

NH EMERGENCY MEDICAL & TRAUMA SERVICES COORDINATING BOARD

Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy November 20, 2014

Non-approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:	Grant Turpin (Chairperson); Dennis Tobin, Eric Jaeger, Frank Hubbell, Jeremy Thibeault, Jason Grey, Chad Miller, Helene Zielinski, Eric Schelberg, Michael Pepin, Stacey Meier, David Strang, Doreen Gilligan, Nick Mercuri
Members Absent:	Rosemary Durning, Peter Row
Excused:	Susanna Ayers, Michael Cloutier, Rich O'Brien, Greg Placy
Guests:	Steve Erickson, Jeanne Erickson, Sean Elbeg, Scott Schuler, Mark Hastings, Fred Heinrich, Dave Hilts, Christine Beres, Jeffrey Stewart, Ken Carlton, Janet Houston
Division Staff:	Vicki Blanchard, Jon Bouffard, Kathy Higgins-Doolan, Chip Cooper, Shawn Jackson, Rich Cloutier

Welcome/Introductions – Grant Turpin, Chair

The meeting was called to order at 1:00PM by Chairperson Turpin. Introductions were made.

Acceptance of September 18, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

Jeremy Thibeault moved and Dennis Tobin seconded approval of the minutes once the noted and needed spelling, grammar and proper wording corrections were made. **The vote to accept the minutes after corrections was unanimous.**

NH EMS Medical Control Board (MCB) Report – Frank Hubbell

The MCB meeting was held this morning (Nov. 20, 2014). A draft of those minutes is available for review on the website. Below is a quick summary of what was covered:

- 4 new members were added to the MCB: John Seidner, Harry Wallus, Joshua Morrison, and David Hirsch
- Protocol reviews: most relating to cardiac and lining up with the AHA.
 - Added AEMT level to immunization
 - AEMT level can administer nitro to patients with a history of CHF
 - Changed definition of status I, II, and III patients; work still needs to be done.
- Drug diversion discussion as a system issue; very important issue.
- HB 1603 has been finalized and removed from the docket of the Legislature; they were pleased with the direction the Bureau has taken on this and felt no further action was needed.
- Narcan administration and shortages (Manchester only)

NH Bureau of EMS Report – Nick Mercuri

Bureau Chief Mercuri presented the following updates:

Committee of Merit Awards – appreciation was expressed to all who attended. This year, awards were presented to the following:

- Kathy Higgins-Doolan – Connor Honor
- Tony Maggio – Achievement Award
- John Snow – Educator of the Year
- Rob Atwater – EMS Provider of the Year
- Waterville Valley Public Safety – Unit of the Year

Rules – still over at DOS. Consultations have been on going with Atty. David Hilts about pulling out specific sections and moving them forward in smaller batches.

Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) – Planning meetings have been on going, and there is a meeting next week. The goal is to be able to launch applications and the protocol by early January.

EMS in the Warm Zone – The best practices document is almost finished. Publication should be ready in early January.

Investigations – There are a lot of misconceptions about how investigations are handled. Rich Cloutier has an education presentation which explains the process and is posted on the web site; please contact him with questions. The focus should be on public trust and patient care.

Governor Task Force on Opioid Addiction - The task force has met several times and recommendations are being finalized.

Ebola: The most important thing to come out of this crisis is that infection control processes should be the focus rather than specific diseases. In the end, protection is paramount. Please note that Health & Human Services is the lead organization regarding this issue rather than the Bureau of EMS. HHS will be offering additional PPE advanced train-the-trainer classes.

Bureau of EMS newsletter: This should be out soon!

National Continued Competency Program (NCCP) – Shawn Jackson

This program redefines refresher education. We are the 4th state to sign on to this program, and there was a roll-out in early November. 111 people filled the auditorium!

Basically, people who want to recertify for their March 31, 2015 expiration can opt into this program by taking a 100 question self-assessment guide on the National Registry's website. Note that this is an assessment tool as opposed to an exam! If they do not opt into the program, they will have to continue doing the 72 hour CE model. We are hoping that training officers and instructor/coordinators will start teaching this on April 1, 2015, the start of the education season. The State considers this an option, but individual departments can insist that their members adhere to the new program. Shawn will ask the Registry if people can retroactively opt in.

There will be a "Frequently Asked Questions" page posted on our website as well as a blast of emails once the details are finalized.

Advanced EMT glitch: Currently, the National Registry only has assessment guides available for the EMT and Paramedic Levels. There are no Advanced EMT level guides at this point. This needs to be clarified with the Registry, and the Bureau is working on this with them.

