

Maine EMS Exam Committee Meeting

Tuesday April 26, 2011

Muskie Conference Room, Augusta

Minutes

Present: Sally Taylor, Shaun St. Germain, Jeremy Damren

Absent: Jeff Regis, Peter Carbonneau, Gary Utgard, Joanne LeBrun

Guests: N/A

Staff: Drexell White, Kerry Pomelow

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m.

Drexell reported that Joanne LeBrun had indicated that she would be absent from the meeting.

A. Assign Timekeeper – Sally Taylor

B. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda – None

2. Minutes – September 28, 2010 Meeting Minutes - review for acceptance

The minutes of the September 28, 2010, meeting, were reviewed.

Motion: To accept the minutes of the September 28, 2010, meeting (Taylor; second by St Germain – carries 2-0-1)

3. Old Business

A. EMT-Basic Skill Sheet Instructions – Equipment Requirements

Members discussed the best way to revise and distribute equipment lists and requirements. It was suggested that in addition to having equipment lists in each of the examiner packets, a master list be created, especially helpful for those setting up exam stations.

Drexell will draft a template and list for committee review.

As part of the basic skill sheet instructions for the spinal station, Sally asked that it be clarified that the examiner should act as an assistant in log rolling/positioning the board. Confusion exists about the examiner's role in the station.

B. 2013 Paramedic Accreditation – Testing Implications – Nothing to Report

C. CPR Standards for CPR Skill Stations

Committee members reviewed the CPR guidance created by Joanne LeBrun for EMT-I CPR skills testing. Sally Taylor questioned the CPR depth of compressions listed as they pertain to the 2010 AHA standards. Drexell will follow-up with Joanne. Otherwise, committee members found that the guidance should be helpful to CPR station examiners.

4. To Do List – As needed

5. New Business

A. AEMT – NREMT Overview

Drexell reported that NREMT has conducted a series of webinars for NREMT testing representatives. In addition to Drexell, Dawn Kinney, Gary Utgard and Dan Batsie are NREMT representatives in Maine.

Drexell reported that the new AEMT practical exam will be conducted in a manner similar to the NREMT Paramedic practical, with an NREMT Rep conducting the test vs. the PSE model used for the current Maine EMT-Intermediate exam.

Discussion continued about the differences between the National Education Standards for AEMT and what is proposed for the Maine EMT-I, most notably the retention of cardiac monitoring for Maine EMT-I. A concern is that the NREMT cognitive exam would not include questions on cardiac monitoring or rhythms. It was proposed that augmented practical testing could be used to evaluate candidate's rhythm interpretation and cardiac monitoring skills/knowledge.

A question arose about expanding the EMT-I practical to account for Maine "add-ons". Kerry indicated that she is aware of other states that have received NREMT approval to augment the practical exam.

Drexell will draft an "implications" draft document and distribute it to committee members.

B. Meeting Strategies

The committee discussed the number of meetings needed for the committee, especially in light of fuel prices and the time commitment to attend meetings. Consensus was to consider 3 - 4 meetings per year (e.g., June, September and March) and supplement with teleconferences or live meetings as necessary.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 28, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at Maine EMS in Augusta

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

Respectfully submitted,

Drexell White