



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

KAITLAN BASTON, MD, MSc, DFASAM
Acting Commissioner

The New Jersey EMS Advisory Council
MINUTES of September 27, 2023

Members Present

Dr. Navin Ariyaprakai (American College of Emergency Physicians), Mr. Joseph Burlew (EMS Communications Committee), Dr. Joslyn Joseph (National Association of EMS Physicians), Mr. Thomas Lavagna (NJ Association of Paramedic Programs), Mr. Alfred Lincks (Career EMT), Mr. Andy Lovell (Career Paramedic), Mr. Dominic Parone (Emergency Nurses Association), Ms. Barbara Platt (EMSCNJ – South), Dr. John Porter (Trauma Center Council), Mr. Craig Reiner (NJSP Emergency Telecommunications), Dr. Barbara Schreiber (Mobile Intensive Care Unit Advisory Council), Mr. Gregory Scott (Medical Transportation Authority of NJ), Dr. Stephen Vetrano (EMT Training Fund Committee), Ms. Paula Weiler (EMSCNJ – President)

Members Absent

Mr. Michael Bascom (County EMS Coordinators), Mr. Mark Bober (NJ Association of Paramedic Programs), Mr. Todd Bowen (Career Fire Chiefs Association), Mr. Ralph Burgos (St. Barnabas Burn Center), Mr. John Butterweck (EMSCNJ – Central), Dr. Diane Calello (NJ Poison Emergency Service), Dr. Gerard Carroll (MICU Advisory Council), Ms. Kathe Conlon (St. Barnabas Burn Center), Dr. Lisa Drago (EMS for Children), Dr. Howard Felderman (National Association of EMS Physicians), Ms. Cynthia Kirchner (Public Member), Dr. Alexander Kuc (Air Medical Advisory Committee), Dr. Alexander Kuc (Air Medical Advisory Committee), Dr. Mark Merlin (Immediate Past Council Chair), Mr. Tarcisio Nunes (EMSCNJ – North), Ms. Suzanne O'Hearn (NJHA), Mr. John Phelan (NJ State Police), Dr. James Pruden (Immediate Past Council Chair), Ms. Cynthia Reardon (EMSCNJ – North), Dr. Albert Ritter (Air Medical Advisory Committee), Mr. Eli Rubin (Volunteer EMT), Dr. Bruce Ruck (NJ Poison Emergency Service), Mr. Roger Sarao (NJ Hospital Association), Mr. Mordechai Twerski (Volunteer EMT), Mr. Joseph Walsh (EMSCNJ – Central), Dr. Cheng Wang (American College of Emergency Physicians), Mr. Nelson Wiest (Career Fire Chiefs Association)

New Jersey Department of Health

Ms. Candace Gardner, Mr. Dan Kazar, Mr. Timothy Seplaki

Guest/Public Attendees

Ben Dafilou (PANJEMS), Weston Davis (Bound Tree Medical), William Gardner (Waterford EMS), Bobby Goyal (RWJBH), Brendan Stringfellow (RWJBH), Douglas Weidanz (NJOETS)

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 July 2023 meeting were distributed to the members of the New Jersey EMS Advisory Council via email prior to this meeting.

Motion to approve the July 2023 minutes (Dr. Schreibman), Seconded (Mr. Bascom) Approved (Unanimous)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative Update

No Report

EMT Training Fund

No Report

Air Medical

No Report

Basic Life Support (BLS) Sub-Committee

No Report

Communications – Mr. Burlew

- Introduced the Office of Emergency Telecommunications Services

EMS for Children (EMSC)

No Report

Trauma Center Council – Dr. Porter

- Introduced himself as the new State Trauma Medical Director and Trauma Center Council Representative

MICU Advisory Council – Dr. Schreibman

- The ALS protocols continue to be rolled out across the state MICUs

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

- MICU's in the state have plans to move to the new protocols within the first two weeks of October with full integration by the end of October
- The test was developed by various clinical coordinators. RWJ will host the test which is comprised of 150 questions

