



JANET T. MILLS

GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

152 STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK

COMMISSIONER

J. SAM HURLEY

DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
MARCH 3, 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, Judy Gerrish, Joe Kellner, Rich Kindelan, John Martel, Julie Ontengco, Dennis Russell, Steve Smith, Scott Susi, Ex. Officio: Matt Sholl, M.D., Kate Zimmerman, D.O.

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

Stakeholders: Ellen McFarland, Debbie Morgan, L'Easa Blaylock, Paul Hewey, Travis Norsworthy, Rebecca O'Neill, Dayna Emerson, Jay Bradshaw, Rick Petrie, Benjy Lowry, Joanne Lebrun, Aiden Koplovsky

CALL TO ORDER 9:32

1. Introductions

2. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest

Chair Kellner states that he will present the LifeFlight of Maine Ground Expanded Scope Request agenda item and will recuse himself from any discussion or vote on the matter.

3. Modifications to the Agenda

None

4. Public Comments

Rick Petrie wanted to acknowledge the passing of Paul Liebow who was an active member in the Maine EMS community. Chair Kellner requested a moment of silence from the Board.

5. Meeting Minutes

a. February 3, 2021

MOTION: To accept minutes from the February 3, 2021 meeting as amended.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Beals

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

No:0

6. Director's Report

a. Legislative Update

There is a PTSD bill that will affect dispatchers that I have expressed my support for. Other than that, there are no major legislative updates at this time.

Vaccinations

Maine EMS did open up vaccination to other vaccinating organizations. EMS agencies and organizations are finishing up 1A. There are some agencies that are vaccinating senior living residents and they will also be vaccinating teachers in some areas; however, not all agencies will be doing those vaccinations. Maine CDC is allowing EMS agencies to vaccinate the general public should they wish to do so. The method by which agencies can do this is by submitting a plan to our office which the CDC will then review for approval.

Reimbursement

Maine EMS is aware of reimbursement concerns that some agencies might be having. Maine EMS has been working with the Bureau of Insurance since early

December on a way that we can directly roster bill insurance companies. We are currently waiting on information from the insurance companies regarding how they would like billing information to be received.

Stroke Alliance

Maine EMS has been awarded the Maine Stroke Alliance support funding from the Rural Health Program. Dr. Zimmerman will function as the Program Manager.

EMS-C

Marc Minkler

EMS-C has not met since last board meeting. We are in the final two weeks of the EMS-C survey regarding pediatric training. We have been working with DHHS on finalizing programs regarding neonatal and maternal recognition of levels of care.

We are currently working on a safe sleep presentation that will soon be able to be accessed via MEMSed.

Fiscal year ends at the end of the month, we were well on track to be under budget, however, we are trying to maximize all the dollars that we have available to us so we will be spending the last few remaining dollars on some educational opportunities.

Education Committee

Chris Azevedo

We are currently doing some work with the MEMSed website. We are working to pursue a new contract with the Muskie School for administration and site maintenance work.

We are working with the licensure team on an EMS clinician re-licensure pathway that aligns with National Registry's re-licensure pathway. We will soon have a proposal ready to present to the Education Committee.

We have also been working with the licensure team on a path to accommodate the rules changes as we begin migrating to a two-year licensure cycle.

Maine EMS has developed a training program for the J&J vaccine on MEMSed

Education

Aiden Koplovsky

Education Committee continues to work on training center standards update, we are currently discussing supervision and IC licensure.

We will have a proposal for the Education Committee at the next meeting regarding AVOC.

The Committee continues to work on protocol education as the drafts are posted on the website from MDPB

Exam Committee

Chris Azevedo

Did not meet since last Board meeting work is progressing on options for PSE for licensure

QI Committee

Jason Oko

Continue to work on the newsletters, our next iteration will be focusing on behavioral health and the final version will be presented at the next meeting

CP

Ellen McFarland

Our last meeting was focused on the status of the vaccination program. We currently have several open positions posted so we will take a look at our activity.

We are currently working on a guideline for CP agencies to follow. We've handed it off to MDPB for review.

Data Committee

Jason Oko

The Committee met last month, and we spoke about the RFP process and how we want to move forward with that. We've started assessing our system and what it can offer so we can send it out for agencies to bid on.

We've discussed having some open sessions to gather insight on what services are looking for/what their needs are regarding a platform.

EMD

Melissa Adams

EMD has not met since the last Board meeting

Today we are publishing and pushing out a guidance update for the COVID-19 screening tool changes address the updates to the software only.

Ms. Adams has a meeting scheduled with representatives from Saddleback Ski Patrol and their regional communications center regarding protocols. We are looking to identify best practice for processing medical calls.

LD2105

Joe Kellner

LD2105 Committee presented their recommendations to the legislature. They were receptive to the work done by the Committee and have begun drafting bill language.

Labor Committee
Steve Smith

The Labor Committee is working on a proposal regarding the information that the Labor Committee is looking for and it will be sent to the University of Maine system.

7. Medical Director report

a. MDPB

Dr. Zimmerman

The MDPB is continuing to work on protocol updates. We've started looking at pediatric protocols and we've been working with Mr. Minkler and EMS-C regarding these updates.

We will be working with the Education Committee with the content we've created to help facilitated their educational product.

We have a subcommittee that has been meeting to discuss the Jackman pilot project proposal. We will be making recommendations to the Board in the near future.

8. Investigations

MOTION: To approve the investigation committee minutes

Made by: Gerrish; Seconded by: Conley

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

No: (0)

Case Summary 21-162: Licensee failed to comply with the terms of the consent agreement from case 20-116.

The Investigations Committee's recommendation is to resolve this case by offering a new consent agreement for probation consistent with the duration of the following terms and a reprimand for violating a lawful order, rule or consent agreement of the Board; terms of the agreement include completion of a CEH course on patient refusals identified by staff within ninety (90) days and quality assurance review of 100% of the licensee's patient care reports for a period of twelve (12) month by a qualified individual, not affiliated with a service that the licensee works for, and pre-approved by staff; failure to meet all or any of the terms will result in a ninety (90) day license suspension and may lead to additional discipline within the Board's authority. A suspension may be temporarily waived by staff upon good cause shown by licensee. All incurred costs are the responsibility of the licensee.

MOTION: To Accept the Investigation Committee's recommendation.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Kindelan

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

Case Summary 20-147: Maine EMS received a complaint alleging treatment was delayed to a victim of a house fire by an EMS service for fire suppression measures and that the patient outcome may have been a result of the alleged delay.

The Investigations Committee recommends dismissing this complaint; finding there was no delay in patient assessment or in the care provided, and that the patient's final disposition was not a result of, or negatively impacted by, the assessment or care provided.

MOTION: To accept the Investigations Committee recommendation.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Susi

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

Abstain; Ontengco

a. Matrix Update

MOTION: To approve the Matrices as presented by Maine EMS

Made by: Beals; Seconded by: Smith

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

9. Old Business

a. Staffing Retention Update

This was covered under the Labor Committee Agenda item

b. Blockit Now Scheduling Tool Update

Sam

This tool has been acquired and is fully operational. We have been offering trainings on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are waiting to hear more updates from Maine CDC regarding their scheduling tool. We will keep the Board up to date on the transition once we know more.

c. Out-of-State Continuing Education Courses

The Office has asked that we table this pending more research

MOTION: To table this agenda item.

Made by: Russell; seconded by: Conley

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

No: (0)

10. New Business

a. QI Committee Request for an additional member

The EMD Committee is requesting approval to add an EMD representative to the Committee.

MOTION: To approve the QI Committees request for an EMD representative.

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Downing

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

No: (0)

b. LFOM Ground Expanded Scope Request

Joe Kellner presents

LifeFlight of Maine is requesting the Board's acknowledgement that LifeFlight of Maine will be using the same protocols and expanded scope that they use in the air, on the ground as well.

MOTION: To authorize LifeFlight of Maine to use the same scope of practice in their ground service as they do with their air service.

Made by: Martel; Seconded by Cote

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

No: (0)

c. Authorization to Purchase Training Equipment

Director Hurley Presents

Maine EMS was awarded \$50,000 for a grant that came through Maine CDC.

This grant is for training equipment and the Office has been reviewing opportunities to purchase equipment that we can distribute around the state. We have been researching Virtual Reality simulators. We have been looking at various distributors.

Maine EMS is asking for authorization to spend up to \$60,000. \$10,000 would come from left over EMS-C funding and \$50,00 will come from the grant.

MOTION: To approve the Maine EMS Director or Commissioner to spend \$60,000 that the office is requesting .

Made by: Conley; Seconded by: Russell

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

11. Other

- a. Items for next meeting agenda
- b. Next meeting date
April 7, 2021 @ 9:30 AM

12. Adjourn 10:58

MOTION: To adjourn

Made by: Russell; Seconded by: Susi