



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
152 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0152



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

ANNE H. JORDAN
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
NOVEMBER 7, 2007
9:00 AM
DECHAMPLAIN CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

Members: Tim Beals, Chair-elect, Rebecca Chagrasulis, Ron Jones, Jim McKenney, Oden Cassidy, Richard Doughty, Paul Knowlton, Roy Woods, Steve Diaz (ex officio)

Staff: Jay Bradshaw, Dawn Kinney, Drexell White, Ben Woodard

Regional Coordinators: Joanne LeBrun, Rick Petrie

Guests: Wayne Werts, Dan Batsie, Jonnathan Busko, Alan Azzara

Assistant Attorney General: Laura Yustak Smith, Esq.

1. Introductions – Not necessary.
2. Approval of the October 3, 2007, Board meeting minutes.

**MOTION: To accept the minutes of the October 3, 2007, as distributed. (Doughty; second by McKenney).
Unanimous**

3. Public Comments & announcements – none
4. Old Business
 1. EMSC – Jay reported that since the last meeting he met with Dan Kavanaugh (HRSA) and then with Kelly Roderick. Jay explained to both about the impact of the extended vacancy and developed a plan to redirect a portion of the funding to contract with the regional offices to collect the performance measure data required by the grant. Jay will work with the National EMS Data Analysis and Resource Center (NEDARC) and the regional offices on the survey questions and logistics.
 2. North East Mobile Health Services waiver. Dawn Kinney summarized the letters received from Donnie Carroll (Southern Maine EMS) and Bill Zito (Mid Coast EMS). Alan Azzara said that NEMH is willing to continue making the same license and subsidy payments as they have been doing, and to continue participating in both regional QI programs.

MOTION: To grant the waiver of Chapter 3 §2.B and §3 to allow North East Mobile Health to operate their 4 bases under a single license number, with the licensing fees, regional subsidies, and regional Quality Improvement to continue as it is currently being done. This waiver will remain in effect until the next EMS Rules change, regardless of whether or not the sections being waived are changed. (Chagrasulis; second by McKenney) Unanimous.

5. New Business

1. Operations Team – Joanne LeBrun reported that due to a last minute scheduling conflict, the Ops Team met by conference call on November 6, to discuss two primary issues: the EMSC plan previously described, and the MEMS Medivax Flu program that will be discussed in an upcoming agenda item.

2. Investigations Committee

MOTION: For the Investigation Committee members to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2007, meeting. (Doughty; second by Knowlton). Unanimous

MOTION: For the Board of EMS to ratify the October 18, 2007, minutes of the Investigations Committee (Chagrasulis; second by McKenney) Unanimous.

MOTION: For the Board of EMS to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2007, meeting with a change in the consent agreement in case # 07/23. In consideration of the time delay in getting the consent agreement completed, the suspension period would be activated on 9/5/07. (Doughty; second by Cassidy). Unanimous

MOTION: Regarding the case involving David Swett, to approve the addition of Exhibits A-D to the agency record. (Doughty; second by McKenney). Unanimous.

MOTION: To deny the license application of David Swett by adopting the Hearing Officer's recommendation as the Board's final action. (Cassidy; second by Woods). Unanimous.

3. Committee Reports/Updates

- Education – Rick Petrie reported on the matrix that the Education Committee is developing regarding the educational impact of proposed protocol changes. The Committee is also continuing its work on the criteria for state accreditation of EMS programs and approved the EMS Medivax program that will be reviewed later in the Board's agenda.
- EMD – Drexell reported on a change being discussed regarding the number of calls that must be reviewed by a PSAP as part of its QI program. There has been concern raised that the number of calls is placing a hardship upon these centers.

At this time there was a fire drill that interrupted the meeting while the building was evacuated.

- Exam – Drexell reported that the revised Intermediate written exam will be distributed in December. Next activities of the Committee will be to: review the IPE process, update the Intermediate practical examination, and to update the Exam Administrator's Guide.

- Data – Ben reported that the MOU with NEMSIS has been signed and Maine will become the 4th state to submit run report data to the national center. He also reported that the Data Committee will be having its next meeting on December 13.

4. Board Review of staff decision to deny the application of Jason Hirst.

Dawn represented MEMS and presented information to the Board regarding the staff decision to deny Mr. Hirst's application for failing to disclose prior criminal convictions as indicated in the preliminary denial notice dated 5/24/07. Mr. Hirst indicated that while he remembered one of the convictions, the other he stated was committed by another individual using false identification. Mr. Hirst indicated he has been working with Portland Police to get the matter resolved.

Following discussion regarding the nature of both incidents, the following motions were made:

MOTION: To table this review for 4 months to enable Mr. Hirst to bring back further information that the theft conviction could have been done by someone else using a false identity. (Doughty; second by McKenney) Failed (3 in favor; 4 opposed)

MOTION: To table this review for 60 days and to direct the applicant to provide information regarding the theft charge and a letter regarding his application from Old Orchard Beach Fire/Rescue. (Doughty; second by McKenney) Carried (6 in favor; 1 opposed).

6. Staff Reports

1. Medical Director (Steve Diaz)

- Attended the State Medical Directors meeting, which was held in conjunction with the National Association of State EMS Officials annual meeting in Minneapolis, MN. Topics included 12 Lead EKG training, regulation and coordination of air ambulance services, and the development of the National Education Standards project. This meeting was attended by ~ 30 state medical directors.
- Medivax vaccination program: Maine CDC has agreed to make available 2,000 doses of flu vaccine for administration by approved Maine EMS licensees. The MDPB approved the protocol, Education approved the training, and Ops discussed the implementation. Considerable discussion took place regarding who could administer the vaccine and to whom. Dr. Diaz explained the intention of the MDPB was to start the program on a smaller scale for this flu season and hopefully expand it next year.

MOTION: To direct the MDPB and Operations Team to review and develop a program for EMT-I & EMT-P licensees to provide flu vaccines. (Chagrasulis; second by Doughty).

Following additional discussion about the impact of delaying the Medivax program, the motion was withdrawn.

MOTION: To approve the Medivax program for ALS EMS providers to administer flu vaccine to other actively involved EMS providers, including non-licensed drivers, who are affiliated with the administering agency. (Chagrasulis; second by McKenney) Carried (5 in favor; 2 opposed)

2. MEMS (Jay Bradshaw)

- Applications for Training and Education Coordinator are again being accepted. Closing date is November 16.
- Jay and Ben attended the NASEMSO annual meeting.
- MEMS has received initial approval for Rural Health FLEX grant funds that will be used to support the Trauma Advisory Committee and EMS service administrator programs.
- Drexell, Ben, & Jay will all be at the Mid Coast conference this weekend participating in a variety of EMD, EMS, and MEMSRR programs.

7. Other

1. Jay reminded Board members that the annual EMS Town Meeting will be held at the Mid Coast Conference at the Samoset Resort on Friday, November 9, at 6:30 PM.

8. Adjourned at 12:40 PM.

Next meeting scheduled for December 5, 2007 @ 9:00 AM.