



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

J. SAM HURLEY

DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2021
ZOOM

“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 Members Present: Nate Allen, Tim Beals, Brad Chicoine, Joe Conley, Heidi Cote, Amy Drinkwater, Judy Gerrish, Joe Kellner, Rich Kindelan, Brent Libby, John Martel, Julie Ontengco, Dennis Russell, Scott Susi Ex: Officio: Dr. Kate Zimmerman

Staff Present: Sam Hurley, Melissa Adams, Griffin Bourassa, Marc Minkler, Jason Oko, Darren Davis, Jessica Ricciardelli, A.A.G. Katie Johnson

Stakeholders: Kenneth Smith, Jesse Thompson, Chase Labbe, Christopher Pare, Jason Cooney, Chip Getchell, Sally Taylor, Jay Bradshaw, Alan Henschke, David Garriepy, Phil MacCallum, Benjy Lowry, Joanne Lebrun, John Hoak, Benjamin Zetterman, Steve Sloan, Cathy Gosselin, Eric Wellman, Dayna Emerson, Rick Petrie, Sally Taylor, John Powers, Bailey Bernier, Peter Somerville, Chris Connor, Lance Zeli, Chris Montera

CALL TO ORDER 9:30

1. Introductions

2. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest

None

3. Modifications to the Agenda

Mr. Kindelan would like to request the Board to move up the Chair-Elect run off to after the public comment agenda item.

Chairman Libby requests adding a recap of chapter 20 rule and what the Board would like to do with that emergency rule. He requests this addition to be discussed under the Old Business agenda item.

4. Public Comments

None

5. Run-Off election for Chair Elect

The Board anonymously voted for the Chair Elect via a zoom poll. The nominees are Amy Drinkwater and Rich Kindelan.

The vote resulted in a 7 to 7 tie at which time Rich Kindelan conceded allowing Amy Drinkwater to become the new Chair-Elect.

MOTION: To elect Amy Drinkwater as Chair-Elect.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by Kindelan

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco, Russell, Susi

No: 0

6. Meeting Minutes

a. August 4, 2021

MOTION: To accept the minutes from the July 7, 2021 meeting.

Made by: Russell Seconded by: Conley

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Martel, Ontengco, Russell, Susi

No: 0

7. Director's Report

a. Legislative Proposals Director Hurley

Legislation has been submitted to the Governor's office for review. When we receive approval, the Office will send out the draft language.

The following is legislation that has been submitted:

An Act to Expand Community Paramedicine Enrollment

An Act to Enable Research to be Conducted by Maine EMS

An Act to Clarify an Act Concerning the Reporting of Healthcare Information and Records to the Emergency Medical Services Board

An Act Concerning the Dispensation of Medications by Emergency Medical Service Providers

The Office is currently working through the contracting process to expand our VR program by adding 20 new headsets to our existing three. We will be expanding the program to include adult training. The cases will involve medical and trauma related calls. We will also be working with training centers to provide them with the tools to build out their own scenarios.

We are also working through the contracting process with the Muskie School of Public Health to overhaul our MEMSed system.

The Office is working collaboratively with OBH to procure Naloxone kits. Every ambulance in the state will be issued two doses of the naloxone nasal spray. Agencies will also have additional doses to keep as their leave behind supply for patients that refuse to be transported to the hospital.

The MOU has gone through regarding hiring two new staff members. We hope to begin the hiring process by the 9th.

Committee Updates

Education Committee

Chris Azevedo

The Education Committee is continuing to work on protocol education. We are will be posting it on MEMSEd as well as scheduling a series of live updates. The Committee is also continuing work on training center standards.

Community Paramedicine Committee

Jason Oko

The CP Committee met last month and nominated Benjy Lowry as their new Chairperson. We have decided as a group that we would like to nail down the data component of Community Paramedicine. We are anticipating getting the CP coordinator hired in the Office to help with the development of the program and building out the reporting system.

EMS-C

Sam Hurley

The HRSA report for year three has been submitted. WE were under budget by \$12,694. This among will likely be used as carryover and we will use it to continue the VR program.

Data Committee

Darren Davis

The RFI that the Committee put out was well received. We have returns from five different vendors. The Committee continues to hold presentations with the vendors. After the presentations are finished, we will send out the RFP.

The Data Committee has new members: Dave Saquet, DO as the MDPB Representative, Julie Ontengco, DNP as the Hospital Representative, Alexander Rezk as the University Representative, Melinda Fairbrother-Dyer as the EMD Representative, Andrea McGraw, and Jesse Thompson as At Large Representatives.

