

**NH EMS Medical Control Board**

**MEETING MINUTES (Approved)**

**January 21, 2021**

9:00 AM

Virtual - WebEx

**Quorum: 8 members required (currently 14 positions on the MCB)**

**Members Present via Telephone:**

Robert Rix (Chair), Michelle Nathan (Vice Chair), Jared Blum, John Freese, Marc Grossman, Frank Hubbell, Patrick Lee, Joshua Morrison, Andrew Seefeld, James Suozzi, Brian Sweeney and Thomas Trimarco (12)

**Members Absent:**

David Hirsch and Harry Wallus (2)

**NH FST&EMS Staff:**

Director Pendergast, Bureau Chief – EMS Justin Romanello, EMS Medical Director - Joey Scollan and Hayley O’Brien (Minutes) (4)

**Please note the agenda changes and actions made in red.**

**I. Welcome/ Membership**

Meeting called to order at 9:01 AM by Chair Rix

Chair Rix 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. Approval of the minutes**

**Motion Made (Nathan/Hubbell) - to approve the November 19, 2020 minutes as written; passed unanimously via rollcall vote.**

<b>Blum</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Freese</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Grossman</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Hubbell</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Lee</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Nathan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Rix</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Seefeld</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Suozzi</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sweeney</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Trimarco</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**III. Division / Committee Reports**

**1) Bureau of EMS and Division Updates – Director Pendergast & 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.

### 2) Coordinating Board Update – Freese

- a. Met after the CB meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup>.
- b. 4 changes were brought to the CB and will be discussed more after this meeting.
- c. Here is the link to the minutes of the Coordinating Board:  
<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/medicalcontrol/mbminutes.html>

### 3) Trauma Medical Review Committee – Trimarco

- a. T. Trimarco stated the last TMRC meeting on December 16, 2020 with normal reports out and minutes posted online.
- b. Injury is still the number 1 cause of death in the State.
- 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)

## IV. Protocols

- a. Nothing new to report, this will be removed from the agenda and added as needed.

## V. Old Business

- a. “Just Culture”  
Dr. Freese gave a brief overview of the discussion that occurred at the CB meeting. Details can be found in the CB minutes posted on the Division website. Sue Prentiss will be talking about this at the Legislation level and will keep us posted.
- b. Language Change for License and Notification of an Actionable Complaint  
Dr. Freese gave a brief overview of the discussion that occurred at the CB meeting. Details can be found in the CB minutes posted on the Division website. Dr. Suozzi emphasized the importance of the Medical Director/MRH being notified.

## VI. New Business

- a. NH EMS for Children Presentation – Anna Sessa  
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>
- b. Protocol Committee Membership  
The Attorney General's Office has asked that the Protocol Sub-Committee is more formalized. The actual members of the sub-committee would be MCB members, other participants are considered public guests. In order to have these meetings, a quorum will need to be met. Meetings are the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of every month from 9:00 AM - 12:00PM as WebEx meetings. Dr. Rix agreed that 3 MCB members will be needed to make up a quorum of 2. The first meeting is tomorrow, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Chair Rix will send out an email to all MCB members and any interested parties can let him know. Any other questions can be directed to Dr. Suozzi or Vicki.
- c. AED Registry – Dr. Suozzi  
The current AED registry goes into a database and stays there. It is fixed through a landline, which is not very helpful to the dispatcher. The registry will be moved through pulse point AED. This app is free! We will be the first state to use this as a statewide system. Currently loading the system up and will be starting with the Derry and Cheshire Medical Health Center area. Looking to start using this new system February 1<sup>st</sup>. Stop the bleed kits could be added to this as well.  
Hoping to advertise this and pull in some regions. More information to come as this unfolds.  
Any questions can be directed to Derek Aumann at: [derick.c.aumann@desc.nh.gov](mailto:derick.c.aumann@desc.nh.gov)
- d. COVID-19 – Chief Romanello
  1. Emergency Rules → Rules  
Nothing more to report.
  2. Emergency Protocols → Protocols  
Updated a couple protocols in December. Expecting to add to the vaccination protocol to expand and allow EMT's to vaccinate, but this needs to be authorized by DHHS and Dr. Chan. Maine, Massachusetts and other states currently do this. This is ongoing and revamping things as necessary.
  3. COVID-19 General Discussion  
Nothing more to report.

## VII. Topics Ad Libitum

- a. An increase in violence towards healthcare workers in the emergency departments has been seen. Dr. Grossman will be working with Tom Sherman and meeting with interested parties and the Attorney General on how to enhance the laws that will protect emergency department personnel when they are assaulted. Dr. Grossman mentioned that previously when he worked in Florida it was considered a felony similar to striking a police officer. More information to come.

## VIII. Adjournment

**Motion Made (Sweeney/Morrison) - to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 AM; passed unanimously.**

**Next Meeting: March 18, 2021 – Virtual - WebEx**