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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
152 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
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MICHAEL P. CANTARA  
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW  
DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 2, 2005  
9:30 AM  
MAINE EMS CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

Board Members: Carol Pillsbury (chair), Steve Leach (chair-elect), Bob Ashby, Oden Cassidy, Peter DiPietrantonio, Richard Doughty, Bill Dunwoody, Sue Dupler, James Farrell, Kevin Kendall, Paul Knowlton, Penelope Kneeland, Jim McKenney, Wayne Werts, Steve Diaz (ex-officio)

Regional Coordinators: Jim Caron, Joanne LeBrun

Staff: Jay Bradshaw, Dwight Corning, Dawn Kinney, Drexell White, Laura Yustak Smith, AAG

1. Introduction of Guests. None present
2. Approval of January 5, 2005, meeting minutes.
  - a. Laura Yustak Smith requested that the minutes be clarified with regard to the Investigations Committee to state that delays in proceeding with civil investigations while there is a related criminal matter pending is done so that the former does not interfere with the criminal case and in many cases the criminal case resolves the EMS case.

**MOTION: To approved the minutes of the January 5, 2005, meeting as corrected. (Kendall; second by Cassidy) Unanimous.**

3. Old Business
  - a. EMS Assessment Report.
    - i. Jay is continuing to work on facilitators for the work groups. Several who have been approached have declined due to the time commitment required. Jay is working with the state office of training to obtain names of facilitators who have negotiated contracts with the State.
  - b. Trauma Advisory Committee position statement on the use of steroids in Acute Spinal Cord Injury

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- i. Drs. Diaz and Kendall briefly reviewed the material that was sent subsequent to the January meeting.

**MOTION: The Maine EMS Trauma Advisory Committee recommends against routine use of Methylprednisolone Sodium Succinate (MPSS) in those with acute spinal cord injury. Review of the literature shows that MPSS use in these cases to be investigational. MPSS should not be used in the prehospital arena, and community hospitals should only consider use after consult with the regional trauma surgeons or neurosurgeons. (Dunwoody; second by Kendall). Unanimous.**

#### 4. New Business

- a. Legislative/Budget Update.
  - i. Maine EMS staff, regional coordinators, and several physicians and providers participated in the information day at the State House Hall of Flags on January 19. The response seemed lighter than in past years, but the overall opinion was that it was helpful in meeting and connecting with legislators.
  - ii. Hearings have started for the FY06/07 biennial budget, with lots of questions being asked by the Legislature.
  - iii. Copies of the EMS Legislative Summary were distributed and Board members affirmed that this was the appropriate amount of information to provide. Those interested in copies of legislation can download same from the Legislature's web site.
- b. Operations Team Action Items.
  - i. There are no action items at this time.
- c. Education Committee Action Items
  - i. There are no Education Committee action items at this time.
- d. Board member orientation.
  - i. Postponed.
- e. Board of EMS Nominating Committee
  - i. Kevin Kendall and Wayne Werts were both nominated for the position of chair-elect. By vote of the members, Chief Werts was elected.
- f. Appeal of staff decision regarding the denial of the license application submitted by Stephen Smith.
  - i. Mr. Smith and David Hudson (West Bath FD) joined the Board for the review of the staff decision to deny his license application based upon his failure to disclose criminal convictions on his application.

**MOTION: To support the staff decision and uphold denial of the license application of Stephen Smith. (Kendall; second by McKenney), Unanimous.**

- g. Other
  - i. None at this time.

5. Staff Update

- a. MEMS
  - i.
- b. MDPB

Dr. Diaz reported the following:

- i. Rapid Sequence Intubation – a sub-committee has been established to review the need and interest for an RSI protocol for ground services (LifeFlight of Maine currently has this protocol for their nurse/paramedic flight teams). The sub-committee will be responsible to report back to the MDPB and if the sub-committee's recommendation is to proceed, the report will include training and quality improvement components.

This project also emphasizes the need for medical control training, which Dr. Diaz has noted is a top priority for the MDPB this year.

- ii. Protocols – it was recently learned that Proparacaine requires refrigeration and as a result the protocol for eye pain has been changed to Tetracaine.
- iii. The next MDPB meeting will be on February 16.

6. Other

- a. Next meeting date: March 2, 2005

Meeting adjourned at 1:00.