



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH HERTEL
DIRECTOR

MICHIGAN EMS COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Friday, November 19, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Livingston County EMS

1911 Tooley Road

Howell, MI 48855

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

1 248-509-0316 Phone Conference ID: 539 038 519#

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Dr. Edwards.

Attendance: A. Abbas (*virtual: non-voting*); D. Condino (*virtual: non-voting*); R. Cronkright (*virtual: non-voting*); K. Cummings; Dr. K.D. Edwards; Dr. M. Fill; B. Forbush; G. Flynn; W. Hart; J. Harvey (*virtual: non-voting*); F. Jalloul (*virtual: non-voting*); B. Kincaid; L. Martin; B. Grubb for K. Miller; S. Myers; M. Nye; D. Pratt (*virtual: Crawford County, Frederic Township, Michigan*); A. Sledge (*virtual: non-voting*); A. Sundberg; R. Dunne for R. Smith; A. Brown for T. Sorensen; B. Trevithick; C. Haney for G. Wadaga; K. Wilkinson; Dr. S. Wise (*virtual: Wayne County, Livonia, Michigan*); Representative J. Yaroch.

Absent: C. Baker; Dr. C. Brent; Senator McBroom; R. Ortiz.

BETP Representatives: S. Kerr; Dr. W. Fales; E. Bergquist (in person); N. Babb (in person); E. Worden; K. Kuhl (in person); T. Godde; J. Wagner; D. Flory; T. Frascone; J. Youngblood; D. Burke; K. Putman; A. Pantaleo; A. Kinney.

Guests: Jason MacDonald, Medstar; Dr. R. Reece, Hurley; Dr. S. McGraw, Oakland County MCA; Angela Madden, MAAS (*virtual*); Carol Robinet, Superior Ambulance (*virtual*); G. Wadaga, Bay Ambulance (*virtual*); Dr. Bob Domeier, Washtenaw/Livingston MCA (*virtual*); Dr. M. Paul, St. Clair County MCA (*virtual*); Dustin Hawley, Superior Ambulance (*virtual*); Jason Bestard, Detroit Fire (*virtual*); Mel Oakley (*virtual*); Bob Miljan, Wayne County MCA (*virtual*); Jeff Spitzley, MDHHS (*virtual*); Glen Garwood (*virtual*); Tammy Forbush (*virtual*); Michael Bentley, Kalamazoo County MCA (*virtual*); Dr. D. Kaiser (*virtual*); Lance Corey, Kent County EMS (*virtual*); D. Obiden, WMRMCC (*virtual*); Jory Johnson (*virtual*); Chad Lawton, WMRMCC (*virtual*); Dr. A. Hsu (*virtual*).

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

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from 9/17/2021 (Sundberg, Kincaid). Motion carried.

Communications:

None.

Announcements:

Reminders of upcoming educational opportunities:

- Out of hospital births – collaborative care with Certified Professional Midwives November 30, 2021, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (3 sessions)
 - A virtual mini-conference relevant to any EMS provider who has or will interact with a licensed midwife in the field. CPMs are now a recognized licensed healthcare provider in the State of Michigan, and many families are planning home deliveries. The likelihood of EMS providers interacting with CPMs will be increasing with time.
 - This aims to improve the mutual awareness and respect between EMS providers and CPMs in Michigan to promote high quality, collaborative care of patients, and to support positive outcomes for all involved.
 - Register for 1,2, or all 3 sessions through the [eLicensing portal](#).
- Adolescent/Pediatric Behavioral health – starting a collaborative education series with the assistance of Cedar Creek Hospital:
 - November 30, 2021, from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
 - <https://uhsinc.zoom.us/j/3045070684>
- Please reach out to Dr. Mishra with questions about these trainings at MishraS@michigan.gov.

Old Business & Committee Reports:

COVID-19 – E. Bergquist

- Emily did not read case numbers, but said we are in the middle of pretty much the worst surge we have seen thus far. We continue to encourage people to get vaccinated. We are aware of issues with both capacity and transfer of patients. She said we are continuing to work on coming up with innovative ideas to provide relief to the system. She spoke about how impressive EMS has been with innovation around providing monoclonal antibodies services and offered thanks.

EMS Systems/Strategic Planning Update – E. Bergquist

- Emily has just started in this role and she has been learning about the systems and areas of the department she hadn't encountered before. She spoke about the removal of the verification of education form from the licensing process and the benefits this will provide. She said we will continue to look at ways to improve the department's processes.

Emergency Preparedness Update – Dr. Edwards

- Dr. Edwards spoke about collaboration between the health care coalitions and the department and the benefits. They are working on a number of things such as PPE, cardiac monitors, supplies, and crisis staffing requests.