SCTU Committee

No Report

OEMS Report – Ms. Gardner

- National Conference on EMS is approaching. Early bird rate of \$350 ends on September 30, 2023
- Notifications to the award nominees were sent last week. The list of nominees has been posted to the conference website
- There are 11 ALS teams and 12 BLS teams from New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Connecticut registered for the SIM Competition
- The Community Service Award is posted to the conference website and is 100% voted on by the public. Voting will close on October 8, 2023
- Welcomed Dr. Kaitlan Baston as Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health
- Over 600 first responders have been trained in Five Minutes to Help and the Naloxone Leave Behind program
- Those who need resources regarding Five Minutes to Help and the Naloxone Leave Behind program can contact Tim Seplaki or Eva Nelson. Resources will soon be made available to the County EMS coordinators to distribute to their agencies
- EMSC and special projects recently conducted a Pediatric Disaster Response Emergency Preparedness training for 86 EMS providers
- EMSC continues to provide monthly educational programs to highlight the pediatric patient. There has been at least 200 providers in each session throughout the year
- The Culture of Safety committee has reconvened. They are focusing on mental health, lifting and moving, and re-evaluating the use of lights & sirens during emergency transports. If anyone is interested in being a part of the committee, please contact Colin Taylor from NJ OEMS
- Current members of this council need to discuss if they want additional memberships, or other individuals to be part of this body. If so, a letter needs to be sent NJ OEMS

specifying what position needs to be added and why

- If you would like to voice changes to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) scope of practice, please email Director Gardner

OEMS Education – Mr. Kazar

- Christian Rios will be assuming the responsibility of secretary for all Boards and Councils
- Agency licensure has established a new email address, oemsagencylic@doh.nj.gov . This email address is to be contacted for anything related to the operations of a licensed agency
- OEMS is in the process of creating a direct phone number for reportable events
- Vehicle graphics need to match the trade name
- Investigators are discovering more vehicles are being left unsecured. It is important to make sure you lock your vehicles. This is a fineable offense and is not best practice
- Investigators are discovering multiple agencies are non-compliant with the regulatory and statutory requirements for crew members
- Stretchers need to be operated by two providers. The Department continues to see an increase of stretcher related incidents
- Agencies starting M-Z, are due for renewal by December 31, 2023
- NREMT Paramedic exam model will change July 1, 2024
- At the end of the June 2023 certification cycle, the Department received 30 new applications for Paramedics wishing to obtain inactive status. Based on new data, the average years of service for those Paramedics was 18 and the average age was 47 years old.
- Since January 1, 2023, the Department has issued the following new credentials and reviewed and approved

ALS Credentials	BLS Credentials	Education Classes
89	1,300+	3,600+

- The Department received 25 applicants for the Fall instructor screening session. In addition, there are 10 instructor candidates currently completing the alternative pathway process and 7 awaiting hours
- The Department is not issuing extensions for the December 31, 2023 Certification Cycle
- If a CEU class was not taken in New Jersey or approved by New Jersey in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:40A, it is not approved for CEU's

EMS Task Force – Mr. Bascom

- Continue to work with legislators and the NJDOH in an effort to obtain federal funding under the American Rescue Plan
- Continue to complete several required statewide plans to assure that the State meets its' obligations under the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)
- Supporting the NJSEA/MetLife Stadium with incident management and MCI support at all its high-profile venues (concerts, NFL games, etc)
- Starting in 2024, will assist NJSEA EMS and Bergen County OEM with the initial planning of the FIFA World Cup
- In the final planning stages for a full-scale exercise which will be conducted at the end of October at Hunterdon Medical Center

Medical Transportation Association – Mr. Scott

- The legislation allowing for one EMT and one First Responder for non-emergency transports will expire on December 31, 2023

New Business

Dr. Stephen Vetrano's term as Vice Chair of the committee will conclude at the end of this year per the bylaws. A nominating committee needs to be appointed.

Dr. Barbara Schreibman requests the committee send out a letter to everyone who is scheduled to attend this meeting reminding them that their attendance can impact the quorum and to have their alternate attend in their place if they cannot

Old Business

None

Public Comment

Mr. Ben Dafilou requests the meetings be accessible via video/audio call for individuals who are unable to attend in-person meetings

Meeting Schedule:

- December 13, 2023, at the Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center at 10:00 AM

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 AM