

*These minutes have been approved by the Board of Emergency Medical Services.*

## **Minutes of the September 10, 2018 Board of Emergency Medical Services Meeting**

Dr. James Smith, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Emergency Medical Services to order at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, September 10, 2018 in the Lower Level C conference room at the Nebraska State Office Building located at 301 Centennial Mall South, 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, Randy Boldt, Karen Bowlin, Joel Cerny, Ann Fiala, Troy Hiemer, Linda Jensen, Dr. Mike Miller, Carl Rennerfeldt, Dr. James Smith, and Scott Wiebe.

Dr. John Bonta, Dr. Thomas Deegan and Don Harmon were absent from the meeting.

Also present were: Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager; Tim Wilson, Program Manager; Lisa Anderson, Assistant Attorney General; Teresa Hampton, DHHS Legal; Investigators Trevor Klaassen and Mendy Mahar-Clark.

Bowlin moved, seconded by Wiebe to adopt the agenda, moving agenda item 24 before agenda item 22. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Rennerfeldt, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon. Motion carried.

Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager shared the following:

- A new Health Licensing Coordinator has been hired in the Office of Rehabilitation and Community Services. Antonio Carranza will be joining the Licensure Unit on September 11, 2018.
- Two Health Licensing Specialist positions are currently vacant in the Office. Efforts are underway to fill the vacant positions.
- Provided the Application Processing Report for informational purposes.
- Information was requested regarding the status of the EMS Compact in Nebraska. It was shared that the Commission is still developing rules. A public notice for the next Commission meeting on September 28, 2018 was posted on the DHHS-Licensure Unit Webpage. No practice privileges are currently being issued by any member states of the Compact. Nebraska is working on coming into compliance with the requirements of Compact membership. For example, Criminal Background Checks via fingerprint are now required for initial licensure.

Tim Wilson, Program Manager of the Office of Emergency Health Systems (OEHS) provided an update. Information included:

- The Western Regional Emergency Medical Specialist position is still open.
- Update on the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program from DHHS staff, Ashley Neumeyer.
- Received High-Tech funding to be able to integrate data between ELITE and NEHI to facilitate real-time information integration into patient records. Also requesting that outcomes be integrated from NEHI to ELITE.
- DHHS received funds for Trauma, Stroke, and STEMI.
- Evaluating ELITE for ease of user interface and data-mining capabilities.
- Helmsley funding recently awarded to the American Heart Association for stroke education; details still being determined regarding funding use

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- Trauma regulations are going through the internal process; working on designation reviews; State Trauma Board meeting scheduled for October 2018
- DHHS seeking to be an approved agency to share information via CrewCare©. CrewCare© is an app to track stressors and triggers for first responders. The app is available now and free to download.
- Service Inspection Forms and Recommended Equipment lists updated by OEHS and available for the Board to review

Wendy Snodgrass, EMS Education Compliance Manager shared the following:

- 24/7 Online Training© has been renewed and is now available again; have added an additional 150 user accounts since reinstating the availability.
- Preparing for the forthcoming EMS Instructor Renewal period.
- Has developed the inspection schedule for the 2019 Training Agency Onsite Inspections

Dr. Ernest provided the Physician Medical Director update. Information included:

- There is a new joint-position statement on spinal immobilization that may influence the NE State EMS Model Protocols.
- There is additional data regarding the use of Naloxone in opioid overdoses. Increased incidence of flash pulmonary edema/hemorrhage. There is a call more medical evaluation on the use of Naloxone and appropriate after-care.
- Fielding more inquiries regarding PPE and Law Enforcement regarding the potential exposure to opioids in the field. Are gloves and a mask sufficient?
- Reported on a study done by Minnesota regarding EMS recruitment. Study cited the major staff recruitment issues identified were time commitment, pay/benefits, and availability.
- Asked the Board to consider the use of glucose/glucagon via IM for hypoglycemic emergencies at the BLS level. Is it appropriate? What are the benefits/detriments?

Cerny reported on behalf of the Legislative Update that a survey was sent out to all services from Senator Bostleman's office in accordance with LR395.

