

**NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board**

**MEETING MINUTES (Approved)**

**January 21, 2021**

1:00PM

Virtual - WebEx

**Quorum: 9 members required (currently 17 positions filled and 5 true vacancies)**

**Members present via Telephone:**

Jeremy LaPlante (Chair), Chad Miller (Vice Chair), Sue Barnard, Jeanne Erickson, John Freese, Terry Jarvis, Neil Meehan, Joshua Morrison, Michael Newhall, Clay Odell, Matthew Petrin, Lisa Patterson and David Tauber **(13)**

**Members absent:**

Brian Allard, Michael Kelley, Scott Schuler and Jeremy Thibeault **(4)**

**NH FST&EMS Staff present:**

Director Deborah Pendergast, Bureau Chief - Justin Romanello, Medical Director - Joey Scollan, Captain Kathy Higgins-Doolan and Hayley O'Brien **(5)**

**I. Welcome/ Membership**

Meeting called to order at 1:01PM by Chair Jeremy LaPlante

Chair LaPlante read the "Checklist to Ensure Meetings are Compliant with the Right-To-Know Law during the State of Emergency" and then Hayley did a rollcall attendance for board members. Members that have upcoming expirations have been notified by Hayley and are encouraged to submit reappointment letters as soon as possible

**II. Moment of Silence**

The Board lost a very valued member, Doctor Don Johnson. Don was a public servant that committed 9 years of his time to the Board, took a 1 year hiatus and then continued contributing as a member on the Board.

**III. Approval of the Minutes:**

**Motion made (Erickson/Newhall) to approve the November 19, 2020 minutes; passed unanimously via rollcall vote.**

<b>Barnard</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Erickson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Freese</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jarvis</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>LaPlante</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Meehan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Miller</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Newhall</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Odell</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Patterson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Petrin</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Tauber</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**IV. Division / BEMS Reports**

**Item 1. Division and BEMS Updates** – Reported by Director Pendergast and Chief Justin Romanello

- a. Spring programs are starting up. Electrostatic sprayers are being used to clean classrooms before & after use. As well as mandatory mask wearing.
- b. Covid rapid testing is still being done on campus for our Division, students, instructors, the Fire Marshals Office, E911 and HSEM.
- c. The Governor is still holding his weekly briefings at the Academy. The cafeteria is also being used as a call center for 211 again. Some staff will be assisting with this and some delays should be expected.
- d. State revenues have been higher than expected, the Division currently has 6 vacant positions and got the okay to fill 3 of those positions.
- e. Director Pendergast will be retiring after her second 4 year term, effective March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. It will be her 8<sup>th</sup> year at the Division and 29<sup>th</sup> year in Fire & EMS.
- f. Statewide FROST program is still scheduled to end in March, but could potentially be extended.
- g. A Rules hearing occurred January 8<sup>th</sup> regarding the required number of providers to transport to a hospital and licensing a non-affiliated. This will go to JLCAR in February. If both pass, they could be put in place immediately.
- h. At this time, 260 services have received electrostatic sprayers. 20 dispatch centers will receive these sprayers as well.
- i. Complacency issues still, some handled at the local & state level. A couple are currently in the investigation process.
- j. Worked with DHHS to provide nursing care centers assistance with staffing issues. Potentially allowing EMT/AEMT/Paramedics the ability to get an LNA license.
- k. Almost fully transitioned to the User Management system.
- l. The State is requiring mandatory training for civility and respect in the workplace be completed by Board Members. More information to come, but this is a 30 minute module with a deadline of March 14, 2021.

**Item 2. Legislative Report** – Director Pendergast and Chief Justin Romanello

- a. Nick Mercuri announced his retirement at the last CB meeting. At this time, Director Pendergast, Assistant Director Phillips and Chief Romanello are handling legislation until the Division is notified of whether his position will be filled or not.
- b. The Department of Safety is watching certain bills and the Division will chose which bills to pay attention too. Reports will be provided at the CB meetings from Division staff.

**V. Committee/Board/Workgroup Reports**

**Item 1. Medical Control Board Update** – John Freese reported

- a. Brief discussion on “Just Culture” and a slideshow presentation for EMS for Children.
- b. The Protocol Sub-Committee was discussed and the Attorney General’s Office requested this group be more formalized. The sub-committee will consist of 3 MCB voting members to make a quorum of 2. The other participants will still be participating as public guests.
- c. AED registry update provided with information about moving towards the pulse point app.
- d. Here is the link to the minutes for MCB meetings:  
<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/medicalcontrol/mbminutes.html>

**Item 2. Trauma Medical Review Committee Update** - Scott Schuler absent

- a. Here is the link to the minutes for TMRC meetings:  
[https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/traumamedicalreview/trauma\\_minutes.html](https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/traumamedicalreview/trauma_minutes.html)

**Item 3. Workgroup Reports:**

- a. **EMS Physician Level of Licensure** – Have not met, nothing to report.
- b. **IC Renewal & EMS Education** – No presentation for this meeting, hoping to get that presented soon. Any questions regarding this workgroup can be directed to Dave Tauber.
- c. **Recruitment & Retention** – Intentions of pushing the workforce study survey out with RespondNH once it is fully operational. Just met last week on this. National Registry wanted to participate in this.

- d. **EMS Rules** – Nothing more to report.

**Item 4. Stroke Care** –Sue Barnard presented

- a. FAST-ED went out for training for all EMS providers and hospital staff.
- b. Would like to monitor and collect FAST-ED scores that are being put in. This is a work in progress.

**VI. Old Business**

**Item 1. BioSpatial**

- a. Nothing more on this. The Division will continue to watch this move through Legislation.

**VII. New Business**

**Item 1. Data Requests** – Chair LaPlante

- a. The Chair is required to appoint 4 members from the CB to sit on the Data Review Committee. This committee is specific to education and 91-A requests. Any interested parties, please email Chair LaPlante. Chair LaPlante will send out an email by the end of the week to the CB members with who has been chosen to sit on this committee.

**Item 2. EMSC Update** – Anna Sessa

- a. Anna manages the EMS for Children Program and she shared a power point presentation to share an update on EMSC program efforts, free pediatric resources for EMS (prehospital) agencies and an upcoming regional effort to recognized EDS' readiness for pediatric patients. Any further questions for Anna can be sent to; [Anna.K.Sessa@hitchcock.org](mailto:Anna.K.Sessa@hitchcock.org)  
Here is the link for their online forum content: <https://learn.openpediatrics.org/learn/course/4801/the-virtual-new-england-emergency-medical-services-for-children-emsc-2020-forum>

**Item 3. COVID-19**

Chief Romanello discussed a few new things in the Bureau report, nothing more to report.

- a. Emergency Rules → Rules
- b. Emergency Protocols → Protocols
- c. Provider Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- d. COVID-19 General Discussion
  - Electrostatic Sprayers
  - FROST Program
  - Vaccination of First Responders
  - First Responders as Vaccinators

**VIII. Good of the Order / Items of Interest**

**Item 1.** No public comments.

**IX. Adjournment**

A motion was made (Jarvis/Petrin) – *to adjourn the meeting at 2:33 PM*; **passed unanimously.**

**NEXT MEETING REMINDER: March 18, 2021 - Virtual - WebEx**