

**NH EMS Medical Control Board****MEETING MINUTES (Approved)****March 19, 2020**

9:00 AM

Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy

Via Teleconferencing & Classrooms 4

98 Smokey Bear Blvd., Concord, NH 03301

**Quorum: 7 members required (currently 13 positions on the MCB)**

**Members Present:**

Joey Scollan (Chair), Jim Suozzi (2)

**Members Present via Telephone:**

John Freese, Frank Hubbell, Marc Grossman, Patrick Lee, Joshua Morrison, Michelle Nathan, Robert Rix, Andrew Seefeld, Thomas Trimarco and Harry Wallus. (10)

**Members Absent:**

Brian Sweeney (1)

**NH FST&EMS Staff:**

Bureau Chief – EMS Justin Romanello and Captain Vicki Blanchard (6)

**Guests via Telephone:**

Craig Clough, Beth Drew, Jeanne Erickson, Chris Gamache, Fred Heinrich, Eric Jaeger, Jeremy LaPlante, Aaron McIntire, Anna Sessa, Jeff Stewart and Candace Tierney, (11)

**I. Welcome**

- a. Meeting called to order at 9:04 AM by Chair Scollan.
- b. Chief Romanello thanked everyone for calling in to today's meeting. He announced that Dr. Scollan has been hired as the State's EMS Medical Director; holding that position means she will no longer be able to chair the MCB. We will elect a new chair under New Business. He asked guests to email Captain Blanchard that they were on the line. He then did a rollcall for board members.

**II. Approval of the minutes**

**Motion Made (Hubbell/Morrison) - to approve the November 21, 2019 minutes as written; passed unanimously via rollcall vote.**

**III. Division / Committee Reports**

- 1) Bureau of EMS and Division Updates –Bureau Chief of EMS Justin Romanello
  - a. Thanked the board for participating in the emergency telephonic meeting held March 17, 2020 at 18:00 to approve an emergency rule that would allow the Commission and State Medical Director to pass emergency protocols.
  - b. An emergency protocol was released on March 17, 2020 addressing EMS response to suspected or confirmed COVID19 patients.
  - c. Future emergency protocols we create will be pushed to the board for input with strict deadlines; the same for the Coordinating Board
  - d. The Joint Information Center (JIC) has been created. All information must go through the JIC before it is release regarding COVID19. We do not want to say something different than DHHS or the Attorney General's office. Any emergency protocol will also go through the JIC before being released.

- e. The Fire Academy and EMS has suspended all classes with the exception of some testing that may go to finish up a couple classes and is now closed to the public.
  - f. Two more emergency rules are in the works. The first is National Registry has extended certification expirations to 06/30/2020; our rules say EMS license expire 30 days after National Registry, so we will extend our expiration to 07/30/2020. The second emergency rule change is to allow only one licensed provider on an ambulance, that provider must provide patient care. That provider must be an EMT, AEMT or Paramedic. This is thinking proactively as this pandemic expands and EMS staff becomes more limited if providers are quarantined or we experience an increase need for ambulance transports.
  - g. The Chief ask that every keep Kathy Doolan in their thought, as her sister passed away on Monday morning, after a courageous fight with glioblastoma.
- 2) Coordinating Board Update:
- a. F. Hubbell stated he was not at the last meeting but the January 30, 2020 minutes are on line.
  - b. Captain Blanchard stated the protocols were approved.
  - c. Chief Romanello added the education training agency concept is to move forward and start working out details of the process.
  - d. A letter is to be written against the repeal of Senate Bill 540 Compact (Replica)
  - e. Here is the link to the minutes of the Coordinating Board:
  - f. <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/medicalcontrol/mbminutes.html>
- 3) Trauma Medical Review Committee Update:
- a. Romanello reported the committee discussed how to move forward with ACS levels I, II, and III AND a Trauma Ready and Level IV designations.
  - b. 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. The protocol rollout is in full production at this time. We may wait to push it out after the licensing season, which has now been extended to the end of July.

#### V. Old Business

- a. Controlled Substance Maximums. Need to find out if we have the authority to set maximums.

#### VI. New Business

- a. Region II Reappointment: Scollan's has been extended until Region II can meet again.
- b. Coordinating Board Representative: Nathan/Morrison moved to vote Hubbell as the MCB representative to the TMRC for another term. Rollcall vote unanimously passed.
- c. Chair for MCB: Grossman and Rix each expressed interest in the position. A rollcall vote was done resulting in a tie of 6 to 6. A phone call was placed to Dr. Sweeney who was working in the E. D. Dr. Sweeney was able to call in at 09:48 and cast his vote. Rollcall vote was as follow results Grossman 6, Rix 7, Rix declared new Chair of MCB  
Rollcall vote as follows:  
Freese – Grossman  
Grossman - Grossman  
Hubbell – Grossman  
Lee – Grossman  
Morrison – Rix  
Nathan - Grossman  
Rix – Rix  
Scollan – Rix  
Seefeld – Rix  
Suozzi – Rix  
Sweeney - Rix

Trimarco – Rix  
Wallace \_ Grossman

- d. Vice Chair for MCB: Nathan expressed interest in the Vice Chair position. Rollcall vote unanimously passed.

#### VII. Topics Ad Libitum

- 1) COVID19 discussion ensued, particularly as it concerned the emergency protocol and use of epinephrine for a COVID pneumonia versus for bronchospasms. It was suggested to add terbutaline and/or aminophylline to the EMS drug formulary. Then there was discuss about not using nebulizer but MDIs, and all agreed it was a better choice but in short supply. Finally, Jaeger did not think we should limit the oxygen flow to 7 lpm, siting a JEMS article, “Modern Approach to Airway Management” and that patient that can tolerate rates has high as 15 lpm due well. All suggestions will be taken into consideration if there is a need to change the protocol.
- 2) PPE was another topic of discussion with concerns with resources by all.
- 3) E911 Card 36 will be introduced tonight at midnight which will broaden the surveillance of flu-like symptom questioning. They will also screen ALL calls asking if anyone in the home is sick or under surveillance.
- 4) Finally Wallace reported his EMS agencies are beginning to do fever checks at the shift change. If a fever of 100.4 or more they will be sent home.

#### VIII. Adjournment

**Motion Made (Suozzi/Hubbell) - to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 AM; passed unanimously.**

**Next Meeting: May 21, 2020**