No report from the Services and Providers Update.

No report from the Education Committee Update.

Fiala reported on behalf of the Scope of Practice Update.

- The Committee is researching push-dose pressors, SEPSIS protocols, Tranexamic Acid use.

Discussion regarding the continuation of Strategic Plan Subcommittees. The Board would like to have a follow-up strategic planning session in 2019 or 2020.

Bailey reported on behalf of the Trauma Board Update.

- Bailey presented the Trauma Board with the latest draft versions of the EMS regulations. There has not been any feedback to report.
- Sheri Wren, OEHS, reported that the Trauma Education, Prevention and Training committee has been revived and would like to integrate EMS. The committee is looking for an EMS Board member to act as a liaison. Meetings are held via WebEx.

Debbie Kuhn, OEHS, reported on behalf of Deegan for the EMS-C Update.

- DHHS applied for the Pediatric Emergency Care Learning Collaboration Grant to work with EMS across the state to provide education regarding EMS-C. Results will be releases in October.

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- EMS-C assessment sent to Nebraska Hospitals resulted in a 97.6% response rate. That data is currently being cleaned and compiled into reporting format. As a reward for submitting the assessment, hospitals received sets of the new Emoji Communication Cards for use with pediatric patients.
- Texas A&M FEMA will be sponsoring a course on Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness in South Sioux City on September 15-16, 2018 and at Great Plains Regional Medical Center October 20-21, 2018.
- Heartland EMS-C will hold a Pediatric Symposium on October 19, 2018.

Bowlin provided the NEMSA Update.

- Busy with the new President and Board Members. NEMSA is currently evaluating new way to communicate to its members.

Cerny provided the NSVFA Update.

- NSVFA received a \$1.378 Million Dollar recruitment and retention grant awarded by FEMA to create classes/training for firefighters and ems.
- Cerny will be attending the National Fire Council meetings this fall.
- Annual NSVFA Conference will be held October 19-20, 2018 in Kearney, NE with the annual Memorial to the Fallen occurring on October 21, 2018.

After discussion, Cerny motioned, seconded by Wiebe, to authorize Ann Fiala to represent the EMS Board at the NSVFA Annual Meeting. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Rennerfeldt, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon. Motion carried.

No report from the Nebraska Emergency Communications Association Liaison.

Draft versions of the Emergency Medical Services chapters of regulation were presented to the Board for review.

After discussion, Boldt motioned, seconded by Rennerfeldt to approve the draft versions of the chapters of regulations as presented. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Rennerfeldt, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: Bowlin. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon. Motion carried.

It was reported that Smith contacted Sen. Bostleman's office to set-up a meeting. Still waiting for dates that fit into both schedules.

*Smith left the meeting at 10:55*

Fiala reported on behalf of Smith that communication with Theresa Sheldon, RT and Ashland Emergency Service occurred in accordance with the motions passed at the July 13, 2018 EMS Board Meeting.

No Comments from the Public were offered.

Cerny moved, seconded by Rennerfeldt 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, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Rennerfeldt, Wiebe. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, Smith. Motion carried.

Miller moved, seconded by Bailey to go into open session. Voting Aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Rennerfeldt, Wiebe. Voting Nay: none. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, Smith. Motion carried.

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Miller moved, seconded by Bailey to recommend issue an Emergency Medical Technician license to Sean Donnelly. Voting Aye: Bailey, Bonta, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Rennerfeldt, Wiebe. Voting Nay: none. Absent: Boldt, Deegan, Harmon, Smith. Motion carried.

Miller moved, seconded by Bailey to recommend approving ACLS Certification as an approved cardiopulmonary resuscitation organization. Voting Aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Rennerfeldt, Wiebe. Voting Nay: none. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, Smith. Motion carried.

Wiebe moved, seconded by Miller to recommend reinstatement of a Paramedic license to Melissa Schmahl with the additional recommendation that the Department assess the administrative penalty. Voting Aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Rennerfeldt, Wiebe. Voting Nay: none. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, Smith. Motion carried.

The Board was instructed to submit any topics for the next Board meeting to Claire Covert-ByBee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Wiebe, Secretary