

NH EMERGENCY MEDICAL & TRAUMA SERVICES COORDINATING BOARD

Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services
Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy
Concord, NH

MINUTES OF MEETING (Approved) September 21, 2017

Members Present: Grant Turpin (Chair), Eric Jaeger, Jeanne Erickson, Mike Harnois, Frank Hubbell, Don Johnson, Scott Schuler, Matthew Petrin, Greg Placy, Peter Row, and Jeremy Thibeault (11)

Members Absent: Susanna Ayers, Susan Barnard, Jason Grey, Lukas Kolm, Jeremy LaPlante, Chad Miller, Richard Murphy, and Richard O'Brien(excused) (8)

Division Staff: Director Pendergast, Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips, Captains: Vicki Blanchard, Kathy Doolan and Chip Cooper, and Richard Cloutier, Gerry Christian and June Connor (administrative assistant).

Guests: Pam Drewniak, Steve Erickson, Fred Heinrich, Will Fischer, Mark Hastings, Aaron McIntire, Justin Romanello, and Anna Sessa.

Guest Speakers: Sue Prentiss (REPLICA)

NOTE: “Action items” are in bold red.

I. Call to Order

Item 1. Welcome

The CB meeting was called to order at 1:04PM by Chair Grant Turpin. There was a quorum. Grant asked if anyone had someone in mind for another public member to fill the vacancy. Also need to fill vacancies for: NH Ambulance Association and NH Paramedic Association.

Item 2. Introductions

All CB members and guests introduced themselves.

Item 3. Membership (Vice Chair and Public Member)

- Re-nomination letters are overdue from 9 CB members (Miller, Erickson, Ayers, Hubbell, LaPlante, Placy, Murphy, Jaeger, and Harnois). Please be sure to get copies to June Connor so that terms can be properly tracked. June will check on Don Johnson's term to see if it is correct. Several people on this list stated that their organizations had already submitted letters to the Governor's Office; these letters have not yet made their way to the Academy. Governor also wants resumes along with letters.

- Vice Chair – Neither nominee is present. This was tabled for now.

Vote for Chair:

Motion made (Placy/Schuler) – *to re-nominate Grant as Chair; passed unanimously.*

II. Approval of Minutes – Motion made (Thibeault/Petrin) – to approve the March minutes; passed unanimously.

III. Bureau of EMS Report – Director Pendergast & Assistant Director Phillips

Jeff reported we have had a lot of personnel changes. Currently, they are attempting to reclassify the Deputy Bureau Chief of EMS position. It is still over at State Personnel and we are hoping to have it back within 30 days so it can be posted. Gerry Christian, who is also present at this meeting, has started as the part-time clinical systems program coordinator and is currently spending his time on the Trauma Registry and the upcoming stroke workshop.

We have lost our SIM coordinator, so that position is now open. We have scheduled a second interview with the candidate for the data system administrator position (Chip's group). Another position has been put with Chip's group that will assist with the administration of TEMSIS.

E-Learning section lost Brad Weilbrenner, who left to work at another state agency. That position has been posted and filled and the new person will be starting tomorrow.

As part of our last AFG grant we were granted some cardiac rhythm generator trainers and will be going through the process of purchasing that.

Building updates: Hopefully, by November we will have all new seating in the auditorium. Capacity will be increased to 140. We have gotten grant money to

update all of our teleconferencing equipment. We are currently working with IT to upgrade our wireless system, which will be much more stable.

We are currently working internally on organizing the EMS Rules so we can meet with the Coordinating Board on revamping the rules that don't really work now. Criminal Background Checks for new licensees continues to move forward slowly. It is still a much longer process to get someone licensed. We have talked about some legislation to streamline that process.

We had some leftover vouchers that were purchased for transitioning from EMT-I to AEMT, and the National Registry worked with us to convert them to EMT vouchers. The goal is to get more providers. If you have finished a program and can get a letter from a Unit stating you are affiliated, you can get a voucher to take the exam.

We have developed an EMS in the Warm Zone on-line operation class. The next step was to develop it with an 8 hour practical. Unfortunately, it ran into some snags and the 2 people who were in charge took jobs elsewhere. As of this week they were in final testing of the on line portion. Hopefully, in the next 2 weeks this will be deployed. We are currently finalizing the practical portion. We hope to have everything up and running very soon.