- Monoclonal antibody administration numbers have skyrocketed and Dr. Edwards discussed. The predominant administration method is now subcutaneous.
- Staffing crisis with long-term care and deployment has been going on and has also been used to support the EMS administration of monoclonal antibodies.
- The FDA will discuss boosters today. The oral medication for COVID-19 is scheduled to be discussed on 11/30. He spoke about the benefits.

Trauma Systems Report – E. Worden

- They are watching the numbers. Bed availability and patient transfers are a concern for trauma, as well.
- 1.1 million Michiganders have gotten their third dose. This makes Michigan one of the top three in the country.
- Applications are being accepted for STAC.
- The annual trauma system report for 2021 is being drafted.
- They have drafted a Trauma system injury prevention plan to go to STAC.
- Virtual verification site visits are being scheduled.
- She offered kudos to those taking the time to do the visits.
- MDHHS is looking for avenues to address trauma system funding. The sunset was extended to 9/30/2022.

EMS Medical Director Report – Dr. Fales

- COVID numbers are up and not where we want them to be as a state. He spoke about ramifications. He personally knows 5 people in EMS that have died. Vaccination, PPE, preventative measures, and therapeutics are important. He spoke about booster shots, as well. He stressed getting the word out to your organizations. He said as leaders in EMS, we have to be vigilant and discussed.
- He spoke about subcutaneous monoclonal injections and the expansion of the protocol to EMTs. He said agencies are encouraged to help with these efforts. There is a statewide plan with default agencies in each of the regions. Because of the increase in use, supply has suffered. He spoke about the time sensitivity of these treatments.
- Oral antivirals are expected to become available in December, with the Merck product expected to come out first. A strategy is being finalized to make them as widely available as possible, with priority emphasis on vulnerable and underserved populations.
- A product for immunocompromised individuals will be coming out from AstraZeneca. This is given as two IM injections repeated every 6 months.
- This has been a time when EMS has shown what a vital role they can play in a national disaster like this. He said we can't thank you enough, be safe, and let us know if there is anything we can do to help.

- Lance Corey stated a letter from the State's EMS Medical director to the healthcare systems regarding the importance of utilizing EMS in the widespread and 7 day a week delivery may go a long way to further the conversation. Dr. Fales addressed and said a direct communication is a good idea.
- Ken Cummings asked about the distribution of monoclonal antibodies. The holiday schedule is a longer duration, but allocation was doubled. Dr. Fales and Emily addressed. Jason Smith in the CHECC is the contact person. Dr. Fales said we will keep pushing administration through the holidays.
- Bruce Trevithick asked if the state had training for EMTs. Medstar will share their training as the state does not have a program at this time.

Committee Reports:

- Quality Assurance – Dr. Edwards
 - The next meeting is Monday. The group has been very active. The emergency protocols continue to be reviewed and revised where necessary, as they are dynamic. The statewide protocol review continues, as well as review of the protocols sent in by MCAs.
- Ambulance Operations – M. Nye
 - They did not meet.
- Medical Control Authority – D. Condino
 - Debbie Condino introduced the EMS Quick Sheets to the group. They wanted to provide to the EMSCC for review, input, and support.
 - A group is being convened to discuss interfacility transfers.
 - She briefly discussed the future work plan.
- Ethics and Compliance – K. Cummings
 - Sabrina shared her screen and went over the decision-making tool being developed. This has been worked on for a year and is in version 13. This is utilized to attempt to ensure consistency on disciplinary action. **This has been vetted and Sabrina will have this draft sent out to the group.** This is a template tool to help with decision making.
- Education – K. Wilkinson
 - They did not meet.
- Bylaws – B. Trevithick
 - Bruce reported the group has met and is working on changes to the Bylaws, but these are not ready to come to the EMSCC yet.
 - They reviewed the ad hoc subcommittees and think Air Medical and Safety should be made permanent, but not Critical Care.

- EMSCC appointments were reviewed. Almost everyone expires next year so they are looking at staggering the terms through extensions to get on a schedule of staggered terms.
- There are three open subcommittee slots. If you are interested, let the department know. The openings are on MCA, Ambulance Operations, and Safety Ad Hoc.
- Data – B. Kincaid
 - They continue to meet every other month. The next meeting is 12/9/2021. She spoke about the data measures that were sent out with the agenda.
- Legislative – B. Trevithick
 - SIB 0521 Systems of Care
 - This was tabled at the last meeting. The legislative subcommittee did talk about it but take no stance on it. He said while structure is needed, there is not a lot of broad support for this. He spoke about the options the EMSCC could take. There is an allocation of \$3 million for systems of care. Dr. Dunne made a comment and said this discussion goes back as far as 2006. **He urges the state people to review comments made on the white paper previously released.** A comprehensive systems of care rather than adding them piecemeal would make more sense. A more simple, comprehensive legislation would be better. He said this is just adding to the trauma bill and discussed. Alyson Sundberg agrees, she doesn't oppose the concept, but it needs to be better. The group discussed what action to take, if any. Dr. Edwards said he would rather be at the table. Emily said the department met with MDHHS Legal. **She said as stakeholders of the EMSCC, you should expect the department will start working on this, as they have been charged to do so.** Dr. Dunne spoke about more history. He said the financial support has always been missing. He said he thinks everyone would love to see what we can do to build the structure. Eileen said she and Dr. Dunne have been working on this a long time. She said there are things that should be considered for adjustment from her perspective, and to flush it out with the white paper into administrative rule language. The legislature has charged MDHHS with this and it is our responsibility to move forward with this. She spoke of deep appreciation for thoughtful conversation to help operationalize and execute the systems. Bruce suggested the department address the concerns with the way the legislation is written. Bill Hart said this requires

