



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON  
DIRECTOR

**MICHIGAN EMS COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Friday, July 17, 2020**

9:30 a.m.

**\*VIRTUAL ONLY\***

Teleconference: 877-873-8017, Access code: 9922449

Adobe Connect: <https://breeze.mdch.train.org/qatf/>

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by Dr. Edwards.

**Attendance:**

Present: A. Abbas (via phone); Dr. C. Brent (via phone); D. Condino (via phone); R. Cronkright (via phone); C. Haney for K. Cummings (via phone); Dr. K.D. Edwards (via phone); Dr. M. Fill (via phone); G. Flynn (via phone); B. Forbush (via phone); W. Hart (via phone); F. Jalloul (via phone); B. Kincaid (via phone); L. Martin (via phone); P. Burns for Senator McBroom (via phone); K. Miller (via phone); S. Myers (via phone); M. Nye (via phone); R. Ortiz (via phone); D. Pratt (via phone); E. Smith (via phone); A. Brown for T. Sorensen (via phone); A. Sundberg (via phone); B. Trevithick (via phone); G. Wadaga (via phone); K. Wilkinson (via phone); Dr. S. Wise (via phone); (via phone); Representative J. Yaroch (via phone).

Absent: C. Baker; J. Harvey; A. Sledge; Dr. R. Smith; J. Wyatt.

BETP Representatives: K. Wahl (via phone); Dr. W. Fales (via phone); E. Bergquist (via phone); N. Babb (via phone); E. Worden (via phone); A. Pantaleo (via phone); K. Kuhl (via phone); Scott Minaudo (via phone); A. Stephens (via phone); K. Putman (via phone).

Guests: Dr. Lauren Gandolfo, DMC (via phone); Dave Boomer, Tri County MCA (via phone); Damon Gorelick, DEMCA (via phone); Bob Miljan, Wayne County MCA (HEMS); Damon Obiden, WMRMCC (via phone); Dr. Domeier, Washtenaw/Livingston MCA (via phone); Derrick Bunge, Brighton Area Fire Authority (via phone); Dr. Spencer Masiewicz, U of M (via phone); Erik Lyons, Lansing Community College (via phone); Angela Madden, MAAS (via phone); Luke Bowen, Macomb County MCA (via phone); Carol Robinet, Superior Ambulance (via phone); Ryan Rank, Lenawee County MCA (via phone); Jon Hockman, DMS (via phone); Marv Helmker, LCC (via phone); Dr. Lindsey Rauch, WMed (via phone); Andrew Savage, Emergent Health Partners (via phone); Al DiBrito, Lakeland Health (via phone); Dr. Mastenbrook, Allegan County MCA (via phone); Dr. Swor, Beaumont (via phone); Dr. Jackson, Sparrow Health System (via phone); Thomas Johnson, Sparrow Health System (via phone); Dr. R. Dunne, DEMCA (via phone).

**Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda (Wilkinson, Flynn). Motion carried.**

**Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from 5/15/2020 with the change of removing Bonnie Kincaid from the absent list (Wilkinson, Flynn). Motion carried.**

**Communications:**

- None. Dr. Edwards thanked everyone for being here.

**Announcements:**

- Kathy Wahl said everything is in the Wednesday Update. She mentioned the upcoming LCC Community Integrated Paramedic program.

**Old Business & Committee Reports:**

Administrative Rules

- Emily Bergquist introduced this to the group. Work has been done with stakeholder since the last meeting, so a new final version was sent out. **Motion to approve as written (Kincaid, Wilkinson). Approved.**
  - Bruce Trevithick asked what the changes from the previous final version. Emily addressed.
    - Definition of intercept was returned.
    - Clerical changes to agency vs ambulance operation wording.
    - Stretcher transport (non-emergency) wording was changed to match statute.
    - Agency reporting mechanism changed to report to the MCA instead of the department.
    - The wording on the credit categories required for renewal was adjusted.
    - The pass rate section was returned to the previous language.
  - Chris Haney thanked everyone for the cooperation on this project.

COVID-19 – DET Staff

- Kathy gave an update. The COVID-19 response has been consuming much of her time. She talked about the COVID-19. She thanked everyone for meeting in July, as EMSCC usually does not meet in July. She said it appeared that we were really getting a handle on the pandemic, but as we have begun to open back up there has been a surge in cases and we must remain vigilant going forward. She thinks much of the infrastructure put in place in the early months of the pandemic will keep us prepared moving forward.
  - EMS Response
    - Kathy said EMS has played a huge role, at many levels, in spite of a decrease in EMS runs statewide.
    - She acknowledged and thanked Life EMS for their role on very short notice in becoming a central coordination center to assist hospitals and

agencies with arranging interfacility transport of COVID-19 patients. In addition, they expanded on that and worked collaboratively with the MI MORT team with the human remains central collection point by assisting with coordination of transfers of unclaimed COVID positive bodies from hospitals.