Rules Committee

Griffin Bourassa

The Rules Committee is meeting Friday. Chapter 20 regarding the vaccination mandate is the first item on the agenda to be discussed.

Labor Committee

Griffin Bourassa

The Labor Committee has not had enough members at the last two meetings to have a quorum. We have decided to change the frequency of the meetings to every three weeks.

Steve Smith, Labor Committee Chair, requested permission from the Board to add three ad hoc members to the group in an effort to ensure a quorum for future meetings.

*MOTION: To add three ad hoc members to the Data Committee
Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Russell
Roll Call Vote (Yes): Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Drinkwater,
Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco,
Russell, Smith, Susi
No: 0*

EMD Committee
Melissa Adams

The EMD Committee has not met since the previous Board Meeting.

Ms. Adams states that she continues to work with EMD center directors to try to understand how the emergency rule impacts them. Additionally, EMD centers are struggling with staffing which has had an impact on their ability to perform QA so I'm working to provide support for them.

8. Medical Director report

a. MDPB Dr. Zimmerman

The MDPB has released the final version of the protocols and there has been a lot of time spent in the software program making edits and corrections.

Within the protocols, we have added a series of annexes, the operational canine protocols, which were approved at the last MDPB meeting, will go in there as well as PIFT protocols and any other specialized future protocols.

The MDPB has put together FAQ's regarding the vaccines which will be posted so people can refer to it if or when they have questions.

The Jackman Pilot Project Committee work has been concluded, and we will begin discussing it at the MDPB level this month

9. Investigations

*MOTION: To accept Investigations Committee Minutes from the August 26, meeting.
Made by Conley; Seconded by: Beals
Roll Call Vote (Yes): Beals, Conley, Drinkwater, Kellner
Abstain: Gerrish
No: 0*

Case Summary 21-192: A new applicant for an EMT license disclosed convictions for theft from 2006.

The Committee recommends resolving case 21-192 by issuing the license.

MOTION: To accept the Committee's recommendation.

Made by: Russell ; Seconded by: Ontengco

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco, Russell, Smith, Susi
No: 0

Case Summary 21-194: A licensee submitted an upgrade application for an AEMT license disclosing an OUI conviction from 2018.

The Committee recommends issuing the license upgrade along with a letter of guidance reminding the licensee of their duty to report certain information to the Board; the letter is to be kept on file for four years.

MOTION: To accept the Committee's recommendation.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Smith

Roll Call Vote: Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco, Russell, Smith, Susi
No: 0

Ms. Adams states that during the Committee meeting they addressed nomination for a chairperson, however, there was no quorum for the final vote. She is requesting that the Investigations Committee vote. It was recommended by the Committee that Tim Beals continue in the role as Chairperson.

MOTION: To make Tim Beals the chair of the Investigations Committee.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Gerrish

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Beals, Conley, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner

10. Old Business

a. Run-Off Voting- Chair Elect

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

11. New Business

a. Smith, Paige Waiver Request

Amy Drinkwater and Dennis Russell recuse themselves

Ms. Smith's father presents the waiver request to the Board

Chair Libby presents the waiver questions:

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

MOTION: To waive Chapter 5 section 681 of Maine EMS rules.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Cote

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Conley, Cote, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco, Smith, Susi

No: 0

Recused: Drinkwater, Russell

b. Response Level Policy Review

MOTION: To table this agenda item until the October meeting.

Made by: Beals; Seconded by: Russell

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Conley, Cote, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco, Russell, Smith, Susi

No: 0

c. Executive Session: Strategic Planning RFP

MOTION: To enter executive session under MRS Title 1 section 405-6(d) to review the RFP that will go out for strategic planning.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by Ontengco

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Conley, Cote, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco, Russell, Smith, Susi

No

Enter executive session 11:25

MOTION: To exit executive session.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Ontengco

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Conley, Cote, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco, Russell, Smith, Susi

No: 0

Exit executive session 11:40

MOTION: To table RFP discussion.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Kindelan

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Conley, Cote, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco, Russell, Smith, Susi

No: 0

12. Other

a. Items for next meeting agenda

- i. RFP Discussion
- ii. Rules Committee Report
- iii. Response Level Issue
- iv. Social Media Policy

a. Next meeting date

October 6, 2021 @ 9:30 AM

13. Adjourn 11:44

MOTION: To adjourn

Made by: Russell ; Seconded by: Gerrish 11:46