

**Aroostook Region V EMS Council Minutes**  
**111 High Street, Suite 1**  
**Caribou, ME 04730**  
**Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 0900**

**COUNCIL MEETING – Meeting was held via zoom due to COVID-19**

**Staff:** Chase Labbe, Regional Coordinator

**Attendees Present:** Chase Labbe, Regional Coordinator; Dr. Beth Collamore, Regional Medical Director; Andrew Gagnon, President; Percy Thibeault, Treasurer; Jessica Page, Secretary; John LaBrie; Eric Cyr; Jon Cote; Chris Zappone; Tim Browning; Pat Long; John Martin; Jay Bradshaw, MAA; Melissa Adams, Maine EMS; Jason Oko, Maine EMS; Nate Allen; Cody Fenderson, Regional QA; Scott Susi, Chief CFAD; Josh Belanger; Don Eno; Walter Mosher III

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW UP
<b>Review and Approval of Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Minutes from August 17, 2021, meeting were reviewed. Percy made a motion to pass the minutes as is. Jon Cote 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.</li> </ul>	Motion voted on and passes unanimously
<b>Financials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Budget for 2021 was not distributed prior to the meeting, as previously requested, it is presented live at meeting via screenshare.</li> <li>● Total proposed budget is \$88,476.</li> <li>● Revenue side of budget is \$88,476.</li> <li>● Josh Belanger asks where the budget cuts have come from. Percy reports that last year’s budget was around \$94,000, and some of those cuts were salaries. There was some increase in TCAP for liability insurance as well as adding a line item for QuickBooks.</li> <li>● Jessica makes a motion to accept 2021 fiscal budget, second by Chris Zappone.</li> <li>● If any council member would like to review this budget, a copy can be requested and made available by Regional office.</li> </ul>	<p>2021 budget will be attached to these meeting minutes.</p> <p>Motion carries 2021 budget is accepted as presented.</p>
<b>Old Business: Nominations Committee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Two slots have been filled by new members on the Council. Kurt Soucy has accepted the South-Central Hospitals seat, Tim Browning has accepted South Central Ambulance seat.</li> </ul>	Current Council Roster will be distributed with

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Danny Gahagan has expressed interest in joining the council. An email vote will be conducted for Danny to fill Field Provider for South Central.</li> </ul>	<p>these meeting minutes. An email vote will be needed to accept Danny Gahagan in the Field Provider South Central Seat.</p>
<p><b>Old Business: Bylaws Update</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Bylaws have been reviewed by the committee there are no questions presented at this meeting regarding the bylaws. Percy makes a motion to accept the Bylaws as written. Jessica 2nds the motion.</li> </ul>	<p>Bylaws are accepted as presented, motion passes. Bylaws will be filed with these minutes.</p>
<p><b>New Business: Coordinator's Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Coordinators Report with Updates : Presented by Chase</li> <li>● Chase has been looking into potentially updating Region 5 Drug boxes. Some services in Maine have switched to the Thomas Drug Box System. This would move from the current cumbersome Plano 747 boxes that are in use. The Thomas Drug Box system is about \$130 for each system, and this is something that Chase would like each Department Head to look into and discuss with its Providers. Chase has sent out emails to Department Heads regarding this information. This would go from having to now exchange box for box with each drug use, to medication replacement with drug use. This option is service dependent and a Service may choose to change to this process if they so choose.</li> <li>● Most services have been compliant in reporting the required Vaccination reporting. Region 5 is doing well with this task.</li> <li>● Chase and Danny Gahagan have been working on CEH training video in regards to PPE; Epi IM administration; Chase would like to include a protocol update to include pharmacology; 12 lead video, a CPAP demonstration. Jay Bradshaw states that Vimeo may be an adequate service to use to upload this training.</li> <li>● Region 5 is hosting a Basic EMT course from November 2021 to March of 2022. It is hybrid based out of Madawaska. Class sessions are over zoom and in person sessions will be in Madawaska and/or Presque Isle. Tentatively have 9 students invoiced/paid.</li> <li>● Chase has completed a Regional Work force survey to see how many Full-time openings there are in the Region. During his survey he noted there to be</li> </ul>	

**Coordinator's report continued:**

25 full time openings which was the main reason Region 5 opted to host an EMT course.