The Trauma Conference is Friday, November 3rd and the EMS North Country Conference is the last weekend in October. Dr. Suozzi will be putting on a presentation: State of the Science on High Performance CPR. You can pre-register for that. The cost is \$25.

Director Pendergast said there are a couple of pieces of legislation going forward and tomorrow is the deadline to file as a placeholder and go before the representatives. We have 3 pieces being sponsored:

- Under RSA 21:(p)12 we have an ability to collect funds. In other words, to charge for licenses and ambulance inspections. We haven't been using it. If we were to collect these funds they will go into the general fund. They do not go into the Fire or EMS fund. We are looking to change the legislation so that if we do charge for those things, we will be able to use the funds for our division.
- Criminal History Record Check Law (153a10(a)). It has wording in it that is very restrictive. We are working to clean that up to make it a quicker process.

- This one might be a hold-over from the days when EMS was under DHHS. If someone requests data from our division, we have to go to DHHS and get them to agree to give us permission to use the data.
- Also REPLICA. The Commissioner feels bringing this to NH would be a positive thing. This would be introduced to the senate and will need a sponsor.

Committee/Board Reports

Item 1. NH EMS Medical Control Board report – F. Hubbell

- The MCB met this morning, September 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.
- Highlights of the meeting:
CARES update from Nick Valentini.
Protocols update. Still not done. Will be a few more weeks.
REPLICA report by Sue Prentiss
Method to monitor drug shortages

Full minutes can be viewed on the EMS website.

Item 2. TMRC Report – S. Schuler

SNHMC was granted one year provisional Adult Level III and Pediatric Level III trauma center designation and that will be extended pending a few deficiencies that will be reviewed and fixed. Reminder that the Trauma Conference is on November 3rd. Vicki mentioned at the end of that day there will be a train-the-trainer for anyone interested in becoming an instructor. As of October 1st the price of registration will go up. Injury Prevention Month: Suicide awareness and child passenger safety. Hot Cars Act of 2017 is being looked at. It is a national focus on car safety standards and how to prevent hot car deaths. Also being discussed is a Stop the Bleed campaign and how to initiate that with no funding.

Grant mentioned that the MCB is writing a letter in support of REPLICA and this is a very positive thing for EMS.

Grant also brought up sub-committees and the lack of participation. He will be sending out an email to see what everyone is interested in. Someone mentioned that TMRC does all of their sub-committee meetings before their regular meeting. Also mentioned was having lunch time meetings. It was decided to try holding them during lunch.

Item 3. REPLICA – S. Prentiss

Sue Prentiss was present to give a report regarding the topic. There are currently 12 REPLICA states, with Delaware being the latest addition. REPLICA is immediate legal recognition for EMS personnel/providers in the compact when they have crossed the border into another state under authorized circumstances. Authorized circumstances being when there is a large planned event or an unplanned event where there is not a declaration of disaster, but need to plan mobilization of personnel. New Hampshire is already in a position to do this. REPLICA brings about, for the first time in history, a national coordinated personnel database so there is one place where member states can put their state licensure data. Costs of this are all covered. It is being built by the National Registry of EMTs, including the transition of data from the states into the system. Member states have access so that they know who is coming across the border and that they have met the fitness criteria. Burdens for EMS personnel will change and there will be increased accountability. Under this compact, all members agree that they will hold each other accountable. REPLICA is not a multi-state license, it is a privilege to practice under authorized circumstances.

Discussion followed.

Motion (Schuler/Erickson) – *to write letter in support of REPLICA to Commissioner; passed unanimously.*

New Business - There was a handout concerning EMS provider safety and hours of work. It was requested that everyone go back to their stakeholder groups and discuss this. Also ask agencies about their restrictions. Should this be added to a rule? Rich Cloutier said that 2 important things discussed today should be brought together: retention of EMS providers and how hours can conflict. OHSA would require documentation about level of fatigue. Local departments are not going to be in favor of state intervention. The best practices document is a good idea, but Scott Schuler said it scares him. It is a liability issue. Will come back to this for discussion at the next meeting.

Grant reminded everyone about the Committee of Merit Awards ceremony is Monday night, September 25th. He also read the list of EMS award recipients.

Thank you to Janet Houston for all her hard work!

Motion (Hubbell/Row) – *to adjourn (2:32); passed unanimously.*

Next regular scheduled meeting: Thursday, November 16, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Turpin (Chair)

Minutes: Denice McAdoo for June Connor