Minutes of the June 13, 2016
Board of Emergency Medical Services Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. James Smith, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Emergency Medical Services to order at 9:02 a.m. on Monday, June 13, 2016 in the Lighthouse Room at the Country Inn and Suites located at 5353 North 27th Street, Lincoln, NE. 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, Dr. John Bonta, Karen Bowlin, Joel Cerny, Ann Fiala, Troy Hiemer, Linda Jensen, Dr. Mike Miller, Dr. James Smith, and Scott Wiebe.

Also present were: Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager, Jacye LaFayette-Dymacek, Health Licensing Coordinator, Tami Johns, Health Licensing Specialist, Tim Wilson, Program Manager, Lisa Anderson, Assistant Attorney General, Teresa Hampton, Department Attorney, Dennis Scott, Investigator, and Carla Cue, Investigator.

Dr. Thomas Deegan, Don Harmon, Charles LaFollette, and Carl Rennerfeldt were absent from the meeting. Bonta and Wiebe left before the meeting adjourned.

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

Ms. Bowlin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve the April 8, 2016 meeting minutes with corrections as discussed. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bonta, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM UPDATES

Mr. Wilson provided information on behalf of the EMS/Trauma Program and the Training Agencies. Mr. Wilson shared that Brian Monaghan, the State EMS Education and Training Coordinator resigned. They hope to have that position filled soon. Mr. Wilson has been meeting with staff in order to become familiar with the roles and responsibilities of each member. There will be some restructuring of positions coming in the future as they identify the best way to move forward as a team. As a result of the passage of LB722, the Stroke System of Care Act, the Trauma Program has received a full time position to assist with implementation. A job description is being created and a task force will be developed in the hopes of having everything in place prior to the January 1, 2017 deadline.

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Improvements for the Elite system are being identified and implemented to make the process easier for the end users. The process for reimbursement of tuition will be changing. The students will now be able to request reimbursement directly instead of going through their training agency. EMS Programs will be holding their staff meetings the day before or after the EMS Board meetings to make it easier for staff to attend the EMS Board meeting.

Ms. Covert-ByBee shared information regarding the EMS Board budget and funding for EMS activities in the State of Nebraska. After discussion, Mr. Wiebe moved, seconded by Ms. Bowlin to have Dr. Smith draft a letter on behalf of the Board to be sent to the Governor and Courtney Phillips to express their concerns regarding funding for EMS activities. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bonta, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

Ms. Covert-ByBee went on to share information regarding the process improvement initiative that is currently happening in the Licensure Unit. At this time, the EMS licensing processes are being reviewed. We are taking this opportunity to further the goals outlined in the strategic planning session including identifying opportunities for outreach in the community and communication between the Licensure Unit and the EMS Programs staff.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

On behalf of the Legislation and Regulations Committee, Mr. Cerny shared that the Tax Credit Bill passed and that services need to start tracking their training hours and incident responses.

There was no update from the Services and Providers Committee.

On behalf of the Education Committee, Dr. Miller shared information regarding the NREMT National Continuing Competency Program (NCCP). Participation in this program will reduce the number of hours required for licensees in Nebraska who wish to maintain their National Registry certification. The hours required by the National Registry still exceed the mandatory hours required by the State. This would not conflict with our current rules and regulations as it does not impact requirements for maintaining a license issued by the State of Nebraska. The State must notify the National Registry that it wishes to participate in the program.

After discussion, Dr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Bowlin that the Board notify the National Registry that Nebraska wishes to adopt this program as an option for licensees who wish to maintain their National Registry certification. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bonta, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

On behalf of the Scope of Practice Committee, Ms. Fiala shared that IV Nitroglycerin needs to be added to the formulary.

After discussion, Mr. Wiebe moved, seconded by Dr. Miller to issue a position statement in support of the pre-hospital use of ketamine in the treatment of combative/excited delirium. Voting aye: Bailey,

Boldt, Bonta, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

Mr. Bailey was identified as the person who will review protocol changes prior to making them available to the public.

On behalf of the Trauma Board, Mr. Bailey shared that the next meeting will be held at Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney at 10:30 a.m. on September 9, 2016. They are still in the drafting phase of the 2011 trauma regulations. That committee is scheduled to meet on June 29, 2016. Dr. Huebner from Kearney has resigned from his appointment for Region 3 so there is a vacancy. The Region 1 group is meeting August 5, 2016 at Faith Regional in Norfolk. They are looking for an EMS dispatcher to fill a vacancy. American College of Surgeons will be coming to Bryan on July 28-29 to complete the Benchmark Indicators for Scoring Assessment (BIS).