additional subcommittees from the EMSCC. **NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.**

- HIB 4983 Child Restraint
- HIB 4984 Child Restraint
 - These two bills are to update child restraint legislation. They were forwarded by CoPEM.
 - **Motion to support HIBs 4983 and 4984 (Sundberg, Haney). Approved.**
- HIB 5385 QAAP Refunds
 - This involves taxation of providers and Bruce explained. This legislation would add language around refunds.
 - **Motion to support HIB 5385 (Forbush, Martin). Approved.**
- Draft 1 Mandatory disclosure carrying weapon
 - This would require those carrying concealed weapons to disclose to EMS providers.
 - **Motion to support this draft (Kincaid, Sundberg). Approved.**
- SIB 0708 Safe Delivery
- SIB 0709 Safe Delivery
- SIB 0710 Safe Delivery
- SIB 0711 Safe Delivery
 - This would allow devices to be used and installed.
 - **Motion to oppose SIBs 0708, 0709, 0710, and 0711(Forbush, Flynn). Approved.**
- Interstate Compact legislation draft
 - This would have Michigan participate in the compact. There were concerns with this regarding licensing and Bruce explained.
 - **Motion to oppose this draft (Kincaid, Forbush). Approved.**
- HIB 5330 Creation of a Violence Prevention Program
 - This would require EMS agencies to create these programs.
 - **Motion to oppose HIB 5330 (Kincaid, Sundberg). Approved.**
- Bruce reported the subcommittee is taking a look at the possibility to adopt language to create a preliminary determination for individuals before they begin a program if they have a past history of criminal convictions.
- Rural – G. Wadaga
 - The committee met Tuesday. They want to continue to push the white paper out. They reviewed the recruitment and retention ideas and are developing thoughts on that. They are meeting with legislators to ask for help and fast track ARPA fund allocation. This would be used for a non-degree program that would help the agencies in the UP. Senator

McBroom is working on changes to the Open Meeting Act. Eileen thanked Gary for working with the legislature on the Open Meeting Act issues.

- Pediatric Emergency Medicine – S. Mishra
 - CoPEM met 10.14.2021 virtually.
 - EMS for Children Survey – national survey of EMS Agencies, related to pediatric readiness will now be annual, per HRSA, with an anticipated open date of January 2022 for the next cycle.
 - Peds Ready Assessment 2021 – national, robust assessment of Emergency Departments, related to pediatric readiness.
 - Completed 2021, Michigan achieved 100% participation.
 - This occurs approximately every 4-6 years.
 - Data will be available statewide and regionally.
 - Pediatric Care Coordination Center – still in developmental stage
 - Regional education and exercises underway to receive feedback related to the feasibility and usefulness to the regions.
 - Education for EMS and ED pediatric champions, and interested providers
 - Ongoing with webinars, office hours, regional opportunities.
 - The Midwest EMSC PECC symposium was held on 11.3 and 11.4 – evaluations pending to determine effectiveness and future opportunities.
 - Michigan had a good turnout of EMS providers each evening.
 - CEs are being processed.
 - Attendees were provided with resources from each speaker to bring back to their agency/area.
- Air Medical Ad Hoc – K. Wilkinson
 - They did not meet.
- EMS Safety Ad Hoc – E. Bergquist
 - No update.
- Critical Care Ad Hoc – E. Bergquist
 - No update.
- Community Integrated Paramedicine Workgroup – K. Kuhl
 - The education infrastructure is going well. There is a class going at Munson right now, and KCC starts a class in January.
 - Program numbers:
 - 2014-One
 - 2017-2019-Six
 - 2020-Thirteen
 - 2021-Nineteen

- Seven more are eligible and five more will come on after the Munson class.
- The data and documentation project is in phase 1 and will have test users shortly.
- They are moving forward for with selecting participating programs that will work with the Michigan Health Information network (MI HIN).
- They had a request for a cover letter for the draft legislation and that has been completed.
- CIP Virtual Assemblies will be every other month next year

