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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
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JOHN E. MORRIS
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2012
DECHAMPLAIN CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

Members Present: Judy Gerrish (chair), Tim Beals, Nate Contreras, Joe Conley, Laura Downing, Paul Knowlton, Lori Metayer, Mike Senecal, Michael Schmitz, Matt Sholl (ex-officio), Brian Stockdale, Percy Thibeault

Staff: Jay Bradshaw, Dawn Kinney, Jon Powers, Don Sheets, Drexell White

Office of Attorney General: Lauren LaRochelle, AAG

Regional Coordinators: Joanne LeBrun, Steve Corbin, Marc Minkler, Rick Petrie

Guests: Dan Batsie, Kevin McGinnis, Christopher Paré

1. Introductions made.
2. Approval of August 1, 2012, minutes

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the August 1, 2012, meeting as presented. (Beals, second by Senecal) Unanimous.

3. Public Comments – none

4. Old Business

- a. Community Paramedicine – Jay Bradshaw reported that there have been six proposals received (Delta Ambulance, St. George Ambulance, United Ambulance, North East Mobile Health Services, Calais Fire Dept, Camden First Aid). The Steering Committee met in August to review the first four applications and requested additional information which will be presented at their next meeting. At the next Community Paramedicine Task Force meeting (date to be determined), pilot sites will be asked to make a brief presentation on their projects.
- b. Personnel Committee – report postponed until December meeting.
- c. Rules changes – The Governor's office has approved the Board proceeding with Rules changes. Drexell White reviewed the changes recommended by Lauren LaRochelle.

MOTION: To approve the draft EMS Rules proposal with the edits provided by staff and the AAG, and to proceed with the hearing process. (Thibeault; second by Gerrish) Unanimous.

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Jay reviewed the hearing process, which requires that a minimum of two Board members participate in each hearing. The schedule will be:

- Monday, November 5, 6:30PM, CMMC, Lewiston (with polycom to other sites) (Senecal/Metayer/Stockdale)
- Tuesday, November 6, 6:00PM, MaineHealth, Portland (Schmitz/Conley/Contreras)
- Friday, November 9, 4:00PM, Samoset Resort, Rockport (APEMS Conference)(Beals/Gerrish/Downing)
- Tuesday, November 13, EMMC, Bangor (with videoconference to other sites) (Knowlton/Gerrish)
- Wednesday, November 14, 6:00PM, Maine EMS, Augusta (with videoconference to Aroostook County) (Beals/Senecal)

5. New Business

a. Investigations Committee

Dawn Kinney reported that the Investigations Committee held an informal conference prior to the Board meeting regarding an application from Troy Payeur. Mr. Payeur is applying for reciprocity based upon his New Jersey paramedic license.

In his application, Mr. Payeur disclosed that there was action taken against his license by New Jersey EMS following a call in December 2010 when he placed a patient in a prone position on a Reeves stretcher. The patient suffered positional asphyxia and died. In March 2012, Mr. Payeur entered into a consent agreement with NJ EMS. The recommendation of the Investigations Committee is that the conditions of the NJ EMS Consent Agreement be included in a consent agreement with Maine EMS.

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Investigations Committee regarding Troy Payeur that the terms of his consent agreement with NJ EMS be included in a consent agreement with Maine EMS. The Maine consent agreement will also include the following:

- **Mr. Payeur will provide a letter from any employer stating that the EMS service will agree to the terms of the Consent Agreement.**
- **Maine EMS will monitor the Consent Agreement and, Mr. Payeur will immediately surrender his conditional license to the Board if he commits a violation of the EMS laws or rules. Except as otherwise provided in this Consent Agreement, the surrender will continue pending further action by the Board.**
- **The Consent Agreement will be reviewed for compliance on every renewal, until such time as the terms have been met.**

(Schmitz; second by Downing) Unanimous.

MOTION: For the Investigations Committee to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2012. (Senecal; second by Beals). Unanimous

MOTION: For the Investigations Committee to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2012. (Beals; second by Metayer). Unanimous

Joseph Conley recused himself from case # 12-022 because he knows the subject.

Dawn Kinney reviewed the cases and noted some typographical corrections to case numbers.

MOTION: For the Board to ratify the Investigation Committee minutes of August 22, 2012, as corrected. (Beals; second by Thibeault), Unanimous with one abstention (Conley).

MOTION: For the Board to ratify the Investigations Committee minutes of September 5, 2012. (Senecal; second by Metayer). Unanimous.

