



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
152 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

**TRAUMA ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
April 26, 2022
Meeting conducted via Zoom
MINUTES**

J. SAM HURLEY
DIRECTOR

Members Present: Rick Petrie (Chair), Dr. Amy Fenwick (NL-EMMC), Dr. Joseph Rappold (MMC), Anna Moses (NL-EMMC), Dr. Cynthia Richards (CMMC), Joanne Lebrun, (Tri-County), Thomas Judge (LFOM), Christopher Paré (Wells EMS), Ben Zetterman (Van Buren Ambulance), Leslie Anderson (Carey Medical Center), Chris Costello (MDI Hospital), Dr. Matthew Sholl (MEMS), Pret Bjorn (NL-EMMC), Julie Ontengco (MMC), Dr. Guy Nuki (BlueWater), Dr. Pete Tilney (CMMC/LFOM), Sam Hurley (MEMS), Dr. Amy Fenwick (EMMC)

Guests: Dr. Richard King (CMMC), Tammy Lachance (CMMC), Dr. Norm Dinerman, Dwight Corning, Dr. Bruce Chung, Phil MacCallum, Dr. Bryan Morse, Chris Turner

Staff Present: Dr. Kate Zimmerman (Trauma Systems Manager), Ashley Moody, Marc Minkler.

This meeting was conducted virtually on Zoom.

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Petrie at 12:35

Mr. Petrie reads the Maine EMS mission statement.

The mission of Maine EMS is to promote and provide for a comprehensive and effective Emergency Medical Services system to ensure optimum patient care with standards for all providers. All members of this board/committee should strive to promote the core values of excellence, support, collaboration, and integrity. In serving on this Board/Committee, we commit to serve the respective providers, communities, and residents of the jurisdictions that we represent.

Mr. Petrie read a roll call for TAC member attendance.

Motion # 1 by Tom Judge January 6, 2022, Trauma Plan subcommittee meeting minutes. Seconded by Dr. Rappold.

Discussion - None

Roll call vote from those who attended, unanimously in favor, motion passed.

Motion # 2 by Tom Judge January 21, 2022, Trauma Plan subcommittee meeting minutes. Seconded by Dr. Rappold.

Discussion – Mr. Pret Bjorn wanted to clarify that he did not intend for his comment to say that neurosurgeons do not save lives. The intention was to draw a distinction between unstable patients. Kate will amend the minutes to provide clarification.

Roll call vote from those who attended, unanimously in favor, motion passed.

Motion # 3 by Dr. Rappold January 24, 2022, Trauma Plan subcommittee meeting minutes. Seconded by Tom Judge.

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Discussion - None

Roll call vote from those who attended, unanimously in favor, motion passed.

Motion # 4 by Ben Zetterman January 25, 2022, TAC meeting minutes. Seconded by Pret Bjorn.

Discussion – None

No roll call vote, but no one objected, and minutes were accepted.

Mr. Petrie read the Confidentiality Statement with no objections.

Discussion of Terms

Mr. Petrie is questioning if this is being presented because a decision was made last April but did not go to the board in January.

Dr. Kate Zimmerman clarified that this is a discussion of the Chair term as it is up in July of 2022. She referred to July 2021 minutes to confirm that the Chair's term would end on June 30th, 2022, and a new chair would be needed.

Mr. Rick Petrie asked if there was a term limit on the chairmanship role.

Dr. Kate Zimmerman and Director Hurley clarified that it is apparent in the bylaws that there are no limits on chairmanship.

It was written in bylaws for nominations to take place in January, but it did not occur with all the emergency meetings that occurred.

Motion # 5 by Pret Bjorn to elect a chair. Seconded by Joanne Lebrun.

Pret Bjorn nominated Rick Petrie, with Joanne Lebrun seconding.

Director Hurley nominated Julie Ontengco, but she declined.

Dr. Sholl nominated Chris Pare, and Julie Ontengco seconded.

Chris Pare commented that not all members were at this meeting, and he was concerned that those not present could not self-nominate or nominate someone else.

Director Hurley offered that the group can hold a brief meeting in the next few weeks for elections to allow all members to have the opportunities to consider nominations.

Julie Ontengco and Pret Bjorn agreed that the TAC should hold off.

Motion # 6 by Tom Judge to table the selection of the chair until a special meeting. Seconded by Julie Ontengco.

Roll call vote, 13 in favor, 3 objections, 1 abstention, motion passed.

Trauma Surgeon Update

Mr. Rick Petrie stated that CMMC is now a level 3 Trauma Center, the current bylaws state all level 1 and level 2 Trauma Centers automatically appoint the trauma medical director to the TAC. If there are less than four level 1 and level 2 Trauma Centers, the remaining positions can be opened up to non-level 1 and level 2 to fulfill the four positions. The question that arises is the position that was held by Dr. King and what to do with that.

Tom Judge stated that this is the Trauma Advisory Committee. There is a great benefit to having trauma surgeons involved, and he is open to having other trauma surgeons from other institutions join as he feels the TAC needs their expertise.

Joanne Lebrun stated that she agreed with Tom and feels that CMMC is important, as it is an essential asset to the community.

Julie Ontengco stated that it is essential to have a plan and implement it in a prescriptive way. Many trauma surgeons currently attend regularly and participate even though they are not voting members.

Pret Bjorn stated that TAC needs to be careful, and there need to be clear rules around voting members.

After hearing the discussion, Mr. Petrie asked

1. Open that position for anyone that wants to apply or
2. Change the bylaws to add levels 1,2, or 3.

Tom Judge stated that if more level 3 join, they too should be included.

Dr. King commented that there needs to be a representation of all level trauma centers.

Motion # 7 by Dr. Amy Fenwick that the State Trauma Prevention and Control Advisory Committee Bylaw change the surgeon membership to “at least 1 appointed from each ACS-verified Trauma Center in the state.” In the case where there are less than four ACS-verified Trauma Centers in the state, additional applicants will apply to the Committee using the established procedure and must represent a non-ACS-verified Trauma Center. Representative of each ACS-verified Trauma Center maintains their positions for as long as they are appointed by the Trauma Center. Surgeons not representing one of the ACS verified Trauma Centers will need to reapply every two years. Seconded by Tom Judge.

Continued Discussion:

Julie Ontengco questioned if the TAC is able to modify the bylaw.

Mr. Rick Petrie states that it is not addressed in the bylaws, so the assumption is yes.

Dr. Kate Zimmerman asked Mr. Rick Petrie if the bylaws need to be approved by the board?

Mr. Rick Petrie did not feel that the bylaws were approved by the board.

Julie Ontengco voiced concern that this is a significant change being handled in a very superficial way.

Mr. Chris Pare questioned if there is an upper-end limit in the bylaws.

Mr. Rick Petrie stated there is no upper end for any positions; everything in the law only provides minimums.

Dr. Sholl is concerned about foundational bylaw changes without a greater context and conversation. Dr. King can be embraced in the current bylaws. Dr. Sholl context of Trauma System Review and Trauma Plan Review and build the bylaw changes into that process.

Dr. Joe Rappold stated he doesn't understand why we are currently dealing with this. He felt it should be tabled and dealt with at a later date.

Dr. Fenwick expressed she feels that this is important and that all trauma centers should be represented.

Dr. King reminded all that Maine is a small state and the TAC is a small committee and that it needs to be inclusive.

Ms. Tammy Lachance asked if the trauma program manager would be included in this motion.

Mr. Rick Petrie stated that it is two different positions.

Dr. Kate Zimmerman informed the group that any bylaw changes do need to go to the board.

Julie Ontengco expressed her concern about previous conversations in the TAC about level 3 and the disinterest in their inclusion as voting members. She feels that level 1&2 Trauma Centers should be directing care in the State. For those invested, remain involved but not by changing the bylaws.

Dr. Nuki mentioned there need to be more verified trauma centers in Maine. Including all could encourage other hospitals to become ACS verified.

Dr. Fenwick mentioned that the point of view from level 3s could be valuable input.

Mr. Pret Bjorn does not see the downside of having more verified centers participate.

Dr. Sholl cautioned that there are already pathways to have Dr. King participate in TAC and changing the bylaws without more significant consideration of the trauma plan that is currently in revision, and the trauma system may present considerable challenges.

Tom Judge is concerned that just a patch will not encourage other hospitals to entertain ACS verification.

Dr. Sholl expressed his concern about how much work ACS verification is and being a voting member on the TAC may not be as much of an incentive as some may think.

Mr. Chris Pare voiced concern that all organizations he is a member of have proposed bylaw language presented at one meeting with the vote occurring at another and asked if this was anything written that may help direct. Rick stated that there is no mention of how bylaws are changed in the current bylaws. Dr. Chung questioned if all of the language needs to be changed throughout the document as Trauma Center is currently defined as levels 1&2. Rick offered that the Trauma plan is currently being revised. Dr. Tilney stated that Maine is a small state, needs to be inclusive, and attempted to participate in the trauma plan should be encouraged. Dr. Rappold asked if Director Hurley had an opinion on what was going. Director Hurley references Roberts Rules – bylaw changes typically require previous notice and a 2/3 vote. Proposed amendments should be placed on the agenda. Robert’s rule was not adopted as Maine Municipal Association for Town Moderators was. Dr. Kate Zimmerman provided a point of order – according to the current bylaws, Ms. Tammy Lachance and Dr. King are not currently voting members.

