

NH EMS Coordinating Board

MEETING MINUTES (Approved)

November 16, 2023

1:00 PM

NH Fire Academy Classrooms 5 & 6

Quorum:

Members Present: Rebecca Cain, Craig Clough, Joel Coelho, Kevin Drew, Mark Hastings, Ryan Hornblower, Theresa Jarvis, Justin Kantar, Neil Meehan, Joshua Morrison, Maurice Paquette, Matthew Petrin, Michael Reeney, Laura Sheridan, Chris Stawasz, Scott Weden, Eric Wilking

Members Absent: John Freese, Kristen Johnson, Eric Martin, David Tauber

NH FST&EMS Staff: Vicki Blanchard, Joanne Lahaie, Kimberley McCulloch, Mike Mulhern, Jeff Phillips, Matt Robblee, Joey Scollan, Walt Trachim, Crystal Tuttle, Maria Varanka

Meeting called to order at 1:00 PM

1) Welcome/Membership

A. A moment of silence was held in memory of Captain Clark.

2) Approval of the minutes

A motion was made (Jarvis/Kantar) to accept the September 21, 2023, minutes as presented. All in favor. None opposed.

3) A presentation was given by Kimberley McCulloch about Recruitment and Retention of Fire and EMS services in the State of New Hampshire. More information will be available after the meeting and accessible on the State Website.

4) Division/Committee Reports

A. Division Report / Bureau of EMS

- a) Assistant Director Jeff Phillips reviewed open positions at the Division, including a PT compliance investigator, PT ambulance inspector, and program coordinator.
- b) DHHS has secured an additional \$407,000 for an expansion of continuum, specialty services and critical care training programs.
- c) One year is left of the fully funded EMR training program.
- d) A Law Enforcement, Professional Firefighter and EMT Career Development funding program for members of these professions to take community college classes at no cost, as well as reimbursement for training programs completed at the Division.
- e) Canine Protocol hearing set for December 13th, the 21st of December the CB will be making a vote to send it to the Commissioner.
- f) The ETA rules public hearing was held on October 23, 2023 and the Division received good feedback.
- g) The Division is tracking several LSR's that relate to Fire and EMS services, but the official language for the bill has not been released. A discussion was held on what the Division tracks and how it relates to its operations.

- h) January 17th and 18th the Division will be hosting a Mental Health Seminar.
- i) There are 38 open EMS investigations.

5) Committee/ Board/ Work Group Reports

A. Medical Control Board- Dr. Morrison

- (a) Reviewed the last round of Protocols to be approved. The CB will review these in January.

B. TMRC- Joel Coelho

- (a) The TMRC discussed redefining level 4 hospital designation guidelines.

C. IC Renewal & EMS Education- Jeff Phillips

- (a) ETA rules held a public comment hearing with a few in attendance, and reviewed written comments that were submitted. One of the biggest areas of focus was instructor credentials, with stakeholders wanting to expand what was eligible to become an EMS instructor.
- (b) A recommendation was made to change the rules to include listing the requirements for Instructor I for EMS instructor and Instructor III for EMS IC and allow equivalents to be accepted for both levels.

D. Stroke Care- Rebecca Cain

- (a) The NH Stroke Collaborative was held at the Division on October 30th, with good attendance. The collaborative is looking into making standardized flyers etc. after a testimonial from a patient who stated he recognized he was having a stroke because he read that information.
- (b) Massachusetts is establishing a stroke protocol similar to NH stroke care.

6) Old Business

A. Protocol Approval & Schedule

- B. A discussion was held about air transport and ground transport to Level 1 trauma centers.

a) **A motion was made (Hornblower/Paquette) to accept the protocols as presented. All in favor. None Opposed.**

- b) Jeff Phillips stated that the MCB approved the last batch of protocols, so the schedule for the final vote is January 18, 2024. Because the meeting will be held before the CB meeting on that date, these protocols will be sent to the CB voting members prior to the meeting for any questions or comments provided to Chief Romanello or Captain Vicki Blanchard only. Any concerns or comments will be presented to the MCB at the meeting to be addressed. Once the vote is held, this will initiate the 60-day comment period and public hearings. The CB will review the package at the March 21, 2024 meeting, and then sent to the Commissioner's office for adoption.

B. Committee of Merit

- a) The Committee is aiming for the date of September 22, 2024, but is waiting for confirmation from the venue.

2) New Business

- A. Eric Wilking presented a letter of concern from Chief Clark of Sugar Hill about the EMR scope of practice. A discussion was held about changes going forward.

B) Adding/ Removal of equipment list- Addition of Spare Batteries or Charging Device for AED, Table 5906.1 and the Removal of Siren for Fixed Air Medical Transport Equipment, Table 5906.2

- I. A Motion was made (Kantar/Weden) to accept these changes to Table 5906.1 and Table 5906.2 in SAF- C 5906- EMS Vehicle Equipment and Unit Supplies. All in favor. None opposed.**

C) The MCB held an emergency meeting for the Operational Canine Protocols to approve this protocol and a public hearing will be held on December 13, 2023, at 9:00 AM at the Fire Academy. The CB will hold a special meeting after the public comment period, on December 21, 2023, at 9:00 AM in Classroom 2.

D) A motion was made (Hornblower/Drew) to accept the 2024 CB meeting schedule for 2024. All in favor. None opposed.

E) A motion was made (Coelho/Weden) to nominate Justin Kantar. A motion was made (Stawasz/Drew) to nominate Ryan Hornblower. No other nominations from the floor were presented. A vote was held with Kantar gaining 7, Hornblower gaining 8. Ryan Hornblower was made Vice Chair of the Coordinating Board.

3) Good of the Order

- A. Craig Clough presented a possible re-enrollment in the CARES program. One of the challenges is ongoing funding, and so a meeting will be held with the CARES program level coordinator and a representative from the CB and MCB.

4) Adjournment

- A. **A motion was made (Jarvis/Hastings) to adjourn the meeting at 2:38 PM. All in favor. None opposed.**

Next Meeting: January 18, 2024 -Classrooms 5 & 6