



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

Maine Emergency Medical Services Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 9:30 AM

Champlain Conference Room

Draft 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."

Attendance:

Board:

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 (virtual)		
Brent Libby	X		
Julie Ontengco	X (virtual)		
Matthew Sholl	X		
Steve Smith	PENDING REAPPOINTMENT		
Andy Turcotte	X (virtual)		
Christopher Whytock	X		
Kate Zimmerman	X		

Staff:

- In person: Wil O'Neal (Director), Melissa Adams, Victoria Clyde, Jason Cooney, John DeArmond, Soliana Goldrich, Robert Glaspy, Anna Massefski, Marc Minkler, Samantha Andrews (Assistant Attorney General)
- Virtual: Darren Davis, Amber McCormick, Jason Oko

● **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

Stakeholders & Guests:

- In person: None
- Virtual: Shawn Cordwell, “damona”, “Elizabeth”, Paul Froman, John Hoak, David Ireland, Joe Kellner, Aiden Koplovsky, Joanne Lebrun, “robertsa”, Donald Sheets, Maureen Sturtevant, Benjamin Wallace Jr., Eric Wellman

Agenda Items:

1. Introductions

2. Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Chair Drinkwater and Director Libby recuse themselves from Case 23-310; Director Turcotte will take the lead on that agenda item (5.b.).

3. Modifications to the Agenda

None.

4. Public Comments

None.

5. Investigations

a. Committee Meeting Minutes – May 27, 2025

MOTION: To accept the Investigations Committee meeting minutes as written.
(Libby, seconded by Drinkwater)

VOTE:

In Favor: Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Libby, Turcotte

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

MOTION CARRIES

b. Case 23-310

- i. Summary: There are three separate allegations for this case: That the licensee engaged in unprofessional conduct and operated outside of their scope of practice on one (1) incident; that for up to three (3) incidents separate from the above, the licensee failed to complete a patient care report; and that the licensee failed to notify the Board in writing of a change in address. This licensee has a pending license upgrade application for consideration in this case.
- ii. The Committee recommends the Board preliminarily deny the application to upgrade to AEMT and offer a consent agreement to resolve the complaint, citing violations of 32 MRS §90-A(5)(F): Chap. 11 §1(14) and the NAEMT’s Code of Ethics, specifically the parts about working cooperatively and demonstrating

responsibility for individual professional actions and judgment, (30) and (49); 32 MRS §90-A(5)(H): 32 MRS §90-C(1), Chap. 5 §4, Chap. 22 §3(2). The consent agreement will include a reprimand and probation for a period of six (6) months during which time, 100% of all the licensee's patient care reports will be reviewed for completion, timeliness, and that the licensee provided care within their scope of practice. The QA reviewer shall preferably be a third party, not affiliated with any service the licensee works for; they must be pre-approved by Maine EMS Staff, and they must submit a monthly compliance report to Maine EMS Staff. The licensee is responsible for any costs associated with meeting the terms of the consent agreement.

MOTION: To accept the Committees recommendation on Case 23-310.
(Cyr, seconded by Whytock)

VOTE:

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

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: Drinkwater (Recused), Libby (Recused)

MOTION CARRIES

c. Case 25-892

- i. Summary: It is alleged that the licensee engaged in unprofessional conduct by disclosing confidential information to an individual not permitted to receive that information, and that disclosure resulted in that information being posted to social media.
- ii. The Committee recommends the Board suspend the licensee's license for thirty (30) days, citing violation of 32 MRS §90-A(5)(F): Chap. 11 §1(5), (13): 25 MRS §2929, and (14): NAEMT Code of Ethics, specifically the use of social media, respect and hold in confidence all information of a confidential nature, and refusing participation in unethical procedures.

MOTION: To amend the Committees recommendation on Case 25-892 to issue a notice of preliminary action regarding the licensee's I/C license and provider license that imposes a 30-day suspension on both licenses.

(Libby, seconded by Drinkwater)

VOTE:

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

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

MOTION CARRIES

6. Old Business

a. Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2025

MOTION: To approve the meeting minutes as presented.

(Turcotte, seconded by Langerman)

VOTE:

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

Opposed:

Abstained/Recused: Allen (Abstain), Turcotte (Abstain)

MOTION CARRIES

b. Maine EMS Director's Update

Given by Maine EMS Director Wil O'Neal.

