

State of Minnesota
Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board
Executive Committee Meeting Agenda
October 15, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

Note: Minnesota Statutes section 13D.021 requires a public body to determine that an in-person meeting is "not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic or an emergency declared under chapter 12." At this time, the Board Chair has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the COVID health pandemic. This meeting therefore will not be held in-person. It will only be held by WebEx and telephone.

[Join WebEx Meeting](#)

Password: EMSRB2020

Call-in Number: (415) 655-0003

Meeting Number (Access code): 146 351 6121

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|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Call to Order and Introductions – 10:00 a.m. | <u>Attachments</u> |
| 2. Review and Approve Agenda – 10:10 a.m. | |
| 3. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes – 10:15 a.m. | M 1 |
| 4. Public Comment – 10:05 a.m. | |
| The public comment portion of the Board meeting is where the public is invited to address the Board on subjects which are <u>not part of the meeting agenda</u> . Persons wishing to speak are asked to email melody.nagy@state.mn.us Please limit remarks to three minutes. | |
| 5. Board Chair Report – 10:20 a.m. | |
| 6. Executive Director Report – 10:30 a.m. | |
| 7. New Business – 10:45 a.m. | |
| 8. Adjourn – 10:50 a.m. | |

In accordance with the Minnesota Open Meeting Law and the Internal Operating Procedures of the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board, this agenda is posted at: <https://mn.gov/emsrb>

Next Meeting:

December 17, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
TBD

State of Minnesota
Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2020

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Attendance: J.B. Guiton, Board Chair, Aaron Burnett, M.D.; Kevin Miller; Megan Hartigan; Jeff Ho, M.D.; Matt Simpson; Tony Spector; Executive Director; Melody Nagy, EMS Staff; Dave Rogers, EMS Staff; Brian Shorten, EMS Staff; Charles Soucheray, EMS Staff; Dave Cullen, Assistant Attorney General

Absent:

1. Call to Order – 10:03 a.m.

Mr. Guiton called the meeting to order and asked for introductions from Board members and guests.

2. Public Comment – 10:05 a.m.

None.

3. Approval of Agenda – 10:10 a.m.

Mr. Guiton asked for approval of the agenda.

Motion: Dr. Ho moved to approve the agenda. Dr. Burnett seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

4. Approval of Minutes – 10:15 a.m.

Mr. Guiton asked for approval of the minutes.

Motion: Mr. Miller moved to approve the February 20, 2020, minutes. Ms. Hartigan seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

5. Board Chair Report – 10:20 a.m.

Mr. Guiton said Dr. Burnett and David Rogers have been working on data reporting during the crisis. Dr. Burnett said he has been working with Mr. Rogers and providing information to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) during the pandemic. This data can provide trauma-specific information.

Mr. Rogers said the data shows run volume is down 8% and interfacility and 911 call volumes also are down. Motor vehicle crashes are down 25%. Calls with a primary impression of influenza are up 62%. Dr. Burnett said that Minnesota currently does not have adequate testing. Dr. Burnett said he is asking for weekly reports with data for one year ago to compare to this year's week to week data. He asked that this information be provided to the Board and the MDSAC email list and shared with the Governor's office for inclusion on the COVID website.

Dr. Ho asked for research regarding things that are not COVID-19 related. He said he is concerned that other volumes are very low. There are unintended consequences of the focus of COVID-19 and noted that care is still needed for non-COVID patients. Mr. Guiton asked if the EMSRB can provide data on no loads.

The Mission of the EMSRB is to protect the public's health and safety through regulation and support of the EMS system.

Dr. Burnett said information on stroke data show reporting is at 20 cases versus 40 cases a year ago during this same time period.

Ms. Hartigan asked if EMS data were superimposed over emergency room data would similar data be seen.

Lino Lakes Public Safety Director John Swenson asked if this data can be shared with police chiefs; it can be shared.

Brennan McAlpin of the Minnesota Ambulance Association said it is working on a financial impact statement. He said the Minnesota Hospital Association is releasing information on its financial problems.

Ms. Hartigan asked if weekly trends on ILI and run volumes that Dave Rogers shares with Dr. Burnett can be posted on the EMSRB website. Mr. Rogers suggested the charts can be posted on the website.

Mr. Miller asked about PPE concerns. Mr. Spector said Ms. Jacobs is working as the agency point person with the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) to assess PPE needs. He said that ambulance services that have requested PPE have received PPE. Not all services have made a request. Mr. Soucheray said PPE was from the strategic stockpile to get services covered until the supply chain can cover their needs.

Mr. Guiton said he wanted to make sure the public and agencies have this information and that the EMSRB cares.

6. Executive Director Report – 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Spector said staff are working hard and are adapting to working at home. He said staff are working on critical tasks and phones and emails are answered daily. He said staff contacted every ambulance service and have updated contact information in the eLicense system.

Mr. Spector said the peacetime emergency has been extended for 30 days and Minnesota Statutes section 144E.266 therefore still is in effect. The EMSRB requested and the Governor issued an executive order extending the March 31, 2020 EMS certification renewal date to June 30, 2020 and eliminating limitations on distance learning.