Roll call vote, 13 in favor, 4 objections, motion passed.

The plan moving forward is to submit a change to the board for the May meeting.

Trauma Program Manager update

These positions will be filled by the existing Trauma Program Manager from each of the ACS- verified level 1 or 2 Trauma Centers in Maine. These terms do not expire.

Motion # 8 by Mr. Pret Bjorn to change the language of the Trauma Program Manager bylaw language to read: These positions will be filled by the existing Trauma Program Managers from each of the ACS-verified Trauma Centers in Maine. These terms do not expire. Seconded by Dr. Richards.

Discussion:

Chris Pare confirmed that this motion is to change the bylaws.

Dr. Kate Zimmerman clarified that the previous discussion was specific to the Surgeons, whereas this motion is for Trauma Program Managers.

Roll call vote, 16 in favor, 1 objection, motion passed.

Vacant Positions

The only applications that were received were for the vacant position in TAC were for the Surgeon and the At-Large Positions. A subcommittee was created, and the subcommittee will provide a recommendation to the group.

TAC voting members went to an executive session to vote on the surgeon and at-large.

TAC exited the executive session. Dr. Morse was elected for the surgeon position and Dr. Turner for the At-Large.

Julie Ontengco is concerned about the previous motion #7 regarding the language presented as it is currently “at least” for every ACS level.

Discussion around how many surgeons among ACS verified. While no specific decision was made, there were mixed recommendations about moving forward. No decision was made, and the group continued with the agenda.

Trauma Center Updates

MMC –Julie Ontengco

ATLS classes are available if people need them. One is scheduled for September.

EMMC – Mr. Pret Bjorn

Reverification in June of next year.

CMMC – Ms. Tammy Lachance

2 New Trauma Surgeon – Dr. Lindsay Fox and Dr. Anita Praba-Egge

Continue online education every 4th Friday of the month with Mass General and CMMC.

Trauma Case Review

Do we continue with Trauma Case Reviews, and what format would be able to be used?

Mr. Pret Bjorn has concerns around confidentiality.

Director Hurley confirms that there is no real way to protect the cases presented in an open forum.

Mr. Chris Pare inquired if it would be possible to do case reviews in the executive session?

Sam is concerned that a case review may not be a reason for an executive session.

Sam will reach out to the AAG's office for clarification.

Tom asked about a confidentiality statement for all members. Case reviews are a great way to improve the system.

Sam will provide information at the July meeting.

TACTAT Visits

Emails were sent to 7 organizations. Need TAC members' schedules to a start schedule of availability for hospitals.

Trauma Plan Review

Dr. Seihler provided some recommendations. She would like to be part of our next meeting to give suggestions. Trauma Plan Subcommittee will be meeting with a plan to have something to present at the July TAC meeting.

Mild TBI Guideline Group

Met last week without a quorum. Need to pull the group back together before July's meeting.

Increase of GSW/Stab Wounds

Tom Judge, Dr. Sholl, and Tammy provided information about the rise in violence in Maine over the past few years. Request other Trauma Centers to provide statistical information around GSW and penetrating trauma.

Motion # 9 Mr. Tom Judge to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Pret Bjorn

Meeting Ended at 14:39

Member	Attendance	Motion #1	Motion #2	Motion #3	Motion #4	Motion #5	Motion #6	Motion #7	Motion #8	Motion #9
Tscherene					N					N
Fenwick	X				O	T	Y	Y	Y	O
Rappold	X			*		A	Y	N	Y	
Tilney	X				R	B	N	Y	Y	R
Nuki	X				O	L	N	Y	Y	O
Hurley	X	*	*	*	L	E	Y	Y	Y	L
Gardner				*	L	D				L
Moses	X	*					Y	Y	Y	
Richards	X				C		Y	Y	Y	C
Lebrun	X				A		N	Y	Y	A
Judge	X	*	*	*	L		Y	Y	Y	L
Pare	X				L		Y	N	Y	L
Zetterman	X						Y	Y	Y	
Anderson	X				C		Y	Y	Y	C
Bowe					O					O
Gammon					M					M
Costello	X				P		Y	Y	Y	P
Ontengco	X	*	*	*	L		Y	N	N	L
Bjorn	X	*	*	*	E		Y	Y	Y	E
Sholl	X	*	*	*	T		Y	N	Y	T
Petrie	X	*	*	*	E		A	Y	Y	E
					D					D
							13 Y / 3 N / 1 A	13 Y / 4 N	16 Y / 1 N	

* - Present for meeting

Draft minutes submitted by Ashley Moody (via notes, audio recording, and transcription) on May 23rd, 2022.

Draft minutes approved June 30, 2022