

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
of the NEBRASKA
BOARD OF Emergency
Medical Services
May 10, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Nebraska Board of Emergency Medical Services was called to order by Dr. James Smith, Board Chairperson, at 9:09 am, May 10, 2021. The meeting was held at the Nebraska State Building, 5220 South 16th Street, Lincoln, NE. Copies of the agenda were emailed in advance to the Board members, emailed to interested parties, and posted on the Department of Health and Human Services website on May 3, 2021. Smith announced the location of an available copy of the Open Meetings Act within the room.

ROLL CALL

The following board members were present to answer roll call:

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| • Randy Boldt | • Dion Neumiller |
| • Karen Bowlin | • Carolyn Petersen |
| • Joel Cerny | • Carl Rennerfeldt |
| • Ann Fiala | • Michael Sheridan |
| • Todd Hovey | • Dr. James Smith |
| • Linda Jensen | • Scott Wiebe |
| • Dr. Michael Miller | |

The following Board members were absent: Michael Bailey, Dr. John Bonta and Dr. Thomas Deegan.

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

Smith congratulated Dr. Miller on being promoted in a new position as the CoAEMSP Assistant Director of Accreditation Services. This however, will open up Dr. Miller's position on the board effective August 1, 2021.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Rennerfeldt made the motion, seconded by Boldt, to adopt the agenda for the May 10, 2021, Board of Emergency Medical Services meeting.

Voting Yes: Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hovey, Jensen, Miller, Neumiller, Petersen, Rennerfeldt, Sheridan, Smith, Wiebe. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bailey, Bonta, Deegan. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: Miller made the motion, seconded by Bowlin, to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2021 meeting.

Voting Yes: Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hovey, Jensen, Miller, Neumiller, Petersen, Rennerfeldt, Sheridan, Smith, Wiebe. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bailey, Bonta, Deegan. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: Fiala made the motion, seconded by Bowlin, for the Board to go into closed session for the purpose of reviewing and discussing investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals.

Voting Yes: Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hovey, Jensen, Miller, Neumiller, Petersen, Rennerfeldt, Sheridan, Smith, Wiebe. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bailey, Bonta, Deegan. Motion carried.

9:13 am Meeting went into Closed session.
 9:20 am Smith left Closed session.
 9:23 am Smith returned to Closed session.
 9:59 am Wiebe left Closed session.
 10:08 am Wiebe returned to Closed session.
 10:33 am Meeting returned to Open Session.

OPEN SESSION

MOTION: Rennerfeldt made the motion, seconded by Bowlin, for the Board to go into open session.

Voting Yes: Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hovey, Jensen, Miller, Neumiller, Petersen, Rennerfeldt, Sheridan, Smith, Wiebe. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bailey, Bonta, Deegan. Motion carried.

LICENSURE RECOMMENDATIONS**EMT Reinstatement Application – Andrew Kelley**

MOTION: Fiala made the motion, seconded by Bowlin, to approve the EMT reinstatement application with an administrative penalty.

Voting Yes: Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hovey, Jensen, Miller, Neumiller, Petersen, Rennerfeldt, Sheridan, Smith, Wiebe. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bailey, Bonta, Deegan. Motion carried.

EMT Application – Courtney Doremus

MOTION: Miller made the motion, seconded by Rennerfeldt, to issue an EMT license with one year probation with the usual terms and conditions based on criminal convictions.

Voting Yes: Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hovey, Jensen, Miller, Neumiller, Petersen, Rennerfeldt, Sheridan, Smith, Wiebe. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bailey, Bonta, Deegan. Motion carried.

The board took a break at 10:35 am and reconvened at 10:47 am.

AGENDA ITEM: Results from the Vote on Compliance Monitoring

The board voted via email on course approval of compliance monitoring. Elizabeth Coker relayed the results.

Voting Yes: Boldt, Bonta, Deegan, Fiala, Hovey, Jensen, Neumiller, Smith, Wiebe. Voting No: Bowlin, Miller. Abstain: Petersen. No response: Bailey, Cerny, Rennerfeldt, Sheridan. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM: Office of Emergency Health Systems

- a) Tim Wilson reported the new licensing software system is moving forward. This is the LANCE program which was shared a few meetings ago.

- b) Smith thanked the EMS Specialists for their efforts and reaching out to the services throughout the state.
- c) Wendy Snodgrass reported the pilot BLS psychomotor exam went very well. There were good comments and a few tweaks to make before the final roll out this coming fall.
- d) No additional questions or comments.
- e) Wilson mentioned the CISM hearing was a few weeks ago.
- f) Wilson let the board know the trauma rules and regulations public hearing was set for May 13, 2021. Condolences were shared on behalf of the board for the loss of Dr. Stothert.
- g) No additional questions or comments.
- h) Sharon Steele prepared a report and was sent to the board prior to the meeting. Wilson also gave a brief rundown of the ventilator usage report he shared with the board prior to the meeting. If any specific data is needed or would like shared at future board meetings, please get with Bailey or Wilson.

Wilson also reported a few other updates from the department. EMS week certificates were sent to the services, training agencies and hospitals last week. The department also received two proclamations from Governor Ricketts. One was for EMS Week and another for EMSC Day. We will forward pdf copies of these to the board. Wilson also gave an update on some grant funding which would include for items of testing kits for services, recruitment and retention assistance, CISM, telehealth and other training for EMS.

Additional information was compiled from the Office of Emergency Health Systems and provided to the Board prior to the meeting. See Attachment A to the minutes for complete briefing.

