

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

**MEETING MINUTES (Approved)**

**November 19, 2020**

1:00PM

Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy

**Via WebEx**

98 Smokey Bear Blvd., Concord, NH 03301

**Quorum: 10 members required (currently 18 positions filled and 3 true vacancies)**

**Members present via Telephone:**

Jeremy LaPlante (Chair), Chad Miller (Vice Chair), Jeanne Erickson, John Freese, Michael Kelley, Terry Jarvis, Neil Meehan, Joshua Morrison, Clay Odell, Matthew Petrin, Scott Schuler and Jeremy Thibeault **(12)**

**Members absent:**

Brian Allard, Sue Barnard, Michael Newhall, Lisa Patterson and David Tauber **(5)**

**NH FST&EMS Staff present:**

Director Deborah Pendergast, Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips, Bureau Chief - Justin Romanello, Chief Nick Mercuri, Medical Director - Joey Scollan, Captain Kathy Higgins-Doolan and Hayley O'Brien **(7)**

**I. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 1:06PM by Chair Jeremy LaPlante

Chair LaPlante read "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. Hayley also reminded all CB members that they will need to submit their financial disclosure form by mid-January. The Secretary of State is instituting a new online platform for submission and could be fairly last minute so please watch your email for this information and submit the form in a timely manner.

**II. Approval of the Minutes:**

**Motion made (Jarvis/Thibeault)** to approve the September 17, 2020 minutes; **passed unanimously via rollcall vote.**

<b>Erickson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Freese</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jarvis</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kelley</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>LaPlante</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Miller</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Odell</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Petrin</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Schuler</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>Thibeault</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**III. Division / BEMS Reports**

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

- a. There is a large HVAC project currently ongoing in the new side of the dormitory building.

- b. Just received bids on the aerial ladder project so this is moving forward. Also, some repairs to the A burn building will be ongoing.
- c. In the fall, 80-90 firefighter students have graduated from various programs around the State. These programs started prior to Covid. The 10 week Recruit program is finishing up and graduating on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Final CPAT of the year was completed, 103 candidates went through and just under a 70% pass rate.
- e. The Division is still hosting the Governor's press conferences meaning that 2 classrooms are still unavailable for usage.
- f. The FROST program is optional for any 1<sup>st</sup> responder agency. This testing occurs once a month. So far, 60 primary departments are participating. This was launched on November 9<sup>th</sup>.
- g. 93 electrostatic sprayers have been given out to transport departments. The next delivery will go out to the remainder of transport services and then non-transport services.
- h. Actively working on the vaccination planning with HSEM and DHHS. 13,500 first responders to vaccinate. EMS will only assist by acting as a vaccinator if you are an AEMT or Paramedic.
- i. Complacency with PPE usage is a protocol violation. Please address any complacency issues that you see. The Division will help if the local level needs assistance.
- j. Dr. Scollan and others have been reviewing the current Emergency Protocols. The Chair and Vice Chair of both the MCB & CB will be included in the updates made.
- k. November 1<sup>st</sup> was the deadline to complete Protocol Rollout 8.0. A little over 1,000 providers have yet to complete 8.0. Emails have gone out to encourage the completion of this Protocol Rollout.
- l. As of the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, 34 EMR's were deactivated, leaving approximately 180 EMR's in the State.
- m. The Division is transitioning internally to the User Management System soon, then the public will be introduced to it around 1 year of internal staff using it.
- n. Vaccination training will become available and posted on the web for easy access once DHHS release the required training. Chief Romanello will distribute this information when he receives it.

**Item 2. Legislative Report – Chief Mercuri**

- a. 453 LSR's were filed in the State this morning. Watching an LSR regarding, Cost of Non-Emergency Services, EMT L.O.D.D has been refiled for a technical correction, Medical Freedom Act and Ambulance Billing.
- b. The Division is working on some things with the MCB regarding BioSpatial, data sharing concept. Also, a having a tool to support the just culture concept.
- c. Adding EMT's to the license plates, just like firefighters have.

