



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
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TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

www.nj.gov/health

JUDITH M. PERSICILLI, RN, BSN, MA
Commissioner

New Jersey Emergency Medical Services Council
September 9, 2020
Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order: September 9, 10:01 a.m. – Mark Merlin

Introduction: Dr. Adinaro, Deputy Commissioner

Motion to approve March 11, 2020 meeting minutes:

- Motion: Barbara Schreibman Seconded: **Andy Lovell**
- Discussion: None
- Motion to accept: **Yea: All Nay: 0 Abstain: 0**

General Discussion – Mark Merlin

- Next meeting scheduled for December 9, 2020, 10:00 a.m. location to be determined

Aeromedical - Gerard Carroll (*Absent*)

- No report

BLS Subcommittee - Andy Lovell

- Vermont Protocols
 - Under final review
- Pending Legislation
 - A-4511, “Swoop and Run”
 - S2851, permanently changing BLS staffing levels
- Expanded Scope of Practice
 - Awaiting direction from MAC and OEMS

Discussion and Questions

- Both bills have been introduced, but have not gained any traction

Training Fund – Steve Vetrano

- Total revenue in fiscal year 2020, including SFY19 carry forward and interest was \$5.8 million dollars
- Total expenditures for fiscal year 2020, \$971,000
- Current balance as of June 30, 2020, \$4.8 million

Communications - Joseph Burlew

- Received authorization for online Basic Telecommunicator (BTC) and Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD) classes
 - Classes have been completed and currently looking for feedback
- Next Generation 9-1-1 is out for bid

EMS for Children – Ernest Leva (*Absent*)

- No Report

Trauma Center Council - Vacant

- No Report

MICU Advisory – Barbara Schreiberman

- Discussed albuterol, CPAP, nebulizers, intubation, related to COVID-19
 - Stressed importance of adequate PPE

Mobile Specialty Care - Vacant

- Dominic Parone has stepped down as the chair

OEMS - Terry Clancy

- Introduced new staff member, Elodie Stamberger with the Education and Licensure section of OEMS
- Public Health Emergency
 - Still in effect until October 1, 2020
 - All waivers issued during the public health emergency are still in effect, but will expire on October 1, 2020
- Helicopter Programs
 - Working on scheduling inspections for those that have not been inspected in the last two years
- SCTU Quarterly Reports
 - SCTU programs do not need to send reports to OEMS
 - The reports are still required, but shall to be maintained at the programs place of business
 - The reports must be presented, to OEMS, during an audit
- Albuterol amended waiver
 - Clinical review was conducted, with changes
 - Must complete an ePCR
 - No mandatory reporting
 - Age limit was lifted
 - Parameters for contacting medical control have been changed
 - Waiver was approved
- COVID-19 needs survey
 - Will be forthcoming
 - Focused on things that you may need or require assistance with in the future
 - i.e. mental health or PPE
- Free EMS Narcan Program
 - Partnered with the Department of Human Services

- Agencies need to have a medical director and utilize ePCR
 - Must be registered with the department to be eligible
- 5 Minutes to Help Program
 - Going virtual
 - Online provider classes scheduled for September 26th and 29th
- NEMISIS 3.5
 - Due to be released early next year
 - Data section is looking for input from the EMS agencies
 - Contact Tim Seplaki if interested
- Trauma Informed Care
 - Focused on compassion fatigue and responder wellness
 - Email with details will be sent out soon
- Division of Mental Health Services
 - Offering a Zero Suicide Academy
 - Free training for mental health addiction for providers
 - September 9th, 10th, 11th, 14th, 15th, 18th and dates in October
- Non-Compliance with ePCR
 - Approximately 60 agencies are in violation of N.J.S.A. 26:2K-67
 - Each agency will get a final written warning
 - After the final written warning, there will be monetary penalties issued to those agencies
 - Free software and hardware is still available
 - Asking for members of the New Jersey EMS Advisory Council to reach out to those agencies to encourage their participation
- Licensed agencies whose names start with A-I
 - Due for renewal by December 31, 2020
 - Scheduling has commenced
- Patient Care Reports
 - Are required to be completed within twenty-four (24) hours
 - This is the responsibility of the provider and the agency
- EMS Conference
 - Cancelled for 2020
 - Planning has begun for the 2021 conference
 - November 11 – 14, 2021 at Harrah's
 - Pre-conference on November 10th
 - EMS Award Nominations can be entered at any time through August 16, 2021
 - Call for speakers will be open in the next few weeks and will remain open until January 11, 2021
 - SIM Competition registrations are being accepted
- OEMS
 - Due to added responsibilities within the Department, related to COVID-19, OEMS may not get back to you immediately
 - OEMS is triaging and prioritizing requests as they come in
 - OEMS' physical location will be moving

Discussion and Questions

- The address for the new OEMS building will be 55 Willow Street, Trenton
- Non-compliant agencies with ePCR
 - Some agencies are refusing to comply
 - Software, hardware and free online training has already been offered
 - Some agencies were unaware of the law
 - The penalty will start at \$200 and go up from there
 - Most of the non-compliant agencies are smaller volunteer agencies
 - The most recent correspondence sent to the agencies by OEMS, was also sent to the mayor of the municipality they serve
 - The data is important, and is about improving the EMS system and that can't be done without the whole picture
 - The delinquent agencies is public information
 - OEMS will share the list
 - OEMS does not take patient charts or written data
 - There are some agencies that may have merged or are no longer active, but OEMS will not know that unless notified
- Narcan Administration Dosage
 - The protocol states to administer according to the manufacturer's recommendations and local protocol
 - If there is confusion, the Medical Directors should be assisting in additional education

Education and Licensure - Candace Gardner

- New Refresher Format
 - Started September 1, 2020
 - Allowed for a Hybrid Refresher, which has to be reviewed and approved under separate cover
- CEU Platform
 - Delayed due to COVID-19
 - In final QA process
- E-Cards
 - OEMS has stopped printing cards
 - Agencies should be utilizing the Department's verification tool or provider credential transcript at njems.us to validate a credential
- EMT Training Fund
 - There have been multiple discrepancies noted recently
 - The certification platform needs to match the rosters submitted for reimbursement
 - Any discrepancy will delay the reimbursement

Motion to approve all oral and written reports

- Motion: **Andy Lovell** Seconded: **Steve Vetrano**
- Discussion: None
- Motion to accept: **Yea: All Nay: 0 Abstain: 0**

New Business

- Flu Shots – Andy Lovell
 - Campaign with video clips, in production to promote Flu shots

Old Business

- None

Public Comment

- None

Appointment of Chair of the nomination committee – Mark Merlin

- Chair – Andy Lovell

Nominations for Chairperson and Executive Committee – Mark Merlin

- Executive Committee
 - Andy Lovell
 - Mike Bascom
 - Barbara Platt
- Chairperson
 - Mark Merlin

Motion to adjourn: 11:00 a.m.

- Motion: **Andy Lovell** Seconded: **Barbara Platt**
- Discussion: None
- Motion to accept: **Yea: All Nay: 0 Abstain: 0**

Next meeting is schedule for:

Wednesday December 9, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Location TBD