Minutes of the April 23, 2018
Board of Emergency Medical Services Meeting

Dr. James Smith, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Emergency Medical Services to order at 9:01 a.m. on Monday, April 23, 2018 in the Lower Level B Conference Room at the Nebraska State Office Building located at 301 Centennial Mall South in Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was duly publicized by distribution of the Notice of Meeting and Agenda at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting and posting the agenda at the entrance of the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

Dr. Smith announced that this is a public meeting and the Open Meetings Law is posted.

The following Board members were present at the meeting: Mike Bailey, Karen Bowlin, Joel Cerny, Thomas Deegan, Ann Fiala, Troy Hiemer, Dr. Mike Miller, Dr. James Smith, and Scott Wiebe.

Randy Boldt, John Bonta, Donald Harmon, Linda Jensen and Carl Rennerfeldt were absent from the meeting.

Also present were: Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager; Jacye LaFayette-Dymacek, Health Licensing Coordinator; Tim Wilson, Program Manager; Wendy Snodgrass, EMS Education and Compliance Manager, Lisa Anderson, Assistant Attorney General.

Wiebe moved, seconded by Bailey to amend the agenda to move up items allowing presenters to leave the meeting early. Voting aye: Bailey, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Hiemer, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Harmon, Jensen and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.


Shelly Holzerland presented information about the Nebraska Emergency Communications Association to provide protocols to dispatch centers along with DHHS. Ms. Holzerland explains it provides basic pre-arrival instructions to responders. She continues stating that smaller counties are no longer using certifications they have will stop providing pre-arrival instructions. Interested in partnership to expand medical dispatch instructions in Nebraska. Ms. Holzerland stated the goal is complete partnership in training of dispatchers and maintenance of protocols themselves, for example making protocols web based. She state the long term goal would be to make EMD required across the state.

Board inquires about necessity of a statute to complete process. Covert-Bybee advises tabling discussing until Teresa Hampton is present and in accordance with later agenda item. Board concurs and will contact Holzerland again with updates and to gather additional information as necessary.

Tim Wilson provided an update for Office of Emergency Health Services. Information included:

- Stroke advisory committee is going to try to meet twice a year.
- Wendy Snodgrass
  - States will interview for Western Regional position in May.
  - Also got approved for second administrative assistant
- Mike Bailey
  - There were two 407 application proposals. Addressing 25-30 different questions. To address two separate issues, critical care paramedic and mobile integrated healthcare and community medicine.
These minutes have been approved by the Board of Emergency Medical Services.

Wendy Snodgrass, EMS Education Compliance Manager shared the following:
- States still working for contract renewal for online training program
- Hosting patient safety boot camp open to about 50 people looking at safety for crew members, patients
- Will not hold level 1 and 2 of training academy this year due to lack of interest the last two years. Will still hold level 3 and 4 in November
- Looks like will spend almost budget on tuition reimbursement
- States still lacking on Continuing Education available, looking for more volunteers

Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager shared the following:
- Jacye has taken a new position and will be leaving effective Friday, April 27, 2018. The board expressed their appreciation for all of her service.
- She states the department is planning to fill the Health Licensing Coordinator position as soon as possible. The work will be covered by other members of the office until the vacancy is filled.
- Several live-streaming options were explored. Still looking for viable options to facilitate live-streaming meetings.

Dr. Ernest provided the Physician Medical Director update. Information included:
- Stroke committee issue is there’s minimal guidance especially for an EMS point of view is preferential transportation.
- Approached a possible protocol change on Narcan it’s capped at 2 mg and generally comes in 4 mg. From a medical perspective doesn’t perceive harm based on a higher dose.

After discussion Miller moved, seconded by Fiala to have the model protocols reflect an increase in the single maximum dose of Narcan to go from 2 mg to 4 mg and repeat as clinically indicated. Voting aye: Bailey, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Hiemer, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Harmon, Jensen and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

Legislation Committee Update from Joel:
- EMS services that are county-based can get their tax credit. 760
- A lot of legislation did not make it out of committee that they were following

Service and provider committee from Scott
- Nothing to add

Education Committee update Dr. Miller:
- Were waiting for 1034
- States Wendy conducting survey to look at pass rates, courses taken, etc.
- Wendy states National Registry won’t do a report by state but information is online. It was looked up online and Nebraska state pass rate was at 74% where national average was 70%.