On behalf of Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC), Debbie Kuhn shared that the EMS week calendar is out and has been sent to all the ambulance services, all the hospitals, and all the training agencies. The daycare provider flip charts are also done and are being distributed. The grant for EMSC was extended for another year due to proposed changes in the performance measures which are going to public review for the second time. Ambulance assessments will be scheduled again in 2016 and open for 90 days. The grant advisory committee continues to meet quarterly and they are looking to add more constituents to it, specifically someone from highway safety. Children's Hospital continues to provide CEU's for nurses in the area of pediatric telehealth. So far 1,680 people have been trained using the Pediatric Emergency Training Simulator (PETS). Hospitals are asking for instructors to come out again, but it is unclear at this time if this project will be continued. A Pediatric Education for Prehospital Providers (PEPP) class was held in Wood River, one scheduled in Chappell was cancelled, and they hope to hold a class in Cass County. The Emergency Guidelines for School Nurses was updated in 2016 with American Heart Association guidelines.

On behalf of the Nebraska Emergency Medical Services Association (NEMSA) Deb Von Seggern, President of NEMSA shared that the two missions of NEMSA are legislation and education. NEMSA is currently focused on educating providers and the legislature of the need to have EMS in Nebraska recognized as an essential service. NEMSA is working together with the Simulation in Motion-Nebraska (SIM-NE) and will be showcasing that at both of their conferences in January and March. Ms. Von Seggern shared that the NEMSA website has a page dedicated to the EMS Board and is happy to assist in getting information out to the public both on the website and via email to their current member list. Their next Board meeting will be held on July 7, 2016 in Kearney at 6:00 p.m.

On behalf of the Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighter's Association (NSVFA), Mr. Cerny shared that they were just wrapping up their big fire school held in May. There were two EMS classes that were well attended. Their next Board meeting will be held July 30, 2016 to look at legislative goals for the next year.

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STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATES

On behalf of the EMS Medical Direction Committee, Dr. Ernest shared that the big things that came out of their meeting were the education of and communication with physician medical directors across the state. Dr. Ernest will be updating the previous version of the state medical director course. He hopes to be able to offer that as a formal state medical director course, exploring the possibility of having it apply towards continuing education credits. Dr. Ernest also questioned whether there would be an opportunity while the rules and regulations are open to create a certification examination for physician medical directors to ensure that they have the knowledge required to effectively support the service(s) that they provide direction for.

The Board broke for lunch at 11:32 p.m. The meeting resumed at 12:49 p.m.

There was no report from the EMS Rules and Regulations Committee as notification was just received that approval was granted to open them for review.

On behalf of the EMS as an Essential Service Committee, Mr. Boldt shared that he has obtained language from Wisconsin regarding making EMS an essential service. He will provide that information to the Licensure Unit staff to disseminate to the Board.

On behalf of the EMS Data Collection Committee, Mr. Wiebe shared the need to obtain funding to support data collection to capture the major metrics for emergency medical care, specifically STEMI, stroke, and cardiac arrest, to scientifically prove that what we are doing is improving patient care and decreasing morbidity and mortality for the people across Nebraska. The Committee will continue to explore possibilities including using the current data obtained by the ELITE system and CARES Registry, and the potential of increasing the funds collected for the Nebraska Emergency Medical System Operations Fund.

There was no report from the EMS Workforce Committee.

On behalf of the EMS Education and Testing Committee, Dr. Miller shared that they will be meeting June 21, 2016.

On behalf of the EMS Communications Committee, Ms. Covert-ByBee shared that the Committee is exploring options to disseminate information to stakeholders including the use of social media.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Dr. Smith shared that the Board intends to hold at least 3 open forums per year to continue to receive feedback from the public. This will be made possible by a grant administered by Sue Medinger's area.

Dr. Smith shared an article relative to community paramedicine. Tom Townsend had previously presented information to the Board requesting an opinion. It has been determined that this Board is able to do that, so this topic is being brought back for discussion. Ms. Bowlin indicated that the term paramedicine is not what we should be using because there are a lot of people who can provide beyond what the paramedicine piece would indicate. The more appropriate title would be mobile integrated

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healthcare practitioner. Dr. Smith indicated a desire to have the rules and regulations committee put this on their list of items to be explored.

