

Maine EMS Exam Committee Meeting

Tuesday November 18, 2014

De Champlain Conference Room, Augusta

Minutes

Present: Gary Utgard - Chair, Joanne LeBrun, Scott Michaud – via teleconference, Rick Petrie, Kelly Roderick

Staff: Drexell White

Guests: Brian Chamberlin, Dennis Russell, Eric Wellman, Michel Vining

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m.

Chairman Utgard welcomed Education Committee members Chamberlin, Russell and Wellman, and PSE Administrator Vining.

Patrick Underwood, Jeremy Damren and Sally Taylor sent their regrets for being unable to attend the meeting.

2. Assign Timekeeper – Eric Wellman

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda - None

4. Minutes – September 30, 2014 Meeting Minutes - review for acceptance

The minutes of the September 30, 2014, meeting, were reviewed.

Motion: To accept the minutes of the September 30, 2014 meeting, as amended (Lebrun; second by Roderick – carries)

5. Old Business

A. Review of EMR & EMT Process Using NREMT

EMR & EMT psychomotor exam results were reviewed - 1/1/2014 – 11/17/14 (Note: No change from previous meeting, as no new PSE reports have been received):

Summary:		Attempted	Pass
Success 1A	37.65%	486	183
Success 1R1	71.16%	267	190
Success Rate1R2	72.73%	55	40
Success Rate 1st Full Attempt			413
Success Rate 2A	31.25%	16	5
Success Rate2R1	66.67%	9	6
Success Rate 2R2	71.43%	7	5
Success Rate 2nd Full Attempt			16
		Total	429

Fails per station, overall – 1/1/2014 – 11/17/2014:

Station	Fail#	As % of Fails
PA - T	111	17.29%
PA -M	125	19.47%
BVM	61	9.5%
O2	15	2.34%
Cardiac	51	7.94%
Spn-Sup	150	23.36%
Spn-Sea	57	8.88%
Bleed	3	0.47%
LB	46	7.17%
Jnt	23	3.58%
Total	642	

B. Aroostook Pearson Vue Site

Drexell reported that review of the Pearson Vue contracts continues.

C. Return of Skill Sheets to TCs

Exam Committee members and (invited) Education Committee members discussed the possibility of returning PSE skill sheets to Training Centers for purposes of education and testing quality assurance. Return of candidates' PSE skill sheets to the respective training centers would provide for review to identify trends and improvement opportunities in the education and testing process.

Committee members were in favor of allowing review of candidate skill sheets by candidates' respective training centers, subject to the following limitations:

- Skill sheet reviews are for system improvement only. Skill sheets will not be used by a training center for individual student review or exam results challenge. (Students have the opportunity to file a complaint about the exam, on the day of the exam. They are informed that they have the opportunity to file a complaint about the testing process prior to receiving their pass/fail status).
- Training Centers would request sheets on a test-by-test basis; sheets would not be routinely provided to Training Centers.

Consensus was for staff to prepare a recommendation for the Board, circulate the proposed draft to exam and education committee members for comment and forward the written recommendation to the Board for consideration at its December 3, 2014 meeting.

D. PSE Continuing Education Hours (CEH)

The group discussed the following section of the Maine EMS Training Center Standards (Page 62) that had been brought to its attention by Committee Member and PSE Administrator Patrick Underwood:

“Psychomotor Evaluations

1. CEH can be granted as follows:

- a. Emergency Responder Examinations and/or EMT = 1 hour BLS Topics and 1 hour IC to be utilized once per licensure period
- b. Advanced EMT/Intermediate and or Paramedic = 1 hour ALS Topics and 1 hour IC to be utilized once per licensure period
- c. Certificate will be issued by the MEMS evaluator on the day of the exam”

Maine EMS evaluators have not been issuing CEH at psychomotor exams; if CEH is issued it is being done by the Training Center that sponsors the Practical Skills Evaluation. It was suggested that issuance of CEH for PSE participation by PSE Administrators may be leftover from the days when Training Centers could not approve CEH

Consensus was that the issue should be returned to the Education Committee for review and update.

E. PSE Reporting Form - Adjustments

The Committee reviewed and approved changes to the *PSE Reporting Form*. Staff will post the revised report on the Maine EMS web site and inform PSE Administrators about the revised form.

6. New Business

The group discussed the current PSE system for evaluating EMR and EMT candidates. Discussion included the pros and cons of the current system and the possibility of:

- Integrating PSE Administrator functions into the class itself – rather than a PSE administrator conducting a separate PSE after program completion, the PSE administrator would have a working relationship with the instructor and students though out the educational process, provide the necessary State oversight to ensure accountability of practical evaluations and act as a resource to instructors about skills trends and issues identified during the class; and,
- Combining the Education and Exam Committees – as evaluation becomes more and more integrated into the education process, a joint committee on Education and Evaluation may foster better methods of student/candidate evaluation.

Rick Petrie volunteered to convene an ad hoc committee to look at the potential for an expanded PSE Administrator role in classes as an alternative to the current PSE model. The group accepted Rick’s offer.

Joanne also asked the committee to consider potential differences in how candidates are evaluated in the CPR station vs. the nascent high performance CPR model being developed within the Maine EMS Quality Assurance and Improvement Committee.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 24, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. at Maine EMS in Augusta.

8. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Drexell White