

# Maine EMS Exam Committee Meeting

Tuesday February 25, 2014

De Champlain Conference Room, Augusta

## Minutes

**Present:** Gary Utgard, Joanne LeBrun, Kelly Roderick, Scott Cook; Scott Michaud, Andrea Thompson & Sally Taylor via teleconference

**Staff:** Drexell White

**Guest:** Patrick Underwood

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m.

Drexell reported that Dawn Kinney has left State employment as a Maine EMS Licensing Agent, but will continue as a Practical Skills Evaluation (PSE) Administrator.

**Assign Timekeeper** – Scott Cook

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda** – None

### **Minutes – November 19, 2013 Meeting Minutes - review for acceptance**

The minutes of the November 19, 2013, meeting, were reviewed.

*Motion: To accept the minutes of the November 19, 2013 meeting (Lebrun; second by Cook – carries)*

### **Old Business**

#### **A. Review of EMR & EMT Process Using NREMT**

EMR & EMT psychomotor exam results for 1/1/2014 – 2/25/14:

Attempt:	Pass %	Candidates	Pass
Success 1A	40.13%	152	61
Success 1R1	68.24%	85	58
Success Rate 1R2	63.64%	22	14
Success Rate 2A	0.00%	6	0
Success Rate 2R1	40.00%	5	2
Success Rate 2R2	100.00%	1	1
	Total		136
Overall Pass % of Total Tested	74.32%		136
Overall Fail % of Total Tested	8.20%		15
Overall Eligible for Re-Test	17.49%		32

Staff is also collecting data on the number of fails per station, overall:

Station	Fail#	As % of Fails
PA - T	40	18.69%
PA -M	40	18.69%
BVM	13	6.07%
O2	2	0.93%
Cardiac	12	5.61%
Spn-Sup	62	28.97%
Spn-Sea	34	15.89%
Bleed	1	0.47%
LB	10	4.67%
Jnt	0	0.00%
Total	214	

Discussion ensued about the station fails, especially the supine spinal station. Members of the committee, who are also PSE administrators talked about common themes found in the spinal stations such as collar tightness, strap tightness and patient movement. Staff will review spinal sheets to look for common trends.

It was also suggested that an FAQ be included that advises candidates about bringing their own equipment to a PSE and the importance of candidates understanding that they are responsible to familiarize themselves with equipment at a PSE.

### **B. Best Practices Document**

Drexell advised the Committee that the Best Practices document has been distributed to the Training Centers and PSE Administrators, and that the information in the document had also been added to the Maine EMS web site FAQs.

### **C. Aroostook Pearson Vue Site**

Staff is currently in discussions with National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) about the feasibility of establishing a mobile testing system to address testing needs of students who are a great distance from the Pearson Vue Centers in Westbrook, Bangor and Fairfield. The discussions came about after the Pearson Vue affiliate center closed in Caribou last year.

## **New Business**

### **A. Change in Practical Skills Evaluation (PSE) Paperwork and Reporting**

The committee reviewed the changes made to the PSE candidate registration process and license applicant process. The changes will streamline the PSE registration and licensing process and make use of the data now being downloaded to the Maine EMS licensing system from NREMT. The new process will be distributed to the training centers and PSE administrators and will become effective upon distribution.

### **B. ALS/BLS Combined Testing – Discussion**

Staff reported a request from Northern Maine Community College that it be allowed to conduct a combined Advanced Life Support (ALS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) PSE. Drexell reported that NREMT allows such tests provided that the BLS portion does not interfere with the ALS psychomotor exam. NREMT also advised that an AEMT or Paramedic candidate could not re-test a basic skill at a

BLS-only exam. Consensus of the committee was that such requests should be handled on a case-by-case basis amongst the training center, PSE Administrator/NREMT Representative and Maine EMS.

**4. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 24, 2014, at 9:30 a.m. at Maine EMS in Augusta.

**5. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Drexell White