- Kathy thanked all the EMS agencies that have been working tirelessly doing these thankless jobs. With all the uncertainties surrounding COVID-19, it was tireless dedication and it is appreciated. They've adapted to new protocols and continued to care for the most vulnerable populations in these uncertain and unprecedented times.
- She spoke about the huge role EMS staff have played in the response.
  - She spoke about Community Integrated Paramedicine (CIP) and the role Krisy Kuhl and Dr. Fales have had in increasing the use of telehealth.
  - Data collection has been beyond belief in this response and mandated by the federal government for assessing surge capacity and PPE in EMResource.
    - Damon Obiden from Region 6 has been a key leader in dashboard development, along with the CHECC data team.
    - Johnny Wagner has been working to ensure data collected is relevant to EMS and has been assessing EMS system needs.
    - All the regional coordinators in EMS and Trauma have worked to facilitate data submission, accuracy, and validation. This has been appreciated.
    - MI-EMESIS data will be extremely helpful as we assess the effects of the pandemic on other public safety initiatives. It's not just about what we find, but translating that into actions that can be taken by EMS and trauma to prepare for and respond more proactively.
      - Out of hospital cardiac arrests
      - Increased use of opioids
      - Child abuse
      - Delays in care for strokes and STEMIS
      - Fireworks injuries
      - Domestic violence
      - Suicide
      - Changes in types and rates of trauma

One of the larger projects was looking at out of hospital cardiac arrests and collaborating with MAAS and MDHHS to encourage individuals to use EMS for emergencies even during the pandemic. Thank you to MAAS for that collaboration.

- Protocol development and tracking of emergency protocols has been critical and Emily and Dr. Fales led the way with these efforts, along with the MCAs and their ability to pivot and change tracks to try and stay up to date with the most current science to keep the patients safe.
- Emily and Erika Hendy have been working in the CHECC doing the daily MDHHS Director's report.
- Derek Flory worked on the central collection project with Life EMS.
- Terrie Godde and Sabrina Kerr worked on EMS Education reopening guidance for in person education, as well as changing how the psychomotor exams are done to make them safer.
- Alissa Morrison has been keeping up the EMS website.
- Dr. Mishra has forged new relationships with Behavioral Health that started with a document on how to talk to your kids about COVID and has blossomed into many documents about managing stress including resources for EMS providers.
- The EMS Regional Coordinators have been doing inspections remotely and have adapted to what needed to be done to keep people safe.
- Dr. Fales has worked on protocols, national initiatives with NHTSA, and has been involved in the remdesivir distribution process. He has also worked on hospital strategies among many other initiatives. She mentioned work he's doing with Farrah Jalloul.

All of this has gone on while this fantastic team has continued to work remotely and manage the everyday issues and priorities of the Division: CIP, Opioids, Compliance and complaint investigations and hearings, creating and distributing the Wednesday Update, implementing the online agency licensing process, responding to audit queries-even during the peak activities of the COVID response, managing personnel licensure and updating the licensing module to accommodate the changes in the Executive Orders and other behind the scenes activities that must go on. One of the biggest projects has been finishing the rules so they can be voted on at this meeting. Kathy thanked everyone for that.

## EMS Systems/Strategic Planning Update – K. Wahl/EMS Staff

- CIP
  - Krisy Kuhl gave an update on CIP. COVID-19 has disrupted plans and timelines, but they are getting back on track.
    - Education programs.
      - Hennepin is wrapping up. When this is done, there will be 75 more CPs.
      - Lansing Community College is holding the first community college CP class and that will start in August.
      - Community EMS and Medstar will be having classes in the future, and HVA is continuing.
    - QATF is reviewing the CIP protocols on 7/23/2020 and Krisy discussed briefly.
    - Custom data elements are still being developed. The goal is to have this incorporated into the existing documentation system.
    - Krisy is ready to get all the pieces together on legislation.
- EMS-C
  - Dr. Mishra has been working on developing quick sheets and education with partners.
  - She's working on a project with BETP staff and pediatricians around the state and Ohio on regional (FEMA 5) surge plan. This is for a HRSA grant that University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital in Ohio received.
  - Sam had been working on safe sleep initiatives, especially related to the flooding in Midland/Saginaw area. She delivered pack n plays to Frederic.
  - Pediatric champion tool kits and recognition project are being put together.
- Data
  - Emily spoke about trying to forge a relationship with EMResource and Biospatial and explained the process and goals. The goal is to have the EMResource data go to Biospatial and that is in the works between those two entities. The beginning of 2021 is the expected completion date.
  - A data validity plan will be presented to the Data Subcommittee for review in August.
- Education
  - Terrie Godde is doing the first ever virtual Instructor Coordinator exam today.
- eLicensing-Agency
  - The agency licensure module has been implemented with relatively few issues. Emily said agencies need to make sure the agency licensure administrator is set up in the system. If you are a 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter renewal and you haven't received

