



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
OCTOBER 6, 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, Laura Downing, Amy Drinkwater(Co-Chair), Judy Gerrish, Joe Kellner, Rich Kindelan, Brent Libby (Chair), John Martel, Julie Ontengco, Dennis Russell, Steve Smith, Ex. Officio: Dr. Kate Zimmerman, Dr. Matthew Sholl

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

Stakeholders: Jon Kiernan, Chip Getchell, Benjamin Wallace Jr. Sean Donaghue, Butch Russell, Paul Marcolini, Jonathan Busko, Dan Masselli, Eric Wellman, Mike Bender, C. Cummings, Dwight Corning, NGFR DC, Dayna Emerson, Sally Taylor, Paul Hewey, Jay Bradshaw, Rick Petrie, Lance Zeli, Julie Ontengco, Ed Moreshead, Peter Somerville, Chase Labbe, Peter Somerville, Andrew Gagnon, Don Sheets, Jonathan Powers, Joanne Lebrun, Phil MacCallum

CALL TO ORDER 9:30

1. Introductions
2. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest
3. Modifications to the Agenda
 - i. Dr. Sholl would like to add the impact of the updated 2021 protocols on the scope of practice under agenda item New Business
 - ii. Chair Libby and Joe Keller request revisiting the waiver regarding Service Level Response under agenda item Old Business
 - iii. Chair Libby requested for the Jackman Pilot Project to be discussed after the MDPB report
 - iv. Dr. Sholl requested to add the MEDCU waiver to New Business

4. Public Comments
None

5. Minutes

- a. August 23, 2021

MOTION: To approve the minutes from August 23, 2021 meeting.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Kindelan

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

No: (0)

- b. September 1, 2021

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the September 1, 2021 meeting.

Made by: Kindelan, Seconded by: Russell

Roll Call vote: Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco, Russell

No: (0)

6. Directors Report
Director Hurley

Maine EMS was awarded a grant of approximately three million dollars to work on substance use disorder. The Office will use part of that money to bring on extra Medical Director support.

At this time, we have no legislation pending.

QI/QA Committee
Jason Oko

The QI Committee is currently working on releasing the Sepsis newsletter, and they are getting ready to work on the next newsletter regarding Naloxone.

Community Paramedicine
Jason Oko

The Community Paramedicine Committee is focusing on getting education pieces formalized and focusing on establishing a work plan for the Committee moving forward.

Mr. Oko then presented to the Board the immunization reporting information.

Data Committee
Darren Davis

The Committee is currently publishing a survey to reach clinicians, service leadership and anyone who interacts with the licensure system.

EMS-C
Marc Minkler

EMS-C has been working to help support the MDPB and the Education Committee around the protocols. MDPB and education committee around the updated 2021 protocols.

We have submitted a carryover request regarding the HRSA grant, they have received the request and are currently reviewing it. We plan to use the funds to further support our VR program.

Education Committee
Christopher Azevedo

We have scheduled six webinars to review the 2021 protocol updates. Each webinar will be attended by Drs Matt Sholl and Kate Zimmerman. We will also put a course on MEMSEd of the updates.

Melissa Adams

Service license renewal applications will be available by November 1st. We are currently working to test the application and the automated process, we are also working on some outreach for service leadership to support them with the new application. She reminded the Board that the safety plan that was added to the rules in January is going to be required with the submission of the applications.

EMD

Melissa Adams

Ms. Adams states that she is currently working through licensing issues caused by the IAED website updates. The EMD Committee will be meeting later this month.

7. Medical Director Report

a. MDPB Update

Dr. Sholl

The MDPB continues to work on protocols. Chris Azevedo and Marc Minkler have been working with the MDPB on education development for the 2021 protocol updates. The MDPB is currently working on pathways to embrace physicians who want to practice in EMS. And we continue to work on the PIFT program

TAC

Dr. Zimmerman

The TAC Committee will be starting their virtual team visits. There is one schedule with Stephen's Memorial, and they hope to reach out to Northern Maine Med and Bridgeton to schedule virtual visits.

The Committee has approved a set of bylaws, and we are currently taking nominations for the Maine Stroke Alliance Board. Maine EMS was granted money through the rural health grant to support the Maine Stroke Alliance.

8. Investigations

None

9. Old Business

a. Jackman Pilot Project

Joe Conley recuses himself

Previously, the Board directed the Office and MDPB to review the Jackman proposal and report back to the Board. Today, MDPB is requesting for the Board to authorize this as a pilot project and also an expansion of a scope of practice for this specific pilot program.