Fiala brings up discussion regarding Scope of Practice for Tourniquet Protocol. Protocol currently states to remove tourniquet after 45 minutes. Board has determined that in State of Nebraska there is likely no need to take off until taken to facility. Discussion continues about whether it has to be manufactured tourniquet as protocols state or not. Determined that it states it needs to be tightened to manufacturer instructions.

Fiala moved, seconded by Miller, changing the adult trauma protocol extremity soft tissue trauma to include controlled external bleeding by bandaging and/or packing. Voting aye: Bailey, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Hiemer, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Harmon, Jensen and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.
Fiala moved, seconded by Bowlin, changing the pediatric trauma protocol extremity soft tissue trauma to include controlled external bleeding by bandaging and/or packing. Voting aye: Bailey, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Hiemer, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Harmon, Jensen and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

Deegan moved, seconded by Ms. Bowlin to have versed read under pediatrics on sedative induction chart on pages 134 and 138, dose to read 0.05 - 0.1 mg/kg – seizures and sedation. May repeat same dose up to 0.5 mg/kg. Voting aye: Bailey, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Hiemer, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Harmon, Jensen and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried. (Board broke for 10 minutes at 10:36 am)

(Board returned at 10:45 am)

Board discussed EMS Strategic Planning Committee Updates.
There were no updates for Rules and Regulations, Medical Direction, Data Collection, Workforce or Communication.

Mr. Bailey shared information as the Trauma Board Liaison. No information beyond Trauma Board meeting May 11th in Kearney. Dispatcher position on Trauma Board was just filled. Board inquired about filling up EMS Board, Ms. Covert-Bybee advises Monica Gissler is looking for public members to fill up board, requests members encourage public members to apply. There are some positions on Trauma Board that are opening up soon but Trauma Board is currently full.

Mr. Deegan spoke as the Emergency Medical Services for Children Liaison. Advised flow charts that were created for day care centers in English have been translated to Spanish. There are two prep courses scheduled in York and Lincoln. Mr. Deegan advised Hospital Assessment is in early stages for Pediatric Recognized Partnership Grant, it’ll be live online May 15th. Need 80% participation by the hospitals to continue to receive this funding.

Fire school is May 18-19 and 20th in Grand Island. Ms. Bowlin shared information with the Board as the Nebraska Emergency Medical Services Association Liaison.

Board discussed LR 395. Ms. Covert-Bybee explained the process, it gets assigned to a committee which will gather information from entities it views as important, reports are generally made public afterwards. The Board expressed an interest in being able to contribute information to the report. Wiebe moves, seconded by Ms. Bowlin to send a letter to the Health and Human Services committee to offer assistance as subject matter experts for the LR process. Voting aye: Bailey, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Hiemer, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Harmon, Jensen and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

Dr. Smith started the discussion about LB 1034. Ms. Covert-Bybee advised the law goes into effect three calendar months from the date it is signed into law by the Governor. She advised that it is the Division’s goal to have regulations promulgated within a year, but that is not a guaranteed timeframe. Ms. Hampton gave an overview of the regulation promulgation process. The board discussed changes to the Model Protocols based upon statute and regulation changes and how to best amend the model protocols. Dr. Smith moved, seconded by Dr. Bowlin, to send out a thank you to individuals involved with organizing and getting LB 1034 passed on behalf of the Board. Voting aye: Bailey, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Hiemer, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Harmon, Jensen and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

The board discussed medication shortages, especially narcotics such as morphine. Dr. Smith inquired about expiration dates and if there’s more the Board can do to assist services dealing with shortages.

There were no comments from the public.
The Board was instructed to submit any topics for the next Board meeting to Claire Covert-ByBee.

Mr. Bailey moved, and Mr. Cerny seconded to go into closed session to hear discussions regarding confidential information and to protect the reputation of individuals named or referenced in such discussions. Voting aye: Bailey, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Hiemer, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Harmon, Jensen and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.


There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Wiebe, Secretary