- i. Team Recognition—Director O'Neal gives kudos to Melissa Adams, Ashley Moody, and Drs. Sholl and Zimmerman for being recognized as hometown heroes at a Portland Sea Dogs event, as well as to Erin Ludwig, Jason Oko, Chair Drinkwater, and Drs. Sholl and Zimmerman for their support around EMS awards.
- ii. The EMS Staff Update has been brought back and will be included in the Board's materials for each meeting moving forward.
- iii. Several EMS staff attended the conference hosted in May by the National Association of State EMS Officials, where they connected with their peers in EMS systems across the US on topics such as regionalization, program funding, and the past, present, and future of EMS as a whole.

c. Medical Directors' Update

Given by Associate State Medical Director Kate Zimmerman and State Medical Director Matthew Sholl.

- i. Protocol Review Update—Protocol review has been mostly completed, with just a few odds and ends to wrap up in the June MDPB meeting, including minor updates to the operational canine protocols. The goal is to have white papers done by early July, and additional educational content ready for dissemination by September 1, 2025.
- ii. Dr. Zimmerman will be stepping down as the Associate State Medical Director as of June 30, 2025. Dr. Sholl expresses deep gratitude to Dr. Zimmerman for her many years of service to Maine EMS and the MDPB. Drs. Sholl and Zimmerman have been working with Director O'Neal to come up with a process for filling the Associate State Medical Director position.

d. Community Paramedicine Grant Funding Update

Given by Maine EMS Director Wil O'Neal.

- i. A preliminary injunction was recently granted in the multi-state litigation regarding the terminated CDC and OBH grants. Maine EMS has been given the green light to start spending down these grant dollars again, which means that the office can move forward with contracts for the conditional awardees

resulting from the Healthcare Disparities Funding for Community Paramedicine Request for Applications (RFA#202412213).

e. Transfer and Transport Committee Update

Given by Board Member Bill Cyr.

- i. The first meeting should happen in mid-June, with initial discussions centered around setting the meeting schedule going forward and chairing the Committee.
- ii. Maine EMS staff member Rob Glaspy will serve as the liaison for the Committee.

7. New Business

a. Education Committee Updates, Including Out-of-State Training Centers

- i. Since Maine EMS does not have the ability to regulate those who do not work in Maine, there is already a model in place where out-of-state training centers must have an in-state affiliate in order to provide licensure training. The Maine EMS office continues to work with applicants to affiliate appropriately in Maine to do training from out-of-state.
- ii. Maine EMS Education, Training, and Testing Coordinator, John DeArmond, has met with five agencies since January. Those agencies have all expressed interest in submitting training center applications.
- iii. Four of five Paramedic programs are under CoA review this year.
- iv. The rollout for mandated accreditation for A-EMT will happen in the next two years, according to CoA. Maine EMS is working with training centers to get ahead of the rollout.

b. Maine EMS Program Updates

- i. Stabilization & Sustainability Grant Program—The Stabilization grant is closing; 145 of 184 agencies have been closed out. 239 agencies applied for Sustainability funding; eight of those are training centers, and the remaining are transporting and non-transporting agencies. The contracts for Program Manager Victoria Clyde and Grant Specialist Amber McCormick are closing, but they have been newly contracted through a temp agency to continue on in their roles.
- ii. The Board will be receiving a newsletter-style update from EMS staff prior to each Board meeting going forward.

c. Regional Transition Update

- i. The regional transition is taking longer than anticipated. However, managers have now been hired for regions one, two, and three, and the position for the region four manager will be reposted. Representatives from region one have already met, and a survey will be going out to regions two and three.

d. Legislative Updates

- i. There is a bill that would establish the EMS Licensing Board. Maine EMS would look to add a Licensing Agent position with the vision that that agent would be able to visit all 26 centers annually and report back to ESCB and work with the new Licensing Board. This bill is now going through a language review.

- ii. The second department bill from Maine EMS, which formalized the EMS Education Standard, was the first bill to make it through the legislature this year.
 - iii. Additionally, there is a bill that would establish a Maine EMS Commission, which could potentially be redundant to what's already in place. This contentious bill passed in committee as a divided vote (six in favor, four against) and is now in language review.
 - iv. The Maine EMS office currently has two resolutions: 1) to report out on the Stabilization & Sustainability Grant Program by January 1, 2026; and 2) to examine the pathways for military medical personnel to obtain licensure in Maine.
- e. Discussion on Committee to Nominate Candidates for the Next Chairperson-Elect
 - i. Board members Judy Gerrish, Brian Langerman, and Chris Whytock volunteer to form a Committee to nominate candidates for the next Chairperson-Elect for a two-year term starting as of the Board's September 2025 meeting. Chair Drinkwater appoints Gerrish, Langerman, and Whytock to serve as the Committee.
- 8. Other
 - a. Next Meeting—Wednesday, August 6, 2025, 9:30 AM, In-Person

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 AM.