Ms. Covert-ByBee shared information regarding the implementation of LB722 the Stroke System of Care Act. Tasks have been identified and assigned to individuals by Sue Medinger with specific timelines for completion. This Board will be tasked with adopting the model protocol for stroke triage protocol and assessment tool and incorporating that into our current rules and regulations. EMS Programs, EMS Licensure, and a Task Force created specifically for this purpose will be working together and providing further information to the Board. Ms. Bowlin and Dr. Smith pointed out that there was already verbiage in place to allow for any changes without requiring regulatory change.

Dr. Smith requested a copy of the Open Meetings Act be provided to the Board for review and discussion.

Ms. Covert-ByBee shared a chart outlining the process for getting rules and regulations passed. The last set of rules and regulations were primarily written by one Board member with input from other Board members as needed. Dr. Smith indicated his desire to have more people involved in the process. Ms. Fiala shared some ideas which will be considered by the Rules and Regulations Committee established in the Strategic Planning process. Ms. Covert-ByBee shared that there is a template that the Licensure Unit can make available to the Committee/Board.

Dr. Smith wanted to discuss EMS bridge courses, specifically nursing to EMT or Paramedic courses. Dr. Miller shared details regarding these types of courses. An additional comment was added regarding the ability of nurses to work or volunteer on a service under their nursing license in Nebraska.

Dr. Miller shared his concerns regarding the registration process for the psychomotor skills portion of the National Registry examination. Currently an application for licensure must be submitted to the licensure unit to be made eligible to test. Many other states do not have such requirements and he would like to see this process changed. Ms. Hampton indicated that this was something that applied to many professions, not just EMS, and it would be something that would require further review.

After discussion, Ms. Jensen moved, seconded by Mr. Boldt for the Board to draft an advisory opinion regarding considering ALS intercept. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bonta, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, and Smith. Voting nay: None. Absent: Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, Rennerfeldt, and Wiebe. Motion carried.

Ms. Covert-ByBee informed the Board that the Five-Year Legislative Report is due October 1, 2016. This will be a useful tool to support the objectives already identified in the strategic planning process. Board members will let the Licensure Unit staff know if they are interested in working on this report. Dr. Smith would like to see at least one member of each of the committees identified in the strategic planning process participate.

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Dr. Smith requested information regarding how to apply for reappointment to the EMS Board. Information will be provided to Board members who are expiring this year. It was noted that the EMS Board is unique in that its members do not have term limits.

Ms. LaFayette-Dymacek provided a request to implement a new method of providing a summary for applications that come to the Board for review. A sample template was provided. The Board agreed to allow its use on a trial basis. This should make the review process simpler for Board members and licensure unit staff.

Ms. LaFayette-Dymacek provided an updated application processing report. This report was for informational purposes only.

Mr. Cerny moved, seconded by Ms. Jensen to go into closed session at 2:28 p.m. to hear discussions regarding confidential information and to protect the reputation of individuals named or referenced in such discussions. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bonta, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, and Smith. Voting nay: None. Absent: Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, Rennerfeldt, and Wiebe. Motion carried.

Dr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Bowlin to return to open session at 3:55 p.m. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, and Smith. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, Rennerfeldt, and Wiebe. Motion carried.

DECISIONS

Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Ms. Bowlin to approve the NAEMT Ethics Course. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, and Smith. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, Rennerfeldt, and Wiebe. Motion carried.

Mr. Boldt moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to table Dennis Reese's application for licensure as an Emergency Medical Technician to obtain additional information. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, and Smith. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, Rennerfeldt, and Wiebe. Motion carried.

Mr. Boldt, moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve Great Dane Trailers' application to operate as a Basic Life Support Non Transport Service. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, and Smith. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, Rennerfeldt, and Wiebe. Motion carried.

Ms. Fiala moved, seconded by Mr. Cerny to offer Michael Wiekhorst a two-year probationary license to practice as an Emergency Medical Technician based on his misdemeanor convictions. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, and Smith. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, Rennerfeldt, and Wiebe. Motion carried.

Dr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Cerny to offer Nicholas Knotek-Waugberg a three-year probationary license to practice as an Emergency Medical Technician based on his misdemeanor convictions and

diagnosis of alcohol and cannabis abuse. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, and Smith. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, Rennerfeldt, and Wiebe. Motion carried.

Ms. Bowlin moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to offer Sarah Newton a five-year probationary license to practice as an Emergency Medical Technician based on the disciplinary action against her LPN license. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hiemer, Jensen, Miller, and Smith. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Deegan, Harmon, LaFollette, Rennerfeldt, and Wiebe. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Wiebe, Secretary

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