Recruitment and Retention Work Group-K. Cummings

- Dr. Edwards gave an update. The EMSCC chairs met and came up with ideas on what could be done to improve. Emily projected the list that was developed from the discussion. These will be charged to the relevant subcommittees. Ken spoke about the initial meeting. There were 6 pages of ideas from that meeting. He sat down with Dr. Edwards, Emily, and Nicole to produce the list being reviewed today. Emily went down the list of things that are being looked at and discussed the items:
 - Satellite Approval Process
 - Credits for the working the road/on the job training
 - Patient contacts while on duty
 - Temp Licenses
 - Course Completion Rosters
 - Allow written exam before internship
 - Relax MCA Training requirements temporarily
 - ARPA FUNDING
 - More psychomotor exam availability
 - Bridge course/RN to Medic
 - Outreach Initiative
- Ken added there are things that are not on this list that are important, as well. He spoke about funding and thanked the legislature for the increase in Medicaid dollars. He said there is still work individual EMS agencies will have to do, as well, such as work environment. He thanked all the subcommittees. He said now it will be asked that these ideas go back to the subcommittees to develop implementation strategies and get started. There is not a timeline for these, as that will vary per subject. This gets ideas on the table that we can begin to work on.
- Greg Flynn spoke. He thanked Emily for her tone and vulnerability in reviewing this list and the openness and willingness of the department to talk about what they **can** do is a welcome tone. He said the MAFC is

ready and willing to support and provide financial backing these efforts. Ken said Greg is right, and it is important that everyone step up to the plate and do their part in putting action to these ideas. Ken said these items should go to the top of the lists for the subcommittees assigned.

- Rep. Yaroch spoke. In addition to drafts that have already been drafted, accreditation will be discussed, and he went over the conversation that needs to be had. Dr. Edwards thanked Rep. Yaroch for his passion and willingness to work on these issues.
- **The consolidated list will be sent out to EMSCC.** Emily said she is ready to hear opinions and ideas. She said she is willing to do anything in her power to provide relief. Please bring ideas forward. Dr. Edwards thanked all the chairs.

Community Integrated Paramedicine (CIP)

- Draft Language for Review-still in process, no updates.

New Business:

None.

Public Comment:

None.

Membership Round Table Report:

- Joni Harvey:
 - She is working with the federal interagency committee on Emergency Medical Service. They created a workgroup to discuss EMS and 911 workforce issues. They are talking about things like staffing, training, retention, supply chains, information sharing, wellness for EMS and 911 responders. If anyone has anything they want her to bring up, please let her know.
 - They are still working on Behavioral Health crisis training. This is interdisciplinary and she discussed. They are getting close to having it developed as a training and she will update the group when it is ready.
 - 911 Act: HB 5026 passed in the house and out of committee in the Senate. They are expecting the senate to vote the week after Thanksgiving.
- Steve Myers:
 - Steve discussed CoAEMSP and an alternate track and test.
- Alyson Sundberg:
 - They held their annual conference. They used Expo Pass as a platform. She offered thanks to Dr. Dunne as keynote speaker. The conference was

successful. They had a meeting with the legislators about accreditation and R&R; almost all the UP MCAs were in attendance. It was very productive.

- Representative Yaroch:
 - He offered congratulations to our new director; this is a win having a paramedic in that seat. Urban Search and Rescue has received funding from the legislature. This will be a line item to carry over. He discussed the difference between one time and ongoing funding. 12.9 million general fund additional funding to raise reimbursement levels. This seems to be sustainable and will hopefully continue. He thanked MAAS for working hard on this. Rep. Merkton and Rep. Hall helped Rep. Yaroch advocate to Rep. Whiteford. He spoke about changing Medicaid/care view of EMS as just a transporter and not a care provider. He suggested sending thank you cards to the representatives involved. Rep. Yaroch's HB 4087 (Stockpile) is now a PA. The vote totals were 97-12 House and 35-0 in the Senate. Gov Whitmer signed it and did a press release. He acknowledged MAAS and others that supported this. The council of state governments called him this week to write an article on his bill so Michigan may be the leader. He suggested sending thank you notes to legislators. His intention is to get something done about accreditation in this session and he loves to hear about the recruitment and retention work happening.
 - Dr. Edwards said it's passion that drives people rather than thank yous. He said we are fortunate to work with the most resilient and persevering group that can be imagined under the worst of situations. Everyone is doing their best. He spoke about thanking others, such as long-term care workers. He said we are going to get in a better place and leaders come forward and teams are made in challenging situations. He thanked everyone.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 11:31 a.m. (Kincaid, Wilkinson). Adjourned.