notice, there probably isn't an administrator set up. The form can be found [here](#), and it can be sent to [MDHHS-MichiganEMS@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-MichiganEMS@michigan.gov). Fourth quarter renewals should also ensure their administrator is set up .

- MCAs need to make sure they are checking email, as the notification to review goes via email. Emily discussed the importance of this.
- Opioid Update
  - Anthony Pantaleo gave an update. EMS opioid overdose data is being monitored. There has been an increase in April, May, and June. He is working with Krisy on developing the CIP education. He also is working with MDHHS on naloxone initiatives.

#### Emergency Preparedness Update – Dr. Edwards

- Dr. Edwards thanked the providers in the system and spoke about collaboration. He talked about the work Damon Obiden and Eric Pratt are doing on EMResource and how this will help. He spoke about the benefits of the program.
- There was an initial state after action review and improvement plan. This is different than past after action reports because the pandemic is ongoing, but it was important to capture best practices, lessons learned and gaps.
- Budget period 1 ended in June and now we are in budget period 2. He thanked the MCAs that serve as fiduciaries.
- Dr. Edwards spoke about PPE. The state has been getting feedback on how to manage reserves. He said this would be a good time to order for your needs, as additional groups will be requiring PPE. It may take years before the global supply chain is restored.

#### Trauma Systems Report – E. Worden

- Eileen said events like this remind us how valuable the behind the scenes work is in public health.
- System development and sustainability are still being worked on.
- Trauma programs have been busy with level 1 and 2 activations.
- Strategic plan initiatives are being worked on.
- A white paper is expected to be developed from the trauma surgeons work with COVID-19 response in regions 2 north and 2 south.
- Discussions on field triage evaluations have begun.
- A state injury prevention plan will be developed with partners, including MDHHS.
- A Michigan Data Dictionary may be developed.
- A back to basics webinar is being developed.
- The first inventory for RPSRO is complete and the second one is starting. This will inform the process improvement plans the regions will be working on.

- Regional application renewal is due. It had been due in the Spring but was deferred due to partners being engaged in the COVID-19 response. These are expected to be reviewed by STAC in October and come to EMSCC in November.

#### EMS Medical Director Report – Dr. Fales

- Dr. Fales gave an update.
  - Dr. Fales said we are at a much better place with COVID-19 in Michigan than we were in the Spring, but we are not yet out of the woods.
  - Dr. Fales said there have been anecdotal reports about EMS personnel and other responders lightening up on PPE. It is important to still be diligent about PPE, especially around patients and the public and Dr. Fales expanded on that thought.
  - Dr. Fales spoke about being prepared for influenza season.
  - Dr. Fales said there may be an opportunity for EMS to assist with immunizations.
    - Bruce Trevithick asked if there has been any conversation about exemptions. Kathy said this would be agency specific but has not been addressed through the EMS office.
    - Bill Forbush asked an immunizations question. Emily said that protocol exists and Dr. Fales discussed.
  - Dr. Fales thanked everyone and said to continue to be safe.

#### Committee Reports:

- Quality Assurance – Dr. Edwards
  - The QATF will meet twice next week. There is a special meeting scheduled for CIP protocols. COVID-19 protocols will be in place as long as the emergency order is in place. The QATF also reviewed the State burn protocol and protocols for opioid overdose.
- Ambulance Operations – M. Nye
  - They have not met.
- Medical Control Authority – B. Trevithick
  - They have not met.
- Compliance and Licensing – K. Cummings
  - They have not met.
- Education – K. Wilkinson
  - They have not met.
- By-Laws – B. Trevithick
  - They have not met but are working on scheduling a meeting. They hope to have the Bylaws draft to the EMSCC in September. A member was appointed to Bylaws to fill Chris Lake’s term.

