



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
152 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333



PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

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EMD Committee Meeting – Tele Conference
Thursday January 19, 2012, 9:30 a.m.

Minutes

Members: Laura Downing, Peter Daigle, Tracy Weed, Chuck McMahan
Guests: Tom Selby, Dave Gardner
Staff: Drexell White

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:50 a.m. (Note: Discussion had started at 9:40 a.m., but a quorum was not reached and the meeting not convened until Committee member McMahan signed on at 9:45 a.m.)

Brian Gregoire sent regrets that he would be unable to attend today's meeting.

- A. Introductions – Members and guests introduced themselves.
- B. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda - None

2. Staff Reports

- A. Maine EMS Update

Drexell White reported that:

- No new incidents of unlicensed EMD practice have been reported.
- The hearing for LD 1614, *An Act To Create Efficiency in E-9-1-1 Call Centers* was held on January 18, 2012. The work session for the bill will be Wednesday, January 26, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee room at the Cross State Office Building.
- At a recent National Emergency Number Association Meeting (NENA) Maine Chapter meeting, Bob Gasper of the Emergency Services Communications Bureau (ESCB) reported that:
 - The hiring process is ongoing to fill vacancies caused by the retirements of Nancy Armentrout and Steve Bunker.
 - The contract for the Next Gen 9-1-1 has been awarded to Fairpoint Communications. Once the challenge period has passed, the ESCB will begin contract negotiations.

- Kerry Pomelow, Education and Training Coordinator at Maine EMS has resigned her position, effective January 31, 2012.

ESCB Update – None

3. Old Business

A. Quality Assurance – Update

Drexell reported that:

- The November 2011 committee recommendation concerning Standards 9 implementation has not been forwarded to the Maine EMS Board for its consideration, because of the outstanding issue of the Centers that are not using AQUA software (i.e., Centers without AQUA cannot report numerical QA compliance number using Standards 9). White indicated that during a phone conversation with Brian Dale, Chair of the National Academies of Emergency Dispatch (NAED) Board of Accreditation, he was told that issuance of EMD center performance standards would be a multi-year process. Staff will continue work on options for non-AQUA users QA reporting.

B. EMS Provider and Public Awareness Programs- Update

Drexell reported that the first train-the-trainer session for the EMD Awareness for EMS Providers program was held at Maine EMS on 12/15/11, with thirty participants. He indicated that the second session is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday February 15, 2012, at Maine EMS in Augusta and will include a full presentation of the program with a follow-up train the trainer session. Drexell will send out notifications once the date is confirmed.

C. EMD Rules Changes – Update

The Rules subcommittee of the Maine EMS Board met in January and discussed the following EMD-related Rules changes:

- Adoption of a rule that would allow a dispatcher, who has complete an EMD course, to practice EMD under direct supervision of a Field Training Officer (FTO) while awaiting certification and licensure;
- Amending current Rules to provide for EMS response based upon Maine EMS-approved service response plans; and,
- Adoption of a Rule to enable staff to provide interim solutions to emergency medical dispatcher's whose licenses are delayed due to certification delays.

Staff will be drafting rules based upon the Rules sub committee's recommendations. A preliminary rules change document will be circulated to EMS services and EMD Centers for comment, prior to initiation of the formal rulemaking process.

4. New Business

A. Pro QA Paramount

Priority Dispatch Inc (PDI) has announced the rollout of Pro QA Paramount. Drexell reported that the funding is available for PSAPs to upgrade to the new software and he will be participating in a

teleconference with Maria Jacques from the ESCB and Adam Hinckley from PDI to discuss the implementation details.

In its letter to Centers, PDI emphasized the need of Centers - that have Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) integration with Pro QA - to ensure that Centers' CAD programs are compatible with Pro QA Paramount.

PDI will support the current version of Pro QA until January 1, 2013. While no guidelines have been released by Maine EMS, Drexell suggested that Centers begin looking at the transition with a goal of completing the upgrade well before the end of the calendar year.

5. Next Meeting - Set Agenda, Date and Time

The next EMD Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 15, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at Maine EMS in Augusta.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Drexell White