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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
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JOHN E. MORRIS
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

EMD Committee Meeting
Thursday June 16, 2011, 9:30 a.m.
Teleconference
Minutes

Members: Stephanie Gibbs - Chair, Peter Daigle, Tracy Weed, Brian Gregoire,
Kathy Blagdon

Guests: Laura Downing, Jim Ryan, Dan Goss

Staff: Drexell White

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m.
 - A. Introductions – A roll call was conducted for the teleconference.
 - B. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda
 - a. Public Choice for Emergency EMS Response (Requested by Jim Ryan)
 - C. Review/Accept April 28, 2011 meeting minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes of the April 28, 2011, meeting.

Motion: To accept the minutes of the April 28, 2011 meeting as read (Blagdon; second by Gregoire – motion carries)

2. Staff Reports
 - A. Maine EMS Update

Drexell White reported that:

- There are still vacancies in the EMD Committee for *Non PSAP Provider of EMD Services, Non-PSAP Line EMD and Physician Representative*. He has sent out another notice soliciting interested persons.
- There have been no new incidents of unlicensed EMD practice. The increased notifications to and awareness of the EMD community about licensing requirements may be helping to prevent unlicensed practice.
- The City of Portland gave a report to the Maine EMS Medical Direction and Practices Board (MDPB) about the tiered response pilot project they have been conducting since November 2010. Peter Daigle indicated that 134 calls out 5500 calls fell into the “Public Assist” and “Obvious

- Death” criteria for modifying response and that the process has worked well. Portland will be providing additional information to the MDPB and will also provide a report to the Maine EMS Board later this year.
- Matt Sholl, the State EMS Medical Director has approved the use of the Stroke Diagnostic Tool after dispatch, an option provided in the latest version of the Pro QA software.
- He has been conducting site visits at EMD Centers and will continue to do so until July. He’ll resume the site visits in September in consideration of Center staffing challenges during July and August.

B. ESCB Update – Steve Bunker was unable to attend but did provide an email of upcoming course offerings.

3. Old Business

A. Quality Assurance – Update

Overall, Centers continue to do a good job with quality assurance and QA reporting to Maine EMS.

B. EMS Provider and Public Awareness Programs- Update

Drexell reported that he has received an outline Fred Hurtado, through Steve Bunker for EMS awareness training. He is awaiting word from Steve about options for delivery of the program statewide.

4. New Business

A. EMD QA Compliance – Committee Action and Review

Drexell reported that the Maine EMS Board and the Emergency Services Communications Bureau approved the Committee’s recommendation to implement minimum case review requirements, beginning the phase-in in September 2011 and requiring full compliance by September 2012.

B. Public Choice for Emergency EMS Response (Requested by Jim Ryan)

Jim Ryan expressed concern that a unified position amongst Maine EMS, the ESCB and Maine Dispatch Centers does not exist concerning the question of whether an individual who calls 9-1-1 is able to choose the EMS service to respond to the emergency. He indicated that he has received a written position from Maine EMS, but that he has not received one from the Emergency Services Communications Bureau (ESCB) Jim outlined Maine EMS position that a person calling 9-1-1 in an emergency is accessing a system of emergency response that has been pre-planned and that the caller does not choose the responding EMS service.

Drexell affirmed Maine EMS’ position that a call placed to 9-1-1 is a call for help that in turn activates what should be a seamless (and transparent) system of care that includes emergency medical dispatch and emergency medical services. A caller should not be put in a position to make a decision about which ambulance service will respond nor to disrupt the EMD/EMS system by requesting an alternative service.

5. Next Meeting - Set Agenda, Date and Time

The next EMD Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 15, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at Maine EMS in Augusta.

6. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Drexell White