



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
FEBRUARY 3, 2020
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, Laura Downing, Amy Drinkwater, Judy Gerrish, Joe Kellner, Brent Libby, John Martel, Dennis Russell, Steve Smith, Ex. Officio: Matt Sholl, M.D., Kate Zimmerman, D.O.

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

Stakeholders: James Lapolla, Emily McFarland, L'Easa Blaylock, Debbie Morgan, Chip Getchell, Rick Petrie, Brian Chamberlain, Jay Bradshaw, Phillip Macall, Benjy Lowry, Butch Russell, Chief Dovinsky, Ed Moreshead, Aiden Koplovsky, Travis Nosworthy, Benjamin Zetterman, Christopher Pare, Dayna Emerson, Shawn Cordwell

CALL TO ORDER 9:34

1. Introductions

2. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest

Chair Kellner discloses that he has a conflict of interest in the LifeFlight waiver request. As a result, he will present the waiver and subsequently recuse himself.

3. Modifications to the agenda

Chair Kellner requests a presentation to the Board from AAG Guay in executive session regarding the roles and responsibilities of the Board. Chair Kellner requests this be done before the "Investigations" agenda item.

To Accept the APEMS, Tri-County and Aroostook Regional Reports

4. Public Comments

None

5. Meeting Minutes

a. December 2, 2020

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the December meeting

Made by: Russell; Seconded by Drinkwater

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

No: (0)

b. January 6, 2021

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the January meeting

Made by: Smith; Seconded by Libby

Roll Call Vote: (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Drinkwater, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Smith

Abstain: Gerrish, Russell

6. Director's Report

We continue to work on the vaccination campaign currently we are approaching the 10,000-dose mark. We are actively working on onboarding more agencies at this time.

We are working on building a relationship with the University of Maine to build out an IRB for research projects.

Maine EMS is also taking on the program management side of stroke alliance based on funding by the office of rural health at the CDC.

We've been meeting quarterly to look at the spectrum of stroke care. We have also been working with hospitals throughout the state and their ability to adequately diagnose stroke and facilitate IFT

a. Legislative Update

LD5

LD5 passed unanimously. They did amend the original language to add provisions regarding miscarriages and abortions as medical information that we will not have access to.

Recently our rules were formally adopted and went into effect January 10th we are in the process of making a change document which we will send out to agencies as soon as it becomes available. Many of the major changes won't go into effect until November 2021, however, the smaller changes are already in effect.

b. Committee Updates

CP Committee
Ellen McFarland

The Community Paramedicine Committee still has three open positions which will soon be posted. During our meeting we discussed the State and Maine EMS response to COVID-19 as well as swabbing and vaccinations. The Committee also discussed CP as vaccination possibility for home visits. The Community Paramedicine guidelines have been finished and will be sent over to MDPB for review.

QI Committee
Jason Oko

The QI Committee continues to work on the behavioral health newsletter

Data Committee
Darren Davis

The Data Committee welcomed six new members. The Committee is currently addressing the RFP for the Maine EMS data system that is shared with the Fire Marshal's Office. The Committee is planning on holding information gathering meetings to get an idea of what we should be looking for in a data system. We would like to be ready with a recommendation by March.

EMS-C
Marc Minkler

EMS-C is currently looking at different options to the RFP that expired without a response. We are looking into putting out pediatric drug reference cards. The Committee is offering pediatric insight to the MDPB on the protocols that are in progress. The Committee is also working on education with Maine Med regarding safe sleep. Finally, we are currently working on providing education for Midwives for them to understand how they can help when EMS is on scene.

Maine EMS-C gave out 45 Stork Awards in 2020 to ten EMS services, 5 EMD centers and 2 police departments

Education Committee
Brian Chamberlain

The Education Committee is continuing work on training center document. The Committee will be concluding our AVOC discussion next week and we will report back to the Board in the coming months.

Protocol update work continues with the MDBP. We have been discussing some concern regarding the educational lift regarding the scope of practice expansion within the protocols.

The Committee has been getting feedback on ready check inject courses we are anticipating the possible addition of a new video regarding the Pfizer vaccine

Exam Committee
Chris Azevedo

The Exam Committee has been working on options for psychomotor exams; we are also working on strengthening the pool for PSE administrators

The Exam Committee has been getting feedback on ready check inject courses we are anticipating the possible addition of a new video regarding the Pfizer vaccine.

Trauma Advisory Committee
Kate Zimmerman, D.O.

The Committee is currently working on bylaws that we expect to vote on in April. We are currently working on the State Trauma Plan with the hope of presenting it have it voted on in April as well.

EMD
Melissa Adams

The EMD Committee met in January where we discussed goals for this coming year. We are also working on annual report proposal. We created subgroups in the committee to address the goals of our group. We have been looking at ways to standardize calls from ski patrols

7. Medical Director report

a. MDPB

Dr. Sholl, M.D.