- Data Task Force – B. Kincaid
  - They haven't met but there is a meeting scheduled for 8/13/2020.
- Legislative – B. Trevithick
  - HB 5767
    - This is a revision to Representative Yaroch's bill discussed at the last meeting. This is about stockpiling materials in a disaster. This version has more details than the last one. The subcommittee did not review the revised language. Bruce asked Representative Yaroch if he had any comments and Representative Yaroch said they would like feedback. He said the website will be in effect whether the state provides funding or not. This was tabled at the last meeting. Representative Yaroch said he would appreciate support for the bill. Monty Nye asked if there was a funding source for this yet. Representative Yaroch said money would come in an appropriations bill, rather than in this bill. Monty asked if a cost analysis done. Representative Yaroch said the cost would be driven by what the priorities of emergency management and he expanded this. Bill Hart spoke about this and Representative Yaroch addressed. The cost is indeterminate. Chris Haney said there seems to be a lot of unanswered questions about this, and Monty Nye agreed. Rep. Yaroch said the source would be general fund unless appropriations takes it from somewhere else. The unknown element of funding was discussed. Representative Yaroch discussed the reasoning for this bill. Dr. Edwards spoke about the work in the SEOC and challenges with supplies, including on the supply chain end. He said this is a noble idea but would like to see more collaboration. Dr. Edwards spoke. Greg Flynn asked about calling the questions to see what direction to go with this. Representative Yaroch said if the committee is not comfortable, he will take the suggestions. Bruce said they would be able to discuss
      - **Motion to have the legislative committee review and bring back to the next meeting (Flynn, Forbush). Approved. Nye opposed.**
  - HB 5875
    - This bill would prorate certain health care license fees and appears to be based upon closures during the pandemic. The subcommittee took no action as it does not directly relate to EMS.
      - **This was for information only and there is no recommendation.**
  - SB 918
    - This would codify the use of telemedicine, but does not currently include MES. The subcommittee recommends support of the concept, but would

ask that EMS be included in the bill, and that confirmation/clarification on if immunity provision would be included.

- **Motion to support the committee's recommendation (Haney, Brent). Approved.**
- SB 957
  - This would create a special volunteer licensure for EMS. The subcommittee recommends opposition to the bill, as there are a number of concerns, especially around education and oversight.
    - **Motion to oppose (Nye, Flynn). Approved. P. Burns for McBroom abstained.**
- Rural – G. Wadaga
  - They have not met and plan to meet again on September 22, 2020.
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine – K. Wahl for S. Mishra
  - The committee met last week but there is nothing in addition to what Kathy reported above.
- EMS Safety Ad Hoc – E. Bergquist
  - They have not met. The second book for the read along has been started. The book is Population 485: Meeting Your Neighbors One Siren at a Time by Michael Perry.
- Critical Care Ad Hoc – E. Bergquist
  - They have not met.
- Community Integrated Paramedicine Workgroup – K. Kuhl
  - They have not met. There is nothing additional from what is reported above.

#### **New Business:**

- MEDCOM PLAN – B. Forbush
  - Bill Forbush went over the reason for review. The MEDCOM committee met because a variance was requested from an MCA to not require VHF radios on non-transport BLS units. The recommendation was to not grant the variance. Bill spoke about VHF being the only common method of communication right now. He also discussed narrow banding. He spoke about what they wish to look about the future. It is thought that a statewide talk group zone should be created. Adding telehealth to the MEDCOM plan is desired, as well.
    - Dr. Brent provided some comments about economic limitations. She asked if there was a process to get a waiver. Bill said VHF radios that meet MEDCOM requirements are \$300-\$400. He described a hypothetical with three agencies that don't have any systems in common. He said the timeline is unknown. MFR vehicles only have to communicate with dispatch.

- **Motion to support the recommendations of the MEDCOM committee to maintain the VHF system for now and to develop the telehealth piece, the comms interop channels on 800, and a statewide MPSCs talkgroup zone for EMS operations (Forbush, Pratt). Approved. Kincaid and Brent voted no. No abstentions.**
- BENNETT BILL APPLICATION – Highland Township Fire Department, Agency number 631049
  - Emily gave an update relayed from Derek Flory. The application is ready. This is the first MCA that has gone above and beyond to get the protocols correct. This application is pending approval of the Oakland County MCA protocol at QATF next week. Bonnie said they have reviewed the application.
    - **Motion to approve (Flynn, Kincaid). Approved.**

**Membership Round Table Report:**

- Alyson Sundberg reported they are continuing with the fall conference, and it will be 100% online. It will be posted on their Facebook page and credit approvals are in process.

**Public Comment:**

- Dr. Jackson thanked everyone.
- Angela Madden said EMS Expo will be online monthly beginning in August through the end of the year. The first session will be about how to deal with suicide. She also wanted to make sure everyone knew the administrative rules work was put in by EMS staff and other organizations in addition to MAAS. She thanked everyone.

**Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 (Kincaid, Trevithick). Approved.**