



JANET T. MILLS  
 GOVERNOR

MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK  
 COMMISSIONER

WIL O'NEAL  
 DIRECTOR

**Board of EMS Meeting**  
 May 1, 2024, at 9:30 AM  
 Via ZOOM and Chamberlain Conference Room  
 DRAFT Minutes

“The mission of Maine EMS is to promote and provide for a comprehensive and effective Emergency Medical Services system to ensure optimum patient care with standards for all providers. All members of this board should strive to promote the core values of excellence, support, collaboration, and integrity. In serving on this Board, we commit to serve the respective providers, communities, and residents of the jurisdictions that we represent.”

| Board Member        | In Attendance | Late Arrival (if applicable) | Early Departure (if applicable) |
|---------------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Nate Allen          |               |                              |                                 |
| Bill Cyr            |               |                              |                                 |
| Laura Downing       | X             |                              |                                 |
| Amy Drinkwater      | X             |                              |                                 |
| Judy Gerrish        | X             |                              |                                 |
| Brandon Giberson    | X             |                              |                                 |
| Brent Libby         |               |                              |                                 |
| John Martel         |               |                              |                                 |
| Matthew Sholl       | X             |                              |                                 |
| Steve Smith         | X             |                              |                                 |
| Andy Turcotte       | X             |                              |                                 |
| Christopher Whytock | X             |                              |                                 |
| Kate Zimmerman      | X             |                              |                                 |

Staff: Director Wil O’Neal, Anna Massefski, Jason Cooney, Teresa Glick, Jason Oko, Melissa Adams, Soliana Goldrich, Taylor Parmenter, Victoria Clyde, Alex Gibson, Robert Glaspy, Chris Azevedo, AAG Samantha Morgan

Stakeholders & Guests: Chip Getchell, AJ Gagnon, Benjamin Wallace Jr, David Ireland, John Lennon, Phil MacCallum, Joanne Lebrun, Chuck Hogan, Fred Porter, Christopher Pare, Kevin Curry, John Hoak, Michael Senecal, Rob McGraw, Bill Montejo, John Cordts

1. Introductions

- Excellence
- Support
- Collaboration
- Integrity
- 

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With offices located at the Central Maine Commerce Center, 45 Commerce Drive, Suite 1, Augusta, ME 04330

2. Disclosure of any conflicts of interest  
Chair Drinkwater will recuse from Case 23-324

3. Modifications to the Agenda  
None

4. Public Comments  
None

5. Investigations

a. Investigations Committee April 25, 2024, Meeting Minutes

**MOTION** to accept minutes as submitted. (*Drinkwater, seconded by Gerrish*)

(Yes) Drinkwater, Downing, Smith, Turcotte, Gerrish

(Abstain) Giberson

**Motion Carries**

b. Case 23-324

Chair Drinkwater was recused and placed in the waiting room.

Summary: It is alleged that the licensee assaulted another EMS clinician while on duty, causing injury to that person. The committee recommends the Board offer the licensee an interim consent agreement for suspension of their license pending the resolution of the criminal case.

**MOTION** to approve the committee's recommendation (*Giberson, seconded by Whytock*)

Discussion: Chris Whytock asked what would happen if the consent agreement was not accepted. AAG Samantha Morgan advised that if the licensee does not accept the consent agreement, the licenses would remain active, but the Board could set the case for a hearing. Chris Whytock asked if the Board had recently taken immediate action against a license.

**Giberson and Whytock rescinded their motion and second.**

**MOTION** to enter executive session pursuant to 1 MRS §405 (6)(E) for the purpose of receiving legal advice (*Giberson, seconded by Gerrish*)

(Yes) Smith, Downing, Giberson, Whytock, Gerrish, Turcotte

(Recused) Drinkwater

**Motion Carries**

The Board entered executive session at 9:46 am.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:58 am.

**MOTION** to offer an interim consent agreement for suspension of the license pending the Board resolution of the case, and to direct staff to immediately schedule a hearing if the

*licensee does not accept the interim consent agreement within two weeks - (Giberson, seconded by Downing)*

(Yes) Smith, Downing, Giberson, Whytock, Gerrish, Turcotte

(Recused) Drinkwater

**Motion Carries**

Chair Drinkwater returned to the meeting.

6. Old Business

a. Meeting Minutes

i. April 3, 2024

**MOTION** *to accept the minutes as submitted. (Turcotte, seconded by Gerrish)*

(Yes) Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Smith, Turcotte, Whytock

**Motion Carries**

b. Maine EMS Director Update

Staff are providing comments on the Sustainability Rule. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EMS Week is approaching, and several staff and medical directors will attend the National Association of State EMS Officers (NASEMSO) annual meeting. An RFP appeal is in process for MOUD. Staff are continuing to review and process sustainability funding applications.

c. Medical Directors' Update

The Medical Direction and Practices Board (MDPB) continues to evaluate the protocol review process. Committee members have reviewed and compiled comments on Paramedic Interfacility Transfer (PIFT) updates, which will be brought to the next MDPB meeting.

d. Maine EMS Awards

The Award Committee met the previous week to review the nominees. Steve Smith gave an overview of the award categories and presented a proposed new award, the EMS Golden Eagle Award.

**MOTION** *to approve the EMS Golden Eagle Award. (Turcotte, seconded by Giberson)*

(Yes) Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Smith, Turcotte, Whytock

**Motion Carries**

The EMS Award Ceremony will occur on May 23, 2024 at the Hall of Flags, following the 11 am remembrance ceremony at the EMS Memorial.

e. Board and Committee Appointments and Vacancies

The Governor's Office was asked to re-appoint current members to stabilize Board membership while seeking new members. Committees are working to select members to fill vacancies.

f. Critical Care Transport (CCT) Review

Dr. Sholl discussed the critical care transport pilot project and the role of PIFT moving forward. Preparation should begin for the end of pilot project, and to assess if there a pathway to look at air CCT and see how to change/adapt ground CCT.

7. New Business

a. Discussion of Regional Framework

The regions will transition to a state-supported 4-region model. The regional coordinator positions have been approved in the supplemental budget. Director O'Neal provided an overview of the staffing model for the planned regional offices.

b. Update on EMS Education

Chris Azevedo discussed the current status of the education system, with the resignations of leadership at SMCC and KVCC. This leaves three training centers with active leadership that are accredited to provide paramedic programs. Other training centers have had difficulty hiring individuals for leadership roles. Aiden Koplovsky spoke about the potential educational impacts and provided recommendations to the Board, such as improving funding and supporting the training centers with additional staff at Maine EMS.

8. Other

- a. Next Board meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2024, at 9:00 am, in person.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:22 am**