MOTION: To approve the pilot program for three years to expand the scope of practice as detailed and presented to the Board.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Beals

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

No: (0)

Recused: Conley

b. Review of level of response waiver

MOTION: To delegate authority to the Maine EMS Director and the Board Chair to issue a temporary waiver for services that need to drop their response level for no more than 31 days or until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, at which time the Board will consider the continuation of the Services' waiver. This waiver will be granted for a period of six months.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Kindelan

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

No: (0)

10. New Business

a. Presentation from Exam Committee
Sally Taylor

The Exam Committee is asking the Board for permission to explore a future proposal to move away from the PSE program and into a skills portfolio approach for EMT and AEMT candidates. The Committee will report back to the Board with their recommendations.

b. Expanding Clinical Care Opportunities for People Experiencing Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) through EMS-Notice of Award \$3,066,904 (4-year period)
Director Hurley Presents

Maine EMS has been awarded a \$3.6 million dollar grant that will be allocated over four years and will be used to increase medical direction support and education around substance abuse disorder, and options for care. This grant will require Maine EMS to add one more staff person to our Office to facilitate this grant. We will also be working the with University of Maine System to support the educational development of this program. The Maine EMS office is seeking the Boards authorization to spend the money from this grant as mapped out by Director Hurley.

MOTION: To authorize the Maine EMS Director and the Maine EMS Office to spend the grant money as outlined in the grant application and by Director Hurley

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Drinkwater

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

No: (0)

c. Executive Session: Strategic Planning RFP

Enter Executive Session: 11:50

MOTION: To enter executive session to review the deliverables for the strategic planning RFP.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Drinkwater

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

MOTION: To exit executive session.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Ontengco

Roll call Vote (Yes): Allen, Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Cote, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Kindelan, Libby, Martel, Ontengco, Smith

No: (0)

Exit Executive Session: 12:04

MOTION: To authorize the Maine EMS Director to proceed with the RFP as discussed.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Gerrish

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

No: (0)

d. Vaccine Immunization Final Rule

Joe Kellner gives a general Rules Committee update

Mr. Kellner states that the Rules Committee has been working on the LD5 requirement for adding a chapter on data. The Committee is working on Chapter 20 regarding the emergency vaccination rule, they are reviewing a draft that includes all immunizations in the CDC rule and working to clarify the information around medical exemptions.

MOTION: To publish the Rules Committee proposed draft of Chapter 20 and 21 and move on to the public comment process

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by Chicoine

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

No: Kindelan

MOTION: To proceed with the rulemaking process including the regions with meetings scheduled at a later date via electronic means.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Kindelan

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

No: (0)

MOTION: For QA QI purposes all transporting and non-transporting agencies will report to Maine ems the following: 1) The number of vaccinated personnel; 2) The license number of those providers who are unvaccinated, and 3) The license number of personnel that have left the service as of October 16, 2021. This information is required to be sent to Maine EMS by close of business on October 18, 2021.

Made by: Chicoine; Seconded by: Kellner

Roll Call Vote (Yes): Allen, Chicoine, Cote, Downing, Martel, Ontengco, Smith

No: Beals, Conley, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Russell

MOTION: To have the Labor Committee perform an informal voluntary survey to determine the impact of the vaccine mandate on the services.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Chicoine

Roll Call Vote (Yes):Chicoine, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith

No: Beals, Conley, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish

e. MEDCU Waiver Request

Sean Donaghue presents

MEDCU is requesting a waiver of rules regarding staffing and equipment requirements for stand-by events, with the knowledge that they would activate the E911 system with response at their license level to meet the requirements when necessary.

Chair Libby goes through waiver request

- 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: No Does this weigh in favor of granting the waiver? Yes

MOTION: To pass a resolution to allow services that are licensed higher than EMT to provide a lower level of care at pre-scheduled stand-by events, with the condition that they activate the emergency system in the case of a recognized medical emergency to initiate a response at the service license level.

Made by: Kellner; Seconded by: Beals

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Downing,
Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith
No: (0)*

- f. Scope of practice
Dr. Sholl Presents

The MDPB is requesting for the Board to adopt the NHTSA changes to the EMT scope of practice.

MOTION: To approve the scope of practice changes for the 2021 protocols.

Made by: Beals; Seconded by: Russell

*Roll Call Vote (Yes): Beals, Chicoine, Conley, Downing,
Drinkwater, Gerrish, Kellner, Libby, Martel, Russell, Smith
No: (0)*

- a. Items for next meeting agenda
 - i. Social Media Policy
 - b. Next meeting date (November 3, 2021)
11. Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Drinkwater