MDPB is continuing on with our protocol review which involves three major updates. The proposed rollout is December 1st. We are starting to look at the summary of all the changes that have been made thus far.

We are watching the metrics of this Pandemic. The last couple of weeks for average number of cases per day is beginning to decline. We are currently looking at the new variants and what this means to us.

8. Investigations

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session at 10:32 pursuant to 32 M.R.S. §90-A(3) and 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(E) &(F) to receive legal advice. paragraph e

Made by: Beals; Seconded by Russell

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith

No: (0)

MOTION: To exit Executive Session at 11:01

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Beals

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the January 28th, 2021 Investigations Committee meeting.

Made by: Conley ; Seconded by: Beals

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

Case 20-152 Summary: A Regional Medical Director reported concerns about a Provider's patient care and decision-making capacity. At the time of the complaint, the Provider's Paramedic license had expired. The Provider has recently submitted a new licensing application

The Investigation Committee's recommendation is to dismiss the complaint and issue the license.

MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committees recommendation.

Made by: Beals Seconded by: Libby

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith

Case 20-156 Summary: Maine EMS received a renewal application with disclosure of a criminal conviction. The conviction does not meet criteria for consideration. The applicant was actively licensed by Maine EMS t the time of the conviction and failed to report it within 10 days.

The Investigation Committee's recommendation is to resolve this case by issuing the renewal with a letter of guidance, citing the importance of adhering to statutory reporting requirements to be kept on file for four (4) years.

MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committee's recommendation.

Made by: Libby; Seconded by: Russell

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith

Case 20-154 Summary: An EMD Center processed 32 emergency calls between December 1, 2020 and December 4, 2020 with an expired EMD Center license.

The Investigation Committee's recommendation is to resolve this case by issuing a consent agreement with a warning for unlicensed practice; mitigating circumstances include a high-quality QA program; aggravating circumstances include delayed responsiveness leading up to the renewal, indicating a perceived lack of responsibility to comply with Maine EMS rules, particularly regarding maintenance of an active EMD Center license.

MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committee's recommendation.

Made by: Brent; Seconded by: Russell

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith

9. Old Business

- a. LD 2105 Final Report
Chair Kellner

The recommendations have been finalized for the legislature. It was represented by EMS stakeholders, lobbyists and insurance carriers. There were nine total recommendations that were in the report regarding payment. The final report will be presented to the Committee in late February.

- b. Staffing Retention Update
Steve Smith

The Committee spoke about the lack of diversity in the group and we are trying to figure out a way to get more people involved. We are looking to stakeholder groups to decide what types of questions we should put in a survey that we will put out to the public.

10. New Business

- a. LifeFlight Of Maine Waiver Request
Joe Kellner Presents

LifeFlight of Maine is requesting a three-month waiver of Maine EMS Rules Chapter 3 89 and Chapter 4 89 and Chapter 5 83 with the specific provision that LifeFlight be temporarily exempted from submitting Maine EMS custom data elements only, will all other provisions of these sections remain in force.

The Board went through the waiver requirements.

- 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: yes, 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: yes Does this weigh in favor of granting the waiver? yes

- 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 approve the waiver for LifeFlight of Maine. waiving Chapter 389, Chapter 489 and Chapter 583 for three months to get their EPCR platform in compliance with Maine EMS requirements.

Made by: Beals; Seconded by: Drinkwater

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith
Recused: Kellner*

- b. Vaccine Scheduling Tool Purchase Authorization
Director Hurley Presents

We have been depending on CDC and DHHS to implement a scheduling tool and we haven't received it yet. Many of our services need a scheduling tool. We reached out to FEMA to get a request for information and they have authorized covering the cost of this scheduling tool.

The contract is for 24,780.00 and it will give all EMS agencies access to the scheduling tool for a period of six months. It is a HIPPA compliance tool. We are looking for authorization to make this purchase

MOTION: To allow the Department of Public Safety or Maine EMS to sign a contract with Blockit Now for \$24,780.

Made by: Libby; Seconded by Russell

Roll Call Vote: Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith

- c. Out-Of-State Continuing Education Courses
Accepting EMS credits that have been approved by other states.

MOTION: To table this agenda item.

Made by: Beals; Seconded by: Gerrish

Roll Call Vote: Beals, Chicoine, Cote, Downing Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith

No: 0

d. Regional Reports

Steve Smith recuses from APEMS vote

MOTION: To accept the APEMS Regional Report.

Made by: Russell; seconded by Drinkwater

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Cote, Downing,
Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell*

Recused: Smith

No: 0

MOTION: To accept the Tri-County Regional Report.

Made by: Russell, Seconded by:Beals

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater,
Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith*

No: 0

MOTION: To accept the Aroostook Report.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by:Beals

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater,
Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith*

No:0

11. Other

a. Items for next meeting agenda

i. Blockit Now Follow-up

b. Next meeting date

March 3, 2021 @ 9:30 AM

12. Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn

Made by: Russell Seconded by: Gerrish