AGENDA ITEM: Statewide Physician Medical Director Update

Dr. Eric Ernest shared the EMS protocol updates had been sent to the Board, however the ALS/BLS he is still working on with Wilson. The last batch should be looked over this week. He also mentioned a national case from Colorado on the usage of ketamine in the field and this is being discussed in their state's legislature.

The medical director's course has been updated and we should have more information in the next month.

The Mission Lifeline: Stroke protocol has been updated. It may be a good idea to send out a survey to hospitals on what they currently have with this capacity.

There is a position statement which was released from the American College of Surgeons and the National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials (NASEMSO), with support from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) proposing and introduction of a universally unique and anonymous identifier (UUID). The complete document can be found here: https://nasemso.org/wp-content/uploads/Data-Linkage-Joint-Statement-Final-Draft-for-Team-Review_V2.pdf

"Just-in-time" training for pediatrics in being targeted in rural areas.

Rural EMS committee has issued a position statement on telehealth and for proper equipment available on ambulances to the scope of practice of the providers of the services.

AGENDA ITEM: EMS Committee Reports

- a) Legislation and Rules and Regulations (Smith): Smith reported the regulations are close to being final. Wilson has a few additional pieces and then will get these to legal for final review. The department will get these to the board to review before the next meeting in July.

Cerny gave a brief legislative bill update. Many of the bills we have been following have not gotten out of committee. LB476 for stroke registry was signed by the Governor in early April, as well as LB390. Wilson is checking on where we will need to put the licensing requirements from LB390 into the regulations.

50 Cents for Life funding – we are needing to advocate for more. We have been going into the reserve for quite some time now. This would have to be a legislative change for this funding. We need to be getting all stakeholders involved. Ernest and Smith have tried getting in front of many stakeholders as they can in various meetings.

- b) Scope of Practice (Fiala): The committee has some changes, additions and deletions to bring to the board:

The NHTSA released official changes for COVID for EMT and above. This document was shared with the board prior to the meeting. It was discussed what protocol we need to put together at the state level.

MOTION: Fiala made the motion, seconded by Miller, to add DuoNeb to EMT level and higher.

Voting Yes: Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hovey, Jensen, Miller, Neumiller, Petersen, Rennerfeldt, Sheridan, Smith, Wiebe. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bailey, Bonta, Deegan. Motion carried.

The scope of practice from Valley was discussed on the point of care ultrasound. After further discussion per their request, it was decided to have the ultrasound team from UNMC as well as Valley come to the July meeting for open discussion and help structure a prehospital program.

The board took a break for lunch at 12:20 pm and reconvened at 12:36 pm.

- c) Education (Miller) – a position paper for 172 NAC 11 Section 8C was presented to the Rules and Regulations committee about awarding continuing education credits at a 15 minute training, versus the current minimum of 30 minutes. All of the education committee was present at this meeting and there was discussion about the tracking issue this may cause services as well as this would need to be an actual instructor led course with a set lesson plan.

MOTION: Miller made the motion, seconded by Boldt, to have the Rules and Regulations committee make the continuing education change to a 15-minute training minimum, as they are in the process of rewriting the current regulations.

Voting Yes: Boldt, Bowlin, Cerny, Fiala, Hovey, Jensen, Miller, Neumiller, Petersen, Rennerfeldt, Sheridan, Smith. Voting No: None. Abstain: Wiebe. Absent: Bailey, Bonta, Deegan. Motion carried.

- d) Medical Direction (Bonta): no report
- e) Data Collection (Bailey): Fiala reported on behalf of Bailey that any data items the board would like to see, to please get a message to him and Wilson.
- f) Workforce (Cerny): most items had already been discussed earlier in the meeting.
- g) Dispatch (Neumiller): there is a 911 systems advisory committee and they are working on minimum training standards. They would like a member of the Board committee to also be on their advisory committee.

AGENDA ITEM: NSVFA Update

Cerny gave update on NSVFA. The NSVFA Board has not met since with the EMS Board's last meeting, but will be meeting at Fire School on May 21-23, 2021. There are 12 hours of EMS training available. One class will be available on Recruitment and Retention. This class will be fully reimbursable through the NSVFA Safer Grant. The NSVFA Recruitment and Retention has worked with their e-Board and have applied for another Safer Grant.

John Bomar and Cerny sat through 25 hours of Zoom meeting with the National Volunteer Fire Council. As far as the report for the safety part of the NVFC's Health Safety and Training Committee, it was reported there have been 168 firefighters and EMS personnel how have passed away from COVID according to the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation. At this time, only one was from Nebraska, which was in Ponca Hills.

During the training portion, we discussed developing a class for boards like the county and city officials, on the value of volunteer firefighters and EMTs.

AGENDA ITEM: NEMSA Update

Bowlin gave an update there is going to be a mini conference in Valentine, June 11-12, 2021 and in Scottsbluff, October 22-23, 2021.

AGENDA ITEM: Nebraska EMS Training Agency Association

Smith gave a brief introduction to the Nebraska EMS Training Agency Association and there was further discussion on the kinds of classes, scenarios, etc. they would be training on.

AGENDA ITEM: Strategic Planning Process

Smith gave the update the Strategic Planning meeting is set for November 10, 2021. The place is to be determined and further details will be coming. The plan is to have a pre-planning meeting so please send any ideas to Smith and Wilson.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comment

No comments from the public. Smith reminded everyone board position applications are open all the time so if anyone is interested in the open positions, to please apply.

CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT

The next board meeting is July 16, 2021. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Coker
Administrative Assistant