



JANET T. MILLS
 GOVERNOR

MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
 COMMISSIONER

WIL O'NEAL
 DIRECTOR

Maine Emergency Medical Services Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 1, 2025, 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.”

Attendance:

Board:

Board Member	In Attendance	Late Arrival (if applicable)	Early Departure (if applicable)
Nate Allen	X (Virtual)		
Bill Cyr	X		
Amy Drinkwater	X		
Judy Gerrish	X		
Brian Langerman	X		
Jack Lewis	X		
Brent Libby	–		
Julie Ontengco	X (Virtual)		
Laura Sandred	–		
Matthew Sholl	X		
Andy Turcotte	X		
Christopher Whytock	X (Virtual)		

Staff:

- In person: Wil O’Neal (Director), Jason Cooney, John DeArmond, Soliana Harnish, Erin Ludwig, Anna Masefski, Marc Minkler, Samantha Andrews (Assistant Attorney General)
- Virtual: Darren Davis, Robert Glaspy, Jason Oko

Stakeholders & Guests:

- In person: None
- Virtual: Steve Almquist, Genice Billings, Sean Brackett, Kevin Curry, Sean Donaghue, Everett Flannery, Paul Froman, Chip Getchell, David Ireland, Joe Kellner, Taylor Klein,

● **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

Joanne Lebrun, Aaron Lee, Ryan Maker, Sam Nepple, Christopher Paré, Sean Scrooc, Mike Senecal, Don Sheets, Stephen Smith, Branden Walker

Agenda Items:

1. Introductions
2. Conflict of Interest Disclosures
None.
3. Modifications to the Agenda
None.
4. Public Comments
None.
5. Maine EMS Licensing Board Update
Given by Maine EMS Director O'Neal.

The Physician seat is still open; Director O'Neal asks the Board to consider closing the application period for the position as there has already been a lot of interest.

6. Old Business
 - a. Meeting Minutes
 - i. September 3, 2025

MOTION: To accept the meeting minutes as presented.
(Drinkwater, seconded by Gerrish)

VOTE:

In Favor: Allen, Cyr, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Ontengco, Turcotte, Whytock

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: Langerman (Abstain)

MOTION CARRIES

- ii. September 23, 2025 (off cycle)

MOTION: To accept the meeting minutes as presented.
(Drinkwater, seconded by Whytock)

VOTE:

In Favor: Allen, Cyr, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Ontengco, Turcotte, Whytock

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: Langerman (Abstain)

MOTION CARRIES

b. Maine EMS Director's Update

Given by Maine EMS Director Wil O'Neal.

- i. There has been a declared Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo; of the 57 reported patients, 35 have died. Because the outbreak is in a rural area that lacks significant transportation infrastructure, we are hopeful that it stays contained. Maine EMS is working alongside Dr. Scholl, Dr. Baum, and the CDC, among others, on a high-consequence infectious disease transport network.
- ii. The MEMSEd platform upgrade is on track.
- iii. We are looking at opportunities to enhance the Protocol app and potentially go back out to RFP.
- iv. There was a federal government shutdown overnight; we are awaiting guidance from the Governor's office, but we should be able to continue business as normal. One employee is federally funded, but we have pulled enough funds forward to support that position in the short-term.

c. Medical Directors' Update

Given by State Medical Director Matthew Sholl.

- i. The updated Protocols will be rolling out soon. So far, two informational webinars have been hosted, with positive feedback received. Dr. Sholl gives thanks to Maine EMS Staff members John DeArmond, Marc Minkler, and Jason Oko, as well as Dr. Collamore for their efforts. The goal has been to make the Protocols app as functional as possible by maintaining our relationship with the current developer, but other options for expanding capabilities are being explored. The Protocol review process will begin again in 2027.
- ii. The new MEMSEd platform is expected to be up and running soon.
- iii. Pilot Project Updates:
 1. Sanford—This project is moving along; the numbers are small, but there have been successes.
 2. Delta—There are a lot of lessons MDPB is learning through this project, which will be shared with Transfer and Transport Committee as they relate to what our overarching multi-layered inter-facility transport system looks like.

7. New Business

a. Maine EMS Rules Chapter 19: Community Paramedicine Waiver

- i. Maine EMS Staff request that specific sections of the Board's Rules in Chapter 19, §2.1.A. and of §2.1.A(1), which state "and who actively practiced community paramedicine prior to July 1, 2024," currently limiting conditional licensure to any person licensed in Maine to provide emergency medical treatment and who actively practiced community paramedicine prior to July 1, 2024. It is requested that the waiver expire on November 30, 2026, or on the date a Rules change for Chapter 19 becomes effective in the event that occurs before August 30, 2026.

