



ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
16 EDISON DRIVE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04330

MICHAEL F. KELLY  
COMMISSIONER  
  
JAY BRADSHAW, EMT-P  
DIRECTOR

Board of EMS Meeting  
Maine EMS Conference Room  
February 3, 1999  
MINUTES

Members Present: L. Bouchard (Chair-elect), C. Little, R. Doughty, W. Dunwoody, S. Leach, J. Defillip, S. Hayes, C. Pillsbury, P. DiPietrantonio, P. Stevens, W. Werts, D. Dane

Regional Coordinators: J. LeBrun, D. Carroll

Staff: J. Bradshaw, D. Corning, D. White, W. Montejo

1. Introductions

None necessary.

2. Minutes

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of the January 6, 1999, Board meeting as revised. (Dunwoody; second by Stevens). Carried.**

3. Old Business

A. EMS/TC Task Force

D. Corning reported that on January 7, he and Jay met with Dr. Durward Huffman, President, NMTC, and Dr. Richard Willis, Dean of Community Services @ CMTC, to continue discussions on awarding standardized credits for EMS courses, entry requirements, and course costs.

To begin addressing the issue of a varying amount of credits being awarded by different TC's for the same program, MEMS sent Dr. Huffman copies of the First Responder through Paramedic curricula, as well as the Maine EMS Instructor/Coordinator training requirements and program. Dr. Huffman's office will begin reviewing this material to see how many credits can be awarded for each training program.

Entry Requirements: For the Technical College system, a pre-course screening is not necessary for a noncredit course. A course offered for credit would require a pre-course screening **only if** the course is part of a degree program. The Education Committee has been tasked with producing a draft document of what entry standards should look like for First Responder and EMT courses.

Course Costs: Currently a course for credit can not have 2 separate prices, 1 price if you want credit and a separate price if you don't. Students taking the same course must all pay the same price. The cost of a credit course may actually be less expensive than the same course offered without credit. The noncredit course has to have 100% of the costs covered by the program fee, credit courses are subsidized by other education funds. As a note, instructors in a credit course typically must have at least a bachelor degree to instruct.

Drs. Huffman & Willis confirmed that EMS training programs are within the mission statement for the TC systems and agreed that they need to be providing the training in a manner consistent with the needs of the MEMS system.

Dwight will follow up with Dr. Huffman in a few weeks to keep the momentum going forward.

#### B. Strategic Planning Draft

J. Bradshaw reported that the Operations Team will be meeting on February 9, to finish drafting the Strategic Plan. The goal is to present this for discussion and consideration at the March Board meeting.

#### C. Unfinished Business

None at this time.

#### D. Other

J. Bradshaw asked the Board for clarification on the specific charge to the Investigations Task Force. After a brief discussion, the consensus was that the Task Force should review the investigation process and determine how the Board handles investigations (i.e. Committee process or full Board).

#### 4. New Business

##### A. Ops Team/Committee Action Items

As previously reported, the Ops Team will meet on 2/9/99.

##### B. Investigations Committee Action Items

None at this time.

##### C. Legislation Update

J. Bradshaw reported that there are two bills published that directly affect EMS; LD 52, which expands the number of red lights that can be used on personal vehicles, and LD 678 that effective 1/1/2002, would require AVOC training for anyone who routinely operates an ambulance in emergency mode or when carrying a passenger.

MEMS is planning to testify in opposition to LD 52 and in support of LD 678. S. Hayes suggested talking with the Risk Management division of Maine Municipal Association regarding the benefits of having AVOC trained drivers.

Jay also mentioned that he updates the MEMS web page as updated legislative information becomes available. He also e-mails updates to each regional office and to the MEMS Listserver.

##### D. Awards Committee

B. Dunwoody reported that the Committee has received 6 nominations and will be meeting after the March Board meeting to review the nominations and develop recommendations for action at the April Board meeting.

E. Waiver Request - Orono Rescue

D. White reviewed the executive summary of the waiver request (distributed with the Board mailing) from Orono Rescue to receive a new service license before the end of the 30 day comment period. Due to the fact that this change has been widely publicized, and is supported by the Regional EMS Office, the Board agreed with the staff recommendation that the waiver be issued in time for Orono Rescue to announce their official transition during "Orono Rescue Days" scheduled for February 4, 1999.

***MOTION: To approve the request of Orono Rescue to waive §3.E.3(a)(v) of the Maine EMS Rules and issue a new service license to in advance of the 30 day waiting period. (Dunwoody; second by Leach). Unanimous.***

F. Other

None at this time.

5. Staff Report

A. Activities

J. Bradshaw reported that the EMS Day at the Legislature was held on January 21 in the State House Hall of Flags. Displays were set up by each Regional Office, MEMS, E-9.1.1, Maine ACEP, LifeFlight of Maine, and United Ambulance. The overall impression was that this was well worth the effort and received positive comments from both those with displays and the legislators who made a point to stop by.

Jay also reported that the Trauma Advisory Committee is working on the issue of TAC membership. According to the Law, Committee appointments are made by the Board, which at times had delegated this to the Board chairman. Following discussion, it was agreed that the TAC chairman would present a list of those interested in TAC membership and that the Board as a group would take action on the request.

B. MDPB

Jay reported that the MDPB had an all day retreat at their January meeting. At that meeting they completed a draft version of the revised statewide protocols. This version is being distributed through the regional offices to those interested. It will also be uploaded to the MEMS web page. The MDPB is requesting that any comments or questions about the protocols be submitted to MEMS in advance of their March meeting. The MDPB also developed a list of priority items for their 1999 work plan.

There will be no MDPB meeting in February.

C. Other

HCFA Update - Jay distributed copies of the Federal Register regarding the Negotiated Rulemaking Process and a summary of the HCFA decision regarding ambulance reimbursement.

6. Other

J. McKenney was unable to attend this meeting due to inclement weather in northern Maine, but at the next Board meeting will provide a report on his meeting with Commissioner Kelly in January.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.