



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

www.nj.gov/health

JUDITH M. PERSICILLI, RN, BSN, MA
Commissioner

The New Jersey EMS Advisory Council MINUTES of March 8, 2023

Members Present

Mr. Michael Bascom (County EMS Coordinators), Mr. Mark Bober (NJ Association of Paramedic Programs), Mr. Joseph Burlew (EMS Communications Committee), Ms. Diane Calello (NJ Poison Emergency Service), Dr. Howard Felderman (National Association of EMS Physicians), Ernest Leva (EMS for Children), Mr. Alfred Lincks (Career EMT), Mr. Andy Lovell (Career Paramedic), Mr. Charles Mars (NJ State Police Emergency Telecommunications), Ms. Suzanne O'Hearn (NJHA), Ms. Barbara Platt (EMS Council of NJ – South), Dr. Barbara Schreibman (Mobile Intensive Care Unit Advisory Council), Mr. Gregory Scott (Medical Transportation Authority of NJ), Mr. Mordechai Twerski (Volunteer EMT), Mr. Joseph Walsh (EMS Council of NJ – Central), Ms. Paula Weiler (EMS Council of NJ – President), and Dr. Cheng Wang (American College of Emergency Physicians)

Members Absent

Mr. Licinio Carvalho (NJ State Police), Ms. Kathe Conlon (St. Barnabas Burn Center), Ms. Cynthia Kirchner (Public Member), Dr. Mark Merlin (Immediate Past Chairman), Ms. Cynthia Reardon (EMS Council of NJ – North), Dr. Albert Ritter (Air Medical Committee), Mr. Eli Rubin (Volunteer EMT), Mr. Roger Sarao (NJ Hospital Association), Dr. Stephen Vetrano (EMT Training Fund Committee), Mr. Nelson Wiest (Career Fire Chiefs Association), Mr. Gregory Zanone (Emergency Nurses Association)

New Jersey Department of Health

Ms. Candace Gardner, Mr. Eric Hicken, Mr. Logan Rafferty, Mr. Timothy Seplaki, Mr. Colin Taylor

Guest/Public Attendees

Dr. Navin Ariyaprakai (American College of Emergency Physicians), Mr. Bucky Buchanan (NJEMSTF), Dr. Terry Clancy (Somerset County), Mr. Alec Glucksman (RWJBH), Dr. Joslyn Joseph (National Association of EMS Physicians), Mr. Kevin Kurzweil (NJ Association of EMS Educators), Ms. Melissa Padulsky (SCESTA), Mr. Christopher Petrillo (NJOHSP)

PUBLIC NOTICE

“This is a formal meeting of the Mobile Intensive Care Advisory Council. Adequate notice of this meeting has been published in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, c-10:4.10 of New Jersey entitled, “Open Public Meetings Act”. Notices were sent to the Secretary of State, who posted the notice in a public place.

Notices were forwarded to 12 New Jersey newspapers, two New York newspapers, two wire services, and two Philadelphia newspapers.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the December 2022 meeting were distributed to the members of the New Jersey EMS Advisory Council via email prior to this meeting

Motion to approve the December 2022 minutes (Mr. Bober) Seconded (Dr. Schreibman) Approved (Unanimous)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative Update

Sent to the members of the New Jersey EMS Advisory Council via email prior to this meeting

Air Medical

No Report

Basic Life Support (BLS) Sub-Committee

No Report

EMT Training Fund

No Report

Communications – Mr. Burlew

- Computer Automated Dispatch (CAD) project for the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) region is waiting for final approval
- Communications Leader Course, March 27 – 30, 2023
- Communications Technician Course, May 22 – 26, 2023
- Functional Communications Exercise, November 7 – 8, 2023
- Next Generation 911 will begin in May of 2023
- Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Instructor and Training Records have been moved to the ImageTrend database

EMS for Children (EMSC) – Dr. Ernest Leva

- Discussed the documents that were sent to the MAC
 - Guidelines for the care of children in pediatric emergency departments; and
 - Janet’s Law

Mobile Intensive Care Advisory Council (MAC) – Dr. Schreiber

- Working on updating the NJ State EMS Protocols
- Extended gratitude to the New Jersey Department of Health (DOH), Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS), for conducting listening sessions regarding new regulations

Specialty Care Transport Unit (SCTU) Committee

No Report

OEMS Report – Ms. Gardner

- Welcomed Colin Taylor, to OEMS, EMSC program as a Public Health Representative
- National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) fee increased on January 1, 2023
- Ethics training and outside activity documentation are due
- OEMS will be asking for an updated CV/resume and letter of support from your respective organization to ensure that the committee appointments are current. A reminder will be forthcoming
- Need to reestablish the trauma council and SCTU committee
- EMSC is working on PPE policies. If your agency has not yet submitted your PPE policy, please do so as soon as possible.
- National initiative “Always Ready for Children Program – EMS and Emergency Department” is in progress
- OEMS staff are contacting hospitals to obtain survey responses related to disaster preparedness specific to the needs of the pediatric patient