● **Excellence** ●

PHONE: (207) 626-3860

● **Support** ●

TTY: (207) 287-3659

● **Collaboration** ●

● **Integrity** ●

FAX: (207) 287-6251

The Board considered the list of questions from Maine EMS Rules, Chapter 13, §2 when determining whether to waive the rule. The consideration factors are as follows:

1. Whether the person or organization seeking the waiver took reasonable steps to ascertain the rule and comply with it:
 - a. **Board Response:** Yes
And does this weigh in favor of granting the waiver?
 - b. **Board Response:** Yes
2. Whether the person or organization seeking the waiver was given inaccurate information by an agent or employee of the State EMS program:
 - a. **Board Response:** No
And does this weigh in favor of granting the waiver?
 - b. **Board Response:** Yes
3. Whether the person or organization seeking the waiver, or any other individual or group, would be significantly injured or harmed if the rule were not waived:
 - a. **Board Response:** Yes
And does this weigh in favor of granting the waiver?
 - b. **Board Response:** Yes
4. Whether waiver of the rule in the particular case would pose a health or safety risk to the public at large or a particular individual or community:
 - a. **Board Response:** No
And does this weigh in favor of granting the waiver?
 - b. **Board Response:** Yes
5. Whether waiver of the rule in the particular case would establish a precedent that would unduly hinder the Board or Office of EMS in its administration of Maine's EMS System:
 - a. **Board Response:** No
And does this weigh in favor of granting the waiver?
 - b. **Board Response:** Yes

MOTION: To waive the Board's Rules in Chapter 19, §2.1.A. and §2.1.A(1), which state "and who actively practiced community paramedicine prior to July 1, 2024," currently limiting conditional licensure to any person licensed in Maine to provide emergency medical treatment and who actively practiced community paramedicine prior to July 1, 2024. The waiver will expire on November 30, 2026, or on the date a Rules change for Chapter 19 becomes effective in the event that occurs before August 30, 2026.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

MOTION CARRIES

- c. Authorization of HealthInfoNet (HIN) Exchange for Community Health Module Reports
 - i. HealthInfoNet (HIN) has completed its review of Maine EMS's request to share Community Paramedicine (CP) data through the Health Information Exchange.

Under the current agreement, only 911 reports are authorized for transmission and access. With the approval of the Maine EMS Board, as well as the Medical Direction and Practices Board (which did approve it at their last meeting), HIN would be able to include Community Paramedicine reports in the exchange. This expansion would allow healthcare providers across the state to access timely and relevant Community Paramedicine documentation to support care coordination and patient outcomes.

MOTION: To include Community Paramedicine data into the HealthInfoNet system. (Turcotte, seconded by Drinkwater)

VOTE:

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

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

MOTION CARRIES

- d. Rules for Consideration of Publication for Public Comment | Chapters 11, 12, and 14
 - i. Chapter 11: Standards and Procedures—The Board considers its repeal and replacement, to go out for public comment.
 - ii. Chapter 12: Procedures for Licensing Actions—The Board considers its repeal and replacement, to go out for public comment.
 - iii. Chapter 14: Sexual Misconduct—The Board considers its repeal as its contents has been folded into the revised Chapter 11, to go out for public comment.

MOTION: To move Chapters 11, 12, and 14 out for public comment. (Langerman, seconded by Gerrish)

VOTE:

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

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

MOTION CARRIES

- e. Presentation of Ambulance Data
Presented by Maine EMS Director Wil O’Neal.
 - i. A copy of the presentation can be found here: [Ambulance Data Presentation](#)
- f. Issues with Out-of-State Training Center
 - i. In order for an out-of-state training center to offer curriculum to students in Maine, who need to complete clinical hours before they can apply for Maine licensure, that training center needs to be affiliated with a training center in Maine. Maine EMS was made aware of a situation where a student in Maine worked with a training center in Rhode Island and then tried to get clinical hours

at a site in Maine unaffiliated with the training center. That training center was not in compliance.

- ii. Director O'Neal asks to work with Board to draft a bulletin to offer guidance/make stakeholders aware of the situation.

MOTION: To direct Maine EMS staff to draft and disseminate an operational bulletin to service leaders and training centers regarding rules concerning out-of-state training centers.

(Turcotte, seconded by Langerman)

VOTE:

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

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

MOTION CARRIES

8. Other

- a. Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 5, 2025, 9:30 AM, In-Person

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.

(Motion entertained by Chair Cyr, so moved by Turcotte; unanimously in favor)