- Protocol Updates: Protocol Zoom update was 10/18 at noon. There are significant changes. Thank you to Maine EMS and Dr. Collamore for their efforts on the protocols. Scope of practice changes are significant at all levels. The Protocol Updates are available through MEMSED and through the Maine EMS Zoom sessions that will be 10/25, 10/27, and 10/28. Please make every effort to attend one zoom session. Service trainings to match these protocol roll outs should focus on: Narcan distribution (if service opts in), sepsis, 12 lead application, CPAP and pharmacology.
- Tri-county EMS will be printing new protocol books.
- The Maine Forest Service needs CPR, First Aid and Narcan training. They reached out to the Region to host a safety day of sorts for these trainings. The Regional Office is hoping to get this scheduled by the end of the Month. Chase is looking for I/C volunteers for this. Please reach out if you are interested in assisting in this.
- Joanne Lebrun is drafting a survey regarding QA at the service level.
- Chase has created a QA worksheet which will be sent to each Director. He has presented this at the meeting and will be used when the Region reviews runs. Maine EMS has a 24-hour completion rule that will be monitored at the Region level, this will be logged and reported to each service Director.

**Cody Fenderson:  
Regional Q/A update**

- Cody got called out and is unable to give his update. Cody has been looking into PPE use and documentation.
- When submitting CEH please submit these requests at least 24 hours prior to the training, or else it will likely not be approved in time for the training.

**Maine EMS Board**

- Nate Allen is not present for Maine EMS Board Update.

<https://www.maine.gov/ems/boards-committees/medical-direction-practices-board/resources>

**Region 5 will be ordering through Tri County. Please call the Region Office if your service would like to preorder a pocketbook or a large book.**

<p><b>State QA Board/ Education Committee Updates</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Collamore: MDPB update</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● AJ reports that there has not been much movement in Exam and Education updates. There is no new updates as the meetings have been cancelled due to protocol roll outs.</li> <li>● Dr. Collamore reports that the protocol roll out has been going well. Yesterdays zoom session at 5.5 hours. There is a lot of new information, mainly at the EMT and AEMT levels. Dr. Collamore states that Region is more than happy to provide more education if requested on this protocol roll outs.</li> <li>● MDPB is working on Jackman project, and PIFT course update.</li> <li>● Dr. Collamore stressed being vigilant in regards to PPE during this continued pandemic.</li> <li>● QA committee released the Sepsis newsletter. Please take a look at this newsletter. The next newsletter will be a re-look at Narcan.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.maine.gov/ems/boards-committees">https://www.maine.gov/ems/boards-committees</a></p> <p><b>2021 Protocols:</b> <a href="https://www.maine.gov/ems/boards-committees/medical-direction-practices-board/resources">https://www.maine.gov/ems/boards-committees/medical-direction-practices-board/resources</a></p>
<p><b>Open Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Jay Bradshaw Maine Ambulance Association</b></p> <p><b>Open Discussion continues</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● AJ: will the Protocol app be updated? --- Protocols cannot be updated until the 1<sup>st</sup>. Jason Oko adds in chat that the app will be updated and available.</li> <li>● Jay Bradshaw: a couple bills are going into effect this week that will effect reimbursement rates. Please see LD1258. Reimbursement from private insurance carriers as of Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, unless otherwise negotiated, pay to provider rate is now 180% of the Medicare rate for non-participating providers, or 200% of the Medicare rate if you are a participating provider. There are also Medicare add-ons, 2% for urban, 3% for rural services, and 22.6% for super rural services. M.A.A. has worked really hard to get this legislation passed.</li> <li>● Please keep an eye on LD1469 which requires the bureau of Mainecare services to pay that same Medicare add-on for Mainecare patients.</li> <li>● Jessica Page: Requesting update on work force for Interfacility Transfers as HRSA grant has been not granted to the Region for this work group. Dr. Collamore and Chase reports that Medcom in Bangor received the contract over I Am Responding due to Darryl Boucher with NLARG paying for an</li> </ul>	<p>M.A.A. can be reached at (207) 209-3944, or <a href="https://www.the-maa.org/">https://www.the-maa.org/</a>.</p>

	<p>entire year of services in the County. Dr. Collamore states that Leslie Anderson is still very involved and is working with Medcom now and will be working with the other hospitals. Each hospital will be offering up to seven services that they would want called for each transfer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jessica Page: Requesting Regional QA Committees meetings start back up to follow RFP guidelines. AJ states that we should loop in Cody in this conversation but potentially establish a work group to discuss this further. Requesting MEFIRS CQI side training from Jason Oko/ Region 5, Jason Oko does offer his services for education process for CQI module training.</li> <li>● Percy: Chase is working on 990 forms before November to approve penalty. He also requests Chase to go over previous month expenditures to the board at the next quarterly meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>AJ and Chase will work with Cody and get back to the board to discuss this.</p>
<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jessica Make motion to adjourn, Dr. Collamore Seconds. Meeting Adjourned 0956.</li> </ul>	<p>Next meeting TBA</p>

APPROVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (Signed copy on file)  
AJ Gagnon, President / Date

APPROVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (Signed copy on file)  
Chase Labbe, Regional Coordinator/ Date