Mr. Spector said the National Registry is issuing provisional certification for someone that has completed the classroom component of the EMS education and has successfully completed the cognitive examination but has not yet completed the psychomotor skills examination. He said that because of the EMSRB's reciprocity with National Registry, the EMSRB can mirror this provisional certification. The EMSRB receives from the National Registry a list on Friday of persons who have met the requirements for provisional certification, and the EMSRB issues the provisional certification by Monday. Mr. Spector said the National Registry is working with Pearson VUE to explore the concept of remote testing for the cognitive examinations. The National Registry has a weekly conference call in which the EMSRB participates. At this time, no psychomotor tests are being given.

Mr. Spector said the link to the Crisis Standards of Care document is posted on the EMSRB website and this information has been communicated widely. Dr. Burnett said this document was endorsed by the Medical Direction Standing Advisory Committee (MDSAC). Dr. Burnett said Crisis Standard of Care is in a planning mode, and planning needs to be for two weeks to four weeks out.

Mr. Spector said staff are attending the SEOC meetings by phone and provide daily situational awareness reports and work with our partners in other agencies. He said there are discussion on alternate care site planning. EMSRB has staff on call 24/7. Mr. Rogers said he will be working on adding destination codes for the alternate care sites. This information needs to be added to the MNSTAR form or the file does not load. Once the sites have been identified this information will be shared with services.

Mr. Spector said staff continue to work on assisting ambulance services with their transition from MNSTAR v2 to MNSTAR v3. Twenty-six agencies have yet to convert.

Mr. Spector said that the Gov.QA contract has been signed. The implementation plan calls for go-live to occur within 60 to 90 days.

Mr. Spector reported the Biospatial agreement is being reviewed by MN.IT and he will keep the Board informed of this progress. He said the EMSRB is exploring with the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office at MN.IT the creation of ambulance primary service area polygon maps.

Mr. Spector said the EMSRB has received two new ambulance license applications. One is from the Madelia Ambulance Service to upgrade to part-time ALS, and the other is from MercyOne (Iowa) for an air ambulance license. The EMSRB also received name change requests from FirstLight to change to its name to Welia Health and from the White Earth Reservation Nation to change of its service from Reservation Ambulance Service to White Earth Reservation Ambulance. He said staff report there are no issues with these name change applications.

Mr. Spector said the EMS for Children Program (EMSC) did not spend all its funding in a previous grant cycle, and the EMSRB is exploring how the carry forward balance will impact the upcoming grant cycle. Once the carry forward matter is resolved the grant contract will issue. He said a letter of intent to contract was issued to Children's Minnesota.

Mr. Spector said an overpayment was made to the South Central Regional Program by the Small Agency Resource Team. Two payments were made that should go to the Southeast Regional Program. This was discussed with the director of the South Central Region, and he understands the scenario. The overpayment was \$18,000.00 and the next round of invoice received from South Central will absorb the overpayment.

Mr. Spector asked each staff person to report on their work activities:

- Mr. Shorten said he has SEOC duties and does daily work on customer service. He said he is updating contact information for his assigned ambulance services and is reviewing the part-time ALS license application for Madelia.
- Mr. Soucheray said he has similar SEOC duties and customer service work and is also working with his services on updates and reviewing the Mercy One application. This application was received but is incomplete and Mercy One was notified that additional information is needed. He said he will be presenting information virtually at the Teaching and Learning Conference. He said he is the point person communicating with the National Registry.
- Mr. Rogers said he and other staff are working with ambulance services on their transition to MNSTAR v3. This effort started in April with 33 services. EMSRB staff are in contact with services daily. This is mostly smaller volume services. These discussions are happening by conference call. Mr. Rogers said he is working on adding elements that are COVID related to MNSTAR and has sent emails to all services to share this information. Mr. Rogers said he is the

SEOC staff person on call this week and is discussing PPE requests with Ms. Jacobs. He said he will continue to research and provide data reports weekly.

- Ms. Nagy said she completes back of the house duties such as processing invoices.
- Mr. Spector reported that Ms. Jacobs is unable to attend the meeting today but is the lead on SEOC duties and PPE requests. She is attending conference calls with regions and other groups. He said the rural ambulance assessments are on hold.

7. New Business – 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Miller said the Minnesota Department of Transportation has communicated with STS and public transport providers that they forbid transport of COVID-19 patients and the patient should call EMS for transport. This information needs to be confirmed, and Mr. Guiton asked Mr. Spector to have staff verify the information.

Brennan McAlpin of the Minnesota Ambulance Association said it has a document to share that came from MEDICA Health Plan. The issue is not having the proper equipment to care for these patients and they have furloughed staff and parked their vehicles.

Mr. Spector said Ms. Jacobs has been working with Mr. Edwards on rural issues wanted to share this and thank Mr. Edwards. Mr. Edwards said he developed a survey with Ron Robinson of the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board to provide information for a regional SITREP survey. This is on Survey Monkey and asks for information on PPE, staff shortages, staff sickness, and run volume. This survey can be shared widely. Mr. Soucheray said staff are working to see if other regions can use this tool. It is a good survey.

Lino Lakes Public Safety Director John Swenson asked about the M Health Fairview ambulance changeover that was intended to happen on June 1, 2020. This was to be discussed at the next full Board meeting. Mr. Spector said this will be addressed at the Board meeting in May.

8. Adjourn – 11:12 p.m.

Mr. Guiton asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Dr. Ho moved to adjourn. Mr. Simpson seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Reviewed and Approved By:

Megan Hartigan (by email)
Board Secretary/Treasurer

5/4/20
Date