

NH EMS Coordinating Board

MEETING MINUTES (Approved)

## September 15, 2022

1:00 PM

NH Fire Academy Classroom 2

Quorum: 9 members required (currently 15 positions on the CB)

**Members Present:** Susan Barnard, Jason Bean, Craig Clough, Jeanne Erickson, Theresa Jarvis, Chair LaPlante, Eric Martin, Neil Meehan, Matthew Petrin, Michael Newhall, Eric Wilking, Joel Coelho, Michael Reeney, John Freese

**Members Absent:**

Kristen Johnson, Ryan Hornblower, Chad Miller, Joshua Morrison, David Tauber

**NH FST&EMS Staff:**

EMS Bureau Chief Justin Romanello, EMS Medical Director Joey Scollan, EMS Captain Vicki Blanchard, EMS Captain Kathy Higgins-Doolan, Liz Goguet, Joseph Cartier, Mike Mulhern, Matthew Robblee Maria Varanka, Crystal Tuttle (Recording Secretary), Director Cutting, Assistant Director Phillips

Meeting called to order at 1:05 PM by Chair LaPlante

**1) Welcome/Membership**

- A.) Chair LaPlante reminded those with expirations to reach out to their affiliations.
- B.) New member Michael Reeney represents the Organ and Tissue donor

**2) Approval of the minutes**

- A.) **Vote:** Motion made (Jarvis/Barnard) to approve the March 17, 2022 minutes with attached amendment for stroke care, passed unanimously.

**3) Division/Committee Reports**

- A.) **Bureau of EMS** – Chief Justin Romanello
  - i) COVID protocols were extended through September 30<sup>th</sup>. If the public health incident is lifted, the Bureau of EMS will make recommendations and establish communications.
  - ii) Specialty Services Mike Mulhern is newest hire for the Bureau of EMS. MIH part time position still available. The North Country open position will be moved to the Concord office, and one will remain in the North.
  - iii) Wheelchair van services throughout the State have been sent certified letters stating that they need to be licensed through the Division of FSTEMS, and rotary wing services are also being licensed. This is an ongoing process.
  - iv) Clinical systems had a minor setback with the makeup of the review team, the team will be reassembled and continue.
  - v) EMS draft rules regarding Educational Training Agency's (ETA) are currently at legal for review.
  - vi) Continuing education continues to grow and approve. The Bureau is moving forward with the Paramedic to RN program.

**B). Division Report- Director Cutting**

- vii) Director Cutting informed the Board that the Recruitment and Retention report is now available.
- viii) SB 357 was passed and requires mental health training for all first responders upon hire and annually. The Division has a one hour training program available on the website that meets the requirements of this bill.
- ix) The Division held a mental health seminar in June that was very successful. The Division is planning on holding another seminar this winter.

**4) Committee/ Board/ Work Group Reports**

- i. **Medical Control Board- John Freese**
  - (a) Discussion of HandTevy protocol or similar technologies. The CB decided a presentation would be useful at the next meeting.
- ii. **TMRC- TMRC voted Joel Coelho as their representative to the CB**
- iii. **EMS Physician level of Licensure- Vicki Blanchard**
- iv. **IC Renewal & EMS Education- Justin Romanello- Ongoing**
- v. **Recruitment & Retention- Justin Romanello**
  - (a) Kimberly McCulloch has been hired for recruitment and retention and will be working with several departments.
- vi. **EMS Rules- Justin Romanello**
  - (a) Working with legal on ETA rules
- vii. **Stroke Care- Sue Barnard**
  - (a) Education was provided over the summer with the NH Stroke Collaborative at the Fisher Cats stadium with the participation of 8 or 9 hospitals. Boards for Brains with the help of UNH students created flyers with QR codes for resources for stroke.
  - (b) Fast ED data is still being gathered and analyzed. More providers are aware of stroke symptoms, but it has not increased the stroke alert numbers so far. There are some education gaps in posterior circulation stroke, but this has been included in the protocols. Non conclusive categories are being applied to some who are showing stroke symptoms. Some hospitals are utilizing old sources and not Fast ED.
- viii. **Committee of Merit- Jeremy LaPlante**
  - (a) Chair LaPlante introduced the Committee of Merit as a new item to be discussed at CB meetings to improve nominations with the EMS groups. This can help with recruitment and retention as well.

**5) Old Business**

- i) **Protocols from the MCB**
  - (1) **A motion was made (Erickson/Clough) to approve protocols provided to the CB from MCB. Passed unanimously, 4 abstentions.**

**6) New Business/ Good of the Order**

- A.) **Priorities of the CB**
  - (1) Data, Recruitment and Retention, Admin Rules will be the ongoing focus of the CB. Each member will be assigned to a work group to focus on these, so seven members each with one public member.
- B.) **Bio-spatial**

(1) Need a vote for support through the CB to utilize bio-spatial. **A motion was made (Jarvis/Martin) to support the use of bio-spatial. Passed unanimously.**

**7) Adjournment**

- i) **Vote:** Motion made (Clough/Coelho) to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 PM; passed unanimously

**Next Meeting: November 17, 2022 Classrooms 5 & 6**