

Minutes of the September 18, 2015 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., Friday, September 18, 2015 in the Country Inn and Suites – Lighthouse Room 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, Don Harmon, Troy Hiemer, Charles LaFollette, Dr. Mike Miller, Dr. James Smith, and Scott Wiebe.

The following Department Staff were present at the meeting: Becky Wisell, Licensure Unit Administrator, Rene Tiedt, Program Manager, Jacye LaFayette-Dymacek, Health Licensing Coordinator, Kevin Griess, Department Legal Counsel, Ed Vierk, Assistant Attorney General, Russ Fosler, Investigations, Kathleen Krueger, Investigations, and Dennis Scott, Investigations.

Linda Jensen and Carl Rennerfeldt were absent from the meeting. Laurie Scholl joined the meeting after the agenda was adopted. Randy Boldt and Dr. John Bonta left before the meeting ended.

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

Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Ms. Bowlin to approve the June 15, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bonta, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Harmon, Hiemer, LaFollette, Miller, Scholl, and Smith. Voting nay: None. Abstaining: Wiebe. Absent: Jensen, and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

Ms. Tiedt introduced Becky Wisell, Licensure Unit Administrator.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM UPDATE

Brian Monaghan, State Education and Training Coordinator provided the EMS Program Update on behalf of Dean Cole. Program staff is working hard to get everyone trained on and using the new eNARSIS ELITE software by January 1, 2016.

Mr. Monaghan went on to provide the EMS Training Agency Updates. Levels I and II of the Leadership Academy are being held this Thursday through Sunday at Northeast Community College. Mr. Monaghan continues to work with training agencies to help improve the NREMT BLS psychomotor exam process. LUCAS device distribution and training is ongoing. Selected individuals are being trained to be able to provide ongoing assistance to services.

These minutes have not been approved by the Board of Emergency Medical Services.

Rene' Tiedt, Program Manager provided the Licensure Unit Update. The KKK standards are scheduled to sunset at the end of 2016 so the Board needs to be thinking about how they will address that as the current rules and regulations (172 NAC 12-004.01) specify ambulances must comply with those specifications as of December 15, 2012. Ms. Tiedt shared information about LR 298 which is the legislative review on the future of EMS in Nebraska being held on October 2, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. All Emergency Medical Technician licenses will expire on December 31, 2015. The Department anticipates renewal notices will be sent in the next few weeks.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

There was nothing additional to share from the Legislation and Regulation Committee as Ms. Tiedt provided information regarding LR 298.

There was no report from the Services and Providers Committee.

There was no report from the Education Committee.

There were no questions for the Scope of Practice Committee to review.

There was no report from the Trauma Board liaison.

There was no report from the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) liaison.

There was no report from the Nebraska Emergency Medical Services Association (NEMSA) liaison.

On behalf of the Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association (NSVFA), Mr. Cerny shared that their annual conference will be held October 16-17, 2015 in Nebraska City.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The addition of the use of LUCAS devices was discussed as part of the ongoing Model Protocol Review. It was noted that Emergency Medical Responders are not authorized to use mechanical devices for cardiopulmonary resuscitation under the current scope of practice. There was some discussion regarding whether the LUCAS device is considered a mechanical device. This was referred to Department Legal and the Scope of Practice Committee for further review. This item will be on the agenda for discussion at the December 18, 2015 meeting.

At the last Board meeting, the Board discussed holding open forums for the public to come and share their ideas regarding the future of EMS in Nebraska to help guide the Board in developing a strategic plan for the future. The first forum was held on August 29, 2015 in North Platte. The scheduled forum dates have been posted on the EMS website and shared with the Board in addition to the EMS Program Regional Specialists who shared it with their respective regions.

There was discussion on the usage of ketamine as a sedative in emergency situations. A presentation on this and other related items will be given at a future meeting.

There was discussion regarding the utilization of ALS intercepts on cardiac arrest patients.

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Tom Townsend provided information to the Board regarding Community Paramedicine and requested that the Board take a formal position in support of these programs. This request has been tabled for review by the Department Legal Counsel for this Board and will be revisited at a future meeting.

Mr. Griess and Mr. Vierk provided information to the Board regarding the recent Supreme Court ruling on the NC Board of Dentistry vs. FTC case and what impact it may have on them.

Mr. Wiebe provided information to the Board regarding a new app called PulsePoint that was designed to support public safety agencies working to improve cardiac arrest survival rates through improved bystander response. Users who are trained to provide CPR will be alerted via the app when someone in a nearby public place is having a cardiac emergency that may require CPR. The intent is to increase the survival rates of victims of sudden cardiac arrest by providing bystander CPR until advanced medical care can arrive. Another app by the same company provides the location of the closest AED.

Mr. Wiebe shared information regarding the Cardiac Arrest Registry on Enhanced Survival (CARES) program. This is a registry created to help communities collect and share data designed to improve patient care and identify opportunities for quality improvement and increase cardiac arrest survival in their community. The State of Nebraska participates in this program, and Mr. Wiebe is our Coordinator.

Ms. Fiala moved, seconded by Mr. Harmon to reaffirm the mail ballot decisions to issue AirMD, LLC dba: LifeTeam a license to operate as an ALS Transport Service, IAMS QRT a license to operate as a BLS Non Transport Service, Lyman Volunteer Fire Dept to operate as a BLS Transport Service, and Gregory Grant Drew a license to practice as an Emergency Medical Technician. Voting aye: Bailey, Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Harmon, Hiemer, LaFollette, Miller, Scholl, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Jensen, and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

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

The next Board of Emergency Medical Services meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Country Inn and Suites – Lighthouse Room located at 5353 North 27th Street, Lincoln, NE.

The Board heard a presentation from Dr. Christine Chasek, LIMHP, LADC, LPC regarding the new DSM-5 criteria in order to give them a better understanding of the substance abuse evaluation tool that is frequently seen as a part of applications required to be reviewed by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Bowlin moved, seconded by Mr. Hiemer to go into closed session at 12:32 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, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Harmon, Hiemer, LaFollette, Miller, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Bonta, Jensen, Rennerfeldt, and Scholl. Motion carried.

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OPEN SESSION

Dr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Hiemer to return to open session at 12:58 p.m. Voting aye: Bailey, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Harmon, Hiemer, LaFollette, Miller, Scholl, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Jensen, and Rennerfeldt.

DECISIONS

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

Dr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Bailey to offer Spencer Werner a three-year probationary license to practice as an Emergency Medical Technician based on his misdemeanor convictions and diagnosis of Alcohol Abuse. Voting aye: Bailey, Bowlin, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Harmon, Hiemer, LaFollette, Miller, Scholl, Smith, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Jensen, and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

Mr. Bailey moved, seconded by Mr. Wiebe to approve Priority Medical Transport, LLC's application to operate as an Advanced Life Support Transport Service. Voting aye: Bailey, Cerny, Deegan, Fiala, Harmon, Hiemer, LaFollette, Miller, Scholl, and Wiebe. Voting nay: None. Abstaining: Bowlin and Smith. Absent: Boldt, Bonta, Jensen, and Rennerfeldt. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Scott Wiebe, Secretary

Prepared by: Jacye LaFayette-Dymacek, Health Licensing Coordinator