- New Jersey scored low on the pediatric disaster plans, which is why we are contacting hospitals to obtain additional information
- Pediatric readiness survey for EMS agencies is 100% compliant
- The online pediatric-focused education offered by the EMS for Children program has reached approximately 700 providers
- Working on creating an online public complaint process and tool
- Working on updating reinspection processes for vehicles
- The timeliness of EMTTF submissions is below par and OEMS is seeking to speed up submissions and payment. These delays stunt the Department and the EMTTF Councils' ability to accurately assess expenditures.
- OEMS is reestablishing the safety committee and working on a public-facing complaint process
- The regulations for public access Epi-Pen education are going to live within OEMS
- To assist with the promulgation of regulations, multiple stakeholder meetings were conducted across the state over the past few months
- The National Conference on EMS call for speakers and awards nominations is open, go to the website (www.nationalemsconference.com) to submit a proposal
 - Please be on the lookout for children under age 16 who have done something heroic or lifesaving so they can be recognized at the conference

National Emergency Medical Services Information System (NEMSIS) – Mr. Seplaki

- Transition from NEMSIS 3.4 to 3.5 is in progress
- The deadline for transition is March 31, 2023
- Agencies should work directly with their electronic patient care report (ePCR) vendor to complete the transition

OEMS Education – Mr. Kazar

- Three new NREMT policies are being implemented on April 1, 2023
 - The policies were distributed to the committee via email

- There are no extensions for the June and December 2023 renewal cycle
- Certification/License Update, since January 1, 2023:

New EMTs	Re-Entry EMTs	EMT Challenges	New Paramedics
352	25	13	30

- Provided updates on the EMT-Instructor candidate evaluations
- Training fund reimbursement goes directly to the education agency providing the education, not the eligible agency.
- OEMS will no longer accept attestations from education agencies/providers who do not adhere to regulatory time frames for class attendance
- Mobile Intensive Care Nurses (MICN) need to maintain at least an EMT certification for their first renewal cycle, at minimum
- The following elective classes have been re-evaluated for continuing education credit:
 - CPR and ICS 400 = No CEUs
 - ICS 200 and 300 = 8 CEUs
 - Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD) is still being re-evaluated
- Since January 1, 2023, over 1,400 CEU classes have been reviewed
- Agencies starting with the letter “M” are due for renewal by June 30, 2023
 - If an agency has five or more vehicles, OEMS will conduct the vehicle inspections on-site
- Reportable events: If you believe something needs to be reported to OEMS, report it (see something, say something). OEMS will determine if further action is required
- OEMS has been receiving multiple phone calls about EMS agencies not transporting patients to their requested hospitals.
 - OEMS does not have regulatory oversight over this, other than the potential for neglect

EMS Task Force – Mr. Bascom

- Supported the evacuation of Holy Name Medical Center
- Working with key stakeholders as part of the state’s Asylum Seekers Plan
- In the process of distributing newly acquired radios
- Requested funds from the American Rescue Plan to expand capabilities
- Received funding from the DOH to sustain equipment

Medical Transportation Association – Mr. Scott

- Submitted a request for American Rescue Plan funding, to the Governor’s Office, for \$166 Million Dollars
 - The plan establishes scholarships for EMS career paths

New Jersey Association of Paramedic Programs (NJAPP) – Mr. Bober

- Extended gratitude to the New Jersey Department of Health (DOH), Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS), for conducting listening sessions regarding new regulations
- Leading Edge will be May 19, 2023, at Bell Works in Holmdel, NJ
- The education council has been creating quizzes/examinations for the new Interim Protocols

EMS Council of New Jersey – Ms. Weiler

- Education symposium is scheduled for October 13 – 15, 2023 at the Hilton Hotel in Hasbrouck Heights

Public Comment

New Jersey Association of EMS Educators – Kevin Kurzweil

- Newly established association for EMS educators in New Jersey
- Goal of the association is to standardize, establish best practices and collaborate with all EMS educators in the State

New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP) – Christopher Petrillo

- Multiple training opportunities are available through the NJOHSP

New Business

Mr. Lovell requested to establish the *H. Mickey McCabe EMS Advocacy Award*, to the person that most represents moving EMS forward in New Jersey

Motion to approve (Mr. Bober) Seconded (Ms. Platt) Approved (One Abstention)

Old Business

None

Meeting Schedule:

- June 21, 2023, at 10:00 AM @ Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center
- September 13, 2023, at 10:00 AM location TBA
- December 13, 2023, at 10:00 AM location TBA

The Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center is located at
83 Academy Dr
Westampton, NJ 08060

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting (Mr. Bober) Seconded (Ms. Platt) Approved (Unanimous)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 AM