. Mutual aid was at least 40 minutes away without considering the weather a factor. The same crew continued to care for the patient. The incident was documented transparently by both agencies, and the ground ambulance service did not bill the call.

MOTION to direct staff to file this memo as "staff review." (Libby, Drinkwater)

Yes: Gerrish, Libby, Downing, Drinkwater, Turcotte

No: None

Abstain: None

PASSED

Old Business - None

New Business –

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Drinkwater and Libby left the meeting

The committee discussed concerns regarding the service related to case #24-346, including team dynamics and adherence to protocols.

MOTION to table this discussion and direct staff to identify ePCRs in MEFIRS with medication administration of both midazolam and fentanyl across the entire Maine EMS system. (Turcotte, Gerrish)

Yes: Gerrish, Downing, Turcotte

No: None

Abstain: None

PASSED

Next meeting: April 22, 2025, 13:00

Adjourned at 15:13

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