- b. Legislative and budget updates – Jay Bradshaw reported that while there are minor edits that could be done to the EMS law, Maine EMS is not requesting a Department bill to act upon these during the 126th Legislative Session. There is concern about how the looming federal budget sequestration will affect state funding, especially for MaineCare, law enforcement, education, and security; and the ripple effect this could have on all state agencies, regardless of funding source. The details are unknown, but this is being very closely monitored.
- c. Committee annual reports and work plans
 - i. Education – Don Sheets reported that over the past year, the Education Committee was involved with the training for the 2011 protocol revisions, and in getting the online learning management system (MEMSED.org) up and running. Nearly 1/3 of Maine licensees have taken either the protocol update or one of the interim protocols due to the ongoing medication shortages. The committee also worked on the transition to the new education standards and in the supplemental modules between the Advanced EMT and Maine EMT-Intermediate levels. Work continues on clinical behavioral objectives and continuing education. There is a request to make changes in the membership, which will be compiled in the coming weeks and submitted to the Board chair for consideration.
 - ii. Data – Jon Powers reported that the Data Committee has not formally met since Sept. 2011, and as such is now utilized as a focus work group on emerging issues. The members involved varies depending on the topic (e.g. importing services). This seems to provide the level of support needed at present, but as Maine works toward compliance with NEMSIS version 3, it may be helpful to convene the full committee. There are no recommendations for changes to committee membership at this time.
 - iii. Exam – Drexell White reported that the Exam Committee has been monitoring the changes made to the practical skills examination process. Under the new process, the costs are running higher, which was anticipated. Maine EMS is continuing to monitor this trend as we get more experience.

The Committee also noted that Maine’s pass rate for the NREMT exam is below the national pass rate. There was considerable discussion with the Board about the factors affecting these figures. Dan Batsie noted that Maine is at the lower tier in terms of course length, and that Maine is on par with other states that have similar course lengths. An EMT course in Maine is about 120 hours (+/-) and many states are closer to 200 hours. The Board request that both Exam and Education continue to evaluate these trends and make recommendations back to the Board about improvements.
 - iv. EMD – Drexell White reported that he is conducting the annual visits to PSAPs and EMD centers. One of the topic areas for these visits and the committee meetings has been the required quality improvement reports. Most centers are in full compliance with the “Q” reporting. Centers are also in the process of upgrading their AQUA software to the newest version. During the coming year, the Committee will be focusing on improving education about EMD for both EMS responders and the public.
 - v. Ops Team – Rick Petrie reported that the Ops Team met on October 2. Topics included preparation for the newspaper insert for EMS Week 2013, highlights from NASEMSO, and updates from the regional offices and training centers,

- d. Highlights from NASEMSO – Jay Bradshaw reported that he, Don Sheets, and Matt Sholl attended the National Assn of State EMS Officials annual meeting in Boise, ID. During this meeting, Jay attended several sessions on the changes in ambulance design requirements. For many years, the General Services Administration has had guidelines that ambulances must meet if they are being purchased with federal funds. Many local and state governments have also adopted these same guidelines. Several years ago, GSA announced it was planning to retire these guidelines and worked with the National Fire Protection Assn to turn the guidelines into standards. The result of these efforts is NFPA 1917, which was finalized and released in September.

However, for about a year there have been concerns about the impact of these changes from many state EMS offices, national EMS organizations, and the vehicle manufacturers. As a result, NASEMSO coordinated a high level meeting where these issues could be vetted. The first such meeting was held in Boise. As a result of some of the issues raised prior to and during the meeting, GSA has expressed a willingness to consider continuing the guidelines beyond their previously announced retirement date of September 30, 2013. Jay represents NASEMSO on the NFPA 1917 Committee and will provide updates.

Don Sheets reported that the Educational and Professional Standards Council discussed the accreditation, transition programs, evaluating airway competency, and several other topics. The National Registry also provided an overview of their activities and ongoing projects, as did the Committee on Accreditation of Education Programs for EMS Professionals (CoAEMSP).

Dr. Sholl reported that the medical directors discussed the impact of medication shortages and how different states are responding to that challenge; evidence based protocol guidelines, best practices for implementing protocol changes, and developing protocols for mass casualty responses.

- e. Other – Jay Bradshaw reported that Lori Metayer and Jeff Rowe have submitted their application for another term on the Board. Steve Leach (Mid Coast EMS) is not seeking another term, and there are still 2 vacancies for members representing the public.

The regional council progress reports were all received in a timely manner and will be distributed to the modeling work group (Judy Gerrish, Jeff Rowe, and Tim Beals). Other Board members interested in reviewing the reports and/or participating in the work group are asked to contact Jay.

The Board's By Laws, which were approved in 2007 are in need of review and updating. Tim Beals and Judy Gerrish will work with Jay; others are also welcome to participate. This will likely be done by e-mail and/or conference call.

6. Staff Reports

- a. MEMS – already covered in previous agenda items.
- b. Medical Director report
 - i. MDPB – Dr. Sholl reported that Protocol update is progressing with a target effective date of December 2012. Tamas Peredy, MD, Maine Poison Control Director submitted an IRB request to conduct a retrospective data study on the potential use for cyanide antidote, which was approved. At the New England Council for EMS meeting, the New England medical directors will be discussing development of a single protocol for all 6 states.
 - ii. Agitated patient – there have been no new cases.
 - iii. ASA QI Project – there were several services who did not respond to repeated requests for information regarding the QI project. Discussion took place about how

to convey the message to these services that compliance with QI requests is mandatory and referenced in the protocols.

MOTION: To send a Letter of Guidance to those services that did not participate in the aspirin QI survey about the importance of compliance with QI requests and that future non-compliance will result in an investigation. The letter shall remain in the service's record for two years. (Beals; second by Conley) Unanimous.

7. The next scheduled Board meeting will be on Wednesday, December 5, 2012 @ 9:30 AM
8. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM.