



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
PO BOX 360
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

www.nj.gov/health

JUDITH M. PERSICILLI, RN, BSN, MA
Commissioner

Meeting called to order: December 9, 10:01 a.m. – Mark Merlin

Motion to approve March 11, 2020 meeting minutes:

- Motion: **Andy Lovell** Seconded: **Barbara Platt**
- Discussion: None
- Motion to accept: **Yea: All Nay: 0 Abstain: 0**

General Discussion – Mark Merlin

- Next meeting scheduled for March 10, 2021, 10:00 a.m., location to be determined

Roll Call – Daniel Kazar

Legislative Update – Eric Hicken

- Update was emailed to the Council

Air Medical - Gerard Carroll (*Absent*)

- No report

BLS Subcommittee - Andy Lovell

- Expanded Scope of Practice
 - Will be presenting at MAC
 - Awaiting direction from MAC and OEMS
- Vermont Protocols
 - Second recommendation moving forward to MAC and OEMS

Discussion and Questions

- Origin of Pending Legislation – Senate Bill 3189
 - Unknown

Training Fund – Steve Vetrano (*Absent*)

- No Report

Discussion and Questions

- Financial report has not yet been released

Communications - Joseph Burlew

- COVID-19 911 PSAP surveys
 - Restarted due to increase in COVID-19 cases
- BPC and EMD online classes continue

- Office of Emergency Telecommunication Services continues to update their 911 certifications
- Next Generation 911
- NENA Conference has been postponed to the Fall of 2021
- State radio system
 - Caused some radios to turn off
- 988 National Suicide Hotline number
 - In the planning stages

Discussion and Questions

- Future of the hospital divert dashboard
 - Actively working towards an answer and solution

EMS for Children – Eric Hicken

- Reorganizing EMSC
 - Relaunch planned for February 2021
- EMS Agency Surveys
 - Required for all EMS agencies in 2021, specific to pediatrics
- Emergency Department Pediatric Readiness Survey
 - Required for all Emergency Departments in 2021
- Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator
 - Performance measure for the State partnership grant for the EMS for Children Program

Discussion and Questions

- None

Trauma Center Council - Vacant

- No Report

MICU Advisory – Barbara Schreibman

- BLS Scope of Practice
- Vermont Protocols
- Updating best practices for COVID
- Ultrasound Guided Intravenous Therapy
 - Will have a presentation

Discussion and Questions

- Topics of BLS Scope of Practice
 - Oral Pain Medications
 - 12-Lead Acquisition and Transmission without interpretation
 - Glucometers
 - Inhaled Beta-Agonists
- National EMS Scope of Practice

SCTU Committee - Vacant

- No Report

OEMS – Eric Hicken for Terry Clancy

- Mega-sites
 - Planning is underway between the New Jersey Department of Health and the New Jersey State Police Incident Management Team
- Vaccines
 - Estimated to arrive in New Jersey in the middle of December, pending Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)
 - Newsletter released called “Vax Matters”
- Paramedics to Vaccinate
 - Still under review by the Attorney General’s Office
- Twiage Policy
 - The policy has been removed from the website
 - Under legal review
- New Licensing System
 - Will be live on January 1, 2021
 - Training dates will be announced shortly
- OEMS Office
 - Moved to 55 North Willow Street Trenton, NJ 08611
 - PO Box remains the same
- OEMS Staffing
 - Jim Sweeney and Andrea Silver have resigned
 - Jeff Thomas will also be leaving OEMS
 - Clayton and IJ have been temporarily reassigned to vaccination efforts
- Long Term Care (LTC) Facilities
 - Changes to the testing process while entering a Long-Term Care Facility
 - Two-week pilot program
 - Guidance has been sent to all agencies
 - Agencies are not required to get tested for COVID every single time they enter a Long-Term Care Facility
 - PPE guidance has been issued
 - When entering a LTC a N95 or equivalent mask approved by CDC and NIOSH, eye protection, gloves and an insolation gown (only for known or suspected positive COVID patients) is required
- Licensing
 - Renewals for company names between A through L are due by December 31, 2020
 - Approximately 90 agencies have not renewed their license.
 - These agencies will automatically go into a temporary ten-day extension
 - If an agency does not renew by January 10, 2021, their license will be retired.
- Vehicle Inspections

- New location to conduct vehicle inspections at the new OEMS building is pending

Discussion and Questions

- Plan for vaccinating non-hospital-based EMS services

EMS Education - Candace Gardner

- OEMS Staffing
 - Authorization received for three (3) Public Health Representative-2 positions
 - Forty-two applications have been received
 - Thank you to OEM Staff
- National Conference on EMS
 - Call for presenters has been posted www.nationalemsconference.com
 - Abstracts will be accepted until January 12, 2021
 - Location: Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey
 - Dates: November 11th-13th 2021 - Pre-Conference will be November 10, 2021
- Educators
 - Thank you to all EMS educators during these times
- Education Programs
 - Are required to abide by the Governor's Executive orders as it pertains to decontamination procedures, social distancing, and proper utilization of PPE
 - EMS education is considered an Emergency Response Activity and does not apply to the newest executive order for social gathering sizes
- CEU Approval Process
 - 2019 Process
 - In 2019 the elective CEU process changed, allowing educators to submit classes and receive approval of those in an abbreviated time frame. This process allowed the educators to create a class and determine the CEU value without OEMS review. This process and the corresponding user agreement were approved and implemented under the previous administration, which has raised many concerns.
 - 2021/New Process
 - All submissions for classes to be conducted on or after January 1, 2021 shall be submitted at least 30 calendar days prior to the class start date.
 - Applications will require submission of all supporting class documentation such as objectives, outlines, examinations, curriculum, hand-outs, etc.
 - The user agreement is considered invalid and has been voided.
 - OEMS will continue to conduct the pre-scheduled training sessions for the njems.us system next week

Discussion and Questions

- Support for the OEMS Public Health Representative Positions

New Jersey EMS Task Force

- Reorganized as a Non-Profit Corporation
- Update on funding, overview, roles, and plans

- Corona virus relief fund grant received
- Acknowledgement of John Grembowiec's retirement

Motion to approve all oral and written reports

- Motion: **Andy Lovell** Seconded: **Barbara Platt**
- Discussion: None
- Motion to accept: **Yea: All Nay: 0 Abstain: 0**

Public Comment

- None

Elections

- Chairperson
 - Mark Merlin
- Executive Committee
 - Barbara Platt
 - Mike Bascom
 - Andy Lovell
- Secretary to cast a single ballot
- Motion: **Andy Lovell** Seconded: **Barbara Platt**

New Business

- None

Old Business

- Vaccinated for the Flu Campaign

Motion to adjourn: 10:54 a.m.

- Motion: **Barbara Platt** Seconded: **Barbara Schreiber**
- Discussion: None
- Motion to accept: **Yea: All Nay: 0 Abstain: 0**