



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  
DECEMBER 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.”

Chair Libby thanks Scott Susi, Brad Chicoine and Julie Ontengco for their service and time spent on the Maine EMS Board.

Board Members Present: Nate Allen, Tim Beals, Joe Conley, Bill Cyr, Katelyn Damon, - Rosamund Davis, Laura Downing, Amy Drinkwater (Chair-Elect) , Judy Gerrish, Brandon Giberson, Joe Kellner, Rich Kindelan, Brent Libby (Chair), John Martel, Steve Smith, Tiffany Tscherne, Andrew Turcotte, Chris Whytock Ex. Officio: Matt Sholl M.D., Kate Zimmerman D.O.

Staff Present: Director Sam Hurley, Melissa Adams, Marc Minkler, Jason Oko, Darren Davis, Jessica Ricciardelli, A.A.G. Ron Guay

Stakeholders: Steve Almquist, Lisa Bennett, Jay Bradshaw, John Brennan, Joe Bricchetto, Bob Brown, Mike Choat, Dwight Corning, Sean Donahue, Dayna Emerson, Chip Getchell, John Hoak, Paul Hewey, Aiden Koplovsky, Chase Labbe, James Lapolla, Steven Leach, Joanne Lebrun, Benjy Lowry, Dan Masselli, Jim McDonnell, Chris Montera, Ed Morsehead, Christopher Pare, Rick Petrie, Gerard Pinot, Matthew Quinn, Dennis Russell, R. Silva, Sally Taylor, Jesse Thompson, Benjamin Wallace, Eric Wellman, Lance Zeli,

Call to Order 9:30

1. Introductions
2. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest
3. None
4. Modifications to the Agenda

Chair Libby states that the Board needs to approve the minutes from the October 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting

Chair Libby expresses condolences on behalf of the Board regarding the passing of Director Hurley's father

5. Confirmation vote on Board Chair

Chair Libby's position on the Board has shifted from Municipal Fire Chief's Representative to Maine Fire Chiefs Association Representative.

*MOTION: To keep Brent Libby in the Chair position for the remainder of his term.*

*Made by: Drinkwater, Seconded by: Smith*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Conley, Cyr, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock*

*No: 0*

**MOTION CARRIES**

6. Public Comments

Deputy Gerard Pineau asks about the resolution that was made last month regarding the work shortage. Chair Libby states that the Labor Committee will update the Board on this subject under their agenda item in old business.

7. Minutes

*MOTION: To remove the minutes from the table for reconsideration.*

*Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Drinkwater*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Conley, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Smith*

*No: 0*

*Abstain: Damon, Davis, Giberson, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock*

**MOTION CARRIES**

- a. October 6, 2021 Minutes

*MOTION: To approve the Minutes from the October 6, 2021 Board meeting as submitted.*

*Made by: Smith, Seconded by: Beals*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Conley, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne*

*No: 0*

*Abstain: Damon, Davis, Giberson, Turcotte, Whytock*

***MOTION CARRIES***

b. November 3, 2021

*MOTION: To approve the minutes from the November 3, 2021 Board meeting as amended.*

*Made by: Kellner, Seconded by: Conley*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Conley, Cyr, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan Libby, Martel, Smith, Turcotte*

*No: 0*

*Abstain: Damon, Davis, Giberson, Tscherne, Whytock*

***MOTION CARRIES***

8. Directors Report

Director Hurley

a. Legislative Proposals

Representative Talbot-Ross is working on a bill that would make EMS an essential service and there are some other bills, however, we have not received the language for them. . The legislature will reconvene in January, so we are expecting the language for the bills relatively soon.

The Office has posted positions for the Systems of Care Coordinator and the Community Paramedicine Coordinator. We will be scheduling interviews by the end of the week.

9. Medical Director Report

a. MDPB

Dr. Sholl

The 2021 Protocol updates went live today, we are working on answering any questions people have regarding the updates and we are working through some issues with the app developer.

MEDCU pilot project up and running and we are waiting to hear an official report from the Jackman pilot project.

We continue to work through the concept of physician-based response, we are modeling it after other state programs. Efforts around PIFT protocols and education continues.

#### 10. Investigations

*MOTION: To approve the minutes from the Investigations Committees November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

*Made by: Drinkwater; Seconded by: Gerrish*

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

*No: 0*

***MOTION CARRIES***

**Summary 21-191:** A licensee allegedly failed to appropriately assess and initiate treatment for a patient in cardiac arrest.

***The Committee recommends dismissing case 21-191 based on the information provided that the two agencies are working collaboratively to improve the licensee's clinical assessment and patient care skills.***

*MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committee's recommendation.*

*Made by: Giberson; Seconded by: Turcotte*

*Roll Call Vote: Allen, Beals, Conley, Damon, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte*

*No: 0*

*Abstain: Kindelan, Davis, Cyr, Whytock*

***MOTION CARRIES***

**Summary 21-195:** A licensed EMD service allowed an employee to perform EMD services without an active license. This case was tabled from the November 1, 2021 meeting to allow staff to seek additional information.