**IV. Committee/Board/Workgroup Reports**

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

- a. Renewal of 6 memberships and an additional 2 new appointed members from Region V.
- b. A discussion occurred about ketamine in transcutaneous pacing.
- c. Recommendations from the MCB to the CB will be brought up under New Business.
- 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 reported**

- a. Overdose fatalities presentation from 2019.
- b. Continuing to investigate ACS Levels 2 and 3.
- c. 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** – Meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Recapped what has been done in the past, the group determined that they were going to prepare something for the CB's next meeting to present.
- c. **Recruitment & Retention** – Still finalizing some of the surveys with Rural Health. More to come..

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

**Item 4. Stroke Care** – Sue Barnard absent, Chair LaPlante reported

- a. Just had their first 2 hospitals in NH complete their Acute Stroke Ready Certification surveys. Lakes Region General Hospital had their survey on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and Exeter Hospital had their survey on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Sue reviewed their stroke programs and both facilities have an unwavering commitment to the care of stroke patients. The NH Stroke Collaborative would like to be able to support more small hospitals in achieving this distinction and will be creating an Acute Stroke Ready Support work group.
- b. FAST-ED education for EMS is available and was due to be completed on Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. Vicki and Sue will be collaborating on providing education to the hospitals.
- c. November 19<sup>th</sup>, their annual stroke conference in collaboration with St Anselm College. Topics include Imaging options, Cryptogenic stroke, Telestroke, oral anticoagulants in stroke and dual antiplatelet therapy and post stroke care.

**V. Old Business**

**Item 1. BioSpatial**

- a. Part of the legislative change that needs to be made with the AG's Office. The Board asked, if changes are going to be made, they have requested to see the changes ahead of time before voting on it.
- b. Chief Mercuri reported that this looks like it will be able to move forward as an agency bill.

**VI. New Business**

**Item 1. Recommendations from the MCB to the CB** – John Freese

As requested by multiple Board members and to follow suit, these 3 items were brought to the Board's attention and will be acted on at the next CB meeting to give the Board time to review the changes.

- a. 5922.02 under complaints and investigations, section J it reads "in accordance with paragraph G above", this should actually read **"to paragraph F above."**
- b. Under the same rule above, where the notifications are listed for immediate suspensions and public health threats, **adding the primary medical resource hospital or potentially, all medical resource hospitals and the medical director** in the medical resource hospital as well. The hospital with which those individuals are affiliated with are notified of the concern as well. The wording on this will need to be clarified by the Board before it goes to legal.
- c. Consider advocating for a change in 153:A-13 where the Commissioner "shall" deny an application or renewal, looking at changing "shall" to "may" or instead of taking action on the license, allow for some language change to allow for a letter of notice or something to that effect.

**Item 2. Vote on 2021 Schedule**

**Motion made (Erickson/Petrin) to approve the 2021 CB Schedule; passed unanimously via rollcall vote.**

<b>Allard</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Erickson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Freese</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jarvis</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kelley</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>Odell</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Petrin</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Schuler</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Thibeault	Yes
-----------	-----

Item 3. COVID-19

- a. Emergency Rules → Rules  
Discussed under the Bureau report.  
Chair LaPlante mentioned that the committee that was getting together to bring any proposed changes to the Board regarding the ambulance equipment list will be meeting and more to come.
- b. Emergency Protocols → Protocols  
Nothing more to report.
- c. Provider Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)  
Complacency is a known issue. Please address this, if you see it. PPE is readily available, out your request in to EOC to get what you need.
- d. COVID-19 General Discussion
  - Electrostatic Sprayers
  - FROST Program  
October 22<sup>nd</sup> the Division met with DHHS to put together a program FOR First Responders to test. Chief Nick Mercuri rolled out a Pilot Program for this and 120 folks were tested to gather information before rolling out the program. Over 3,000 testing kits have been sent out to the communities that have signed up. 60 agencies have signed up as of this morning.
  - Vaccination of First Responders  
Discussed under the Bureau report.
  - First Responders as Vaccinators  
Discussed under the Bureau report.

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

Item 1. Chair LaPlante mentioned the brief discussion that occurred this morning in the MCB meeting about the NVO masks and the exhalation vent, whether these were fit tested and adequate for use or not. The determination was that they are adequate with a surgical mask over the NVO mask to cover that exhalation port.

Item 2. No public comments.

**VIII. Adjournment**

**A motion was made (Schuler/Thibeault) – to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 PM; passed unanimously.**

**NEXT MEETING REMINDER: January 21, 2021 - WebEx**