NOTE: This program is only available to those providers who have already transitioned to the new levels. If you are an EMT Basic who expires on March 31, 2015, then you must transition this time around or you will turn into an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) on April 1, 2015.

Data Advisory Committee Update - Chip Cooper

The data set was finished last month (Oct.) and there is now a June 1, 2015 date for transition to the new system. Two more updates will occur in January and March, 2015. Training will be available in May, 2015.

Saf-C 5903.10 Update - Grant Turpin

(At this point in the meeting, a quorum was not available for voting because two committee members had to leave.) A discussion was held on the rules draft from the Investigation Committee, edited by the Board at the September meeting. The Board submitted the drafted rules document to Sr. Assistant Attorney General Mike Brown for his legal input. Mr. Brown's edits were sent out to Board members on Nov. 7th. Several changes were proposed and/or debated by the Board. Additional discussion ensued concerning when and who is to be notified when a provider is being investigated. Some discussion was held regarding presenting the Coordinating Board's recommendations to the Commissioner of Safety when complete. Grant Turpin agreed; he will present with another representative of the Board and perhaps Attorney Brown.

Board Membership – Grant Turpin

There are members who have been on the board for the full 9 years, stated in law (RSA 153-A:3, III). A question arose as to whether or not this is allowable and if a re-nomination letter from a person's respective organization is all that is needed to extend their term beyond 3 consecutive terms of 3 years each. Also, what happens if a person does not serve consecutive terms? The RSA says that no person shall serve more than 3 consecutive terms or 9 consecutive years. This needs to be brought back to the department attorney for clarification. Grant Turpin is going to write letters to the organizations that have not had representation for an extended period of time.

EMS Strategic Planning – Nick Mercuri

The last update to the strategic plan was done in 2011, and there is a need to take a look at the plan as a means of identifying accomplishments as well as those things that remain goals. A strategic plan serves as a benchmark for where we are as an organization.

This type of system planning is the responsibility of the Coordinating Board and the Medical Control Board.

Below are comments about some of the sections in the 2011 Strategic Plan:

EMS and Trauma System Leadership – formalizing partnerships:

- Bill Wood attends a lot of meetings with other organizations and is the face of Emergency Preparedness.
- Interoperability is completed and report has been posted.
- Grants – no dedicated grant staff, but we do deal with grants.
- New England Council – Took a look at updated EMS leadership course which has been stalled for a couple of years. The New England Directors are trying to get this back. There is a great demand for EMS training on the part of the Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services.

Education – Distance Learning has not really been developed. We have received a grant from “New Hampshire Connect”, which is part of the UNH system, and we are looking to get back into it.

Research and Quality Management – There are lot of system issues which need to be overcome.

Real time information dissemination is particularly important. There is a NHOODLE module on quality documentation. What are we doing with our data? How can we get a good snapshot of how well our system is doing? The Narcan example demonstrates the importance of good data.

There are services that do no quality management in NH. This is going to be more of a problem now that we have the Affordable Care Act. Services are already seeing that merely transporting a patient does not guarantee payment. The idea was mentioned that appropriate reimbursement also needs to be investigated.

ALS – A Medical Directors “course” was created to overview the NH EMS System for these physicians, however there was not a lot of participation. The suggestion was made that those on the Medical Control Board should be required to take this on-line program. It was also noted that research has not been done for treat and release and social service referrals but have been discussed in conjunction with MIH. Finally, in terms of medical oversight of E911, it was noted that Dr. Suozzi is the State EMS Medical Director.

Trauma & Specialty Care Systems – There has been progress in the STEMI/Stroke systems, including a stroke summit and a stroke collaboration.

Field Services – The last assessment was done in 2002. Spot ambulance inspections have been put in place this year and the EMS Leadership Program is being updated, though a completion date is not yet available.

In the next 6 months, we will take a look at the long term goals for the next 5 years.

In 2002, the Medical Control Board met with the CB for a summit. A facilitator was helpful to keep the meeting on track. People should be thinking about things to be put on the agenda for a future collaboration and who should be a facilitator.

Items of Interest:

On this, his last meeting before retirement, Mr. Dennis Tobin was duly recognized for his service to the Coordinating Board. Dennis received a hearty round of applause and a certificate of appreciation. He also stated that his organization would be requesting an appointment of another member of the rehabilitation community to the Coordinating Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00PM.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 15, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Turpin, EMS Coordinator

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