***The Committee recommends resolving case 21-195 by issuing a letter of guidance reminding the Center of their responsibility to use only licensed EMDs and stressing the importance of having mechanisms in place to track licensing expiration dates for their staff. This will remain on file for two licensing cycles.***

*MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committee's recommendation.*

*Made by: Smith; Seconded by: Drinkwater*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Conley, Damon, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte*

*No: 0*

*Abstain :Kindelan, Davis, Cyr, Whytock*

***MOTION CARRIES***

**Summary 21-196:** A licensee performed EMD services during a period in which they did not hold an active license.

***The Committee recommends resolving case 21-196 by issuing a letter of guidance reminding the licensee of their individual responsibility to maintain their EMD license and stressing the importance of monitoring correspondence intended to assist in this process. This will remain on file for two licensing cycles.***

*MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committee's recommendation.*

*Made by: Kellner; Seconded by:Beals*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes):Allen, Beals, Conley, Cyr, Damon, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte*

*No: 0*

*Abstain: Davis, Kindelan, Whytock*

***MOTION CARRIES***

## 11. Old Business

### a. Labor Committee Update

Tim Beals exits meeting 10:37 AM

Steve Smith presents

The Labor Committee has been meeting for eleven months. The Committee is currently working on gathering data and have partnered with the Muskie school on a research project. The school is currently surveying Maine EMS clinicians, students, and stakeholders to identify retention and recruitment issues.

The labor Committee has met twice since the last Board meeting and we have identified five action items that we are going to start moving on now.

1. Form a Blue-Ribbon legislative committee to supplement the strategic planning process.
2. Request supplemental reimbursement for ambulance services
3. Fund the development of a recruitment and retention campaign
4. Establish EMS in the Bureau of Labor's Workforce Development Committee

5. Form a subcommittee to begin developing the rules for a needs assessment as identified in LD2105

*MOTION: To endorse the list of items by the Labor Committee as the identified priorities. The Board also requests the Labor Committee to engage the Maine Fire Chiefs Association, Maine Ambulance Association, and Maine EMS Office Staff.*

*Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Martel*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Conley, Cyr, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Kindelan, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock*

*No: 0*

**MOTION CARRIES**

*MOTION: To form a subcommittee as required by LD1258, including 3 Board members and the other statutorily required positions.*

*Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Kindelan*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Conley, Cyr, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock*

*No: 0*

**MOTION CARRIES**

*MOTION: To request the Maine EMS Office to distribute the Board's Crisis Resolution to the Governor, the Legislature, and major media outlets in the State.*

*Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Martel*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Conley, Cyr, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock*

*No: 0*

**MOTION CARRIES**

b. EMS Regional Structure

Chair Libby requests feedback from RAC Committees regarding the potential consolidation of the regions.

Kellner suggests reviewing Regional Structure recommendations at the February meeting, so all new Board members have an opportunity to review the recommendations.

c. Update on EMT Portfolio

Chris Azevedo

The NREMT has planned a phased implementation in the Spring of 2022. Currently, SMCC has developed and shared their own psychomotor skills portfolio program at the EMT level with the Education and Exam Committees. This will involve a pilot process in conjunction with the exam process until all issues can be identified and worked through.

d. Skills Hours Waiver

*MOTION: To extend the skills hours waiver whereas the conditions have not changed, and the citations of the rule has been updated through September 30, 2022.*

*Made by: Tiffany; Seconded by Drinkwater*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Conley, Cyr, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Giberson, Gerrish, Kellner Kindelan, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock*

***MOTION CARRIES***

Rich Kindelan leaves 11:36

12. New Business

a. Resolution RE: EMS as Essential Service

*MOTION: To adopt the resolution as presented and modify the language of the vote results in the final paragraph.*

*Made by: Kellner, Seconded by: Turcotte*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Conley, Cyr, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock*

*No: 0*

***MOTION CARRIES***

b. Committee Assignments/Vacancies

Due to new Board appointments, there are vacancies on the following committees: TAC, EMS-C, Investigations, Rules, Data, and QI. Chair Libby will

be accepting letters of intent from board members wishing to serve on any of these committees. These will be presented for appointment at the January meeting.

*MOTION: To dissolve the LD 2105 Committee*

*Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Whytock*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Conley, Cyr, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock*

*No: 0*

***MOTION CARRIES***

*MOTION: To appoint Dr. John Martel, Andy Turcotte, and Joe Kellner to sit on the LD 2158 subcommittee.*

*Made by: Libby; Seconded by: Gerrish*

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Conley, Cyr, Damon, Davis, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Smith, Tscherne, Turcotte, Whytock*

*No: 0*

***MOTION CARRIES***

13. Other

- a. Items for next meeting's agenda
  - i. Chapter 21 Vaccination Rules
  - ii. Committee Appointments
- b. Next meeting date (January 5, 2022)

13. Adjourn

*MOTION: To adjourn*

*Made by: Drinkwater; Seconded by: Downing*

12:07