



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
152 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

WIL O'NEAL
DIRECTOR

INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, February 22, 2024, 09:00-10:00

45 Commerce Dr. Champlain Conference Room, Augusta, ME 04333

ZOOM: <https://maine-ems-gov.zoom.us/j/91542570561>

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MINUTES

- I. Call to Order at 09:00 by Chairperson Beals
Beals read the mission statement.
- II. Attendance
Committee Members Present: Tim Beals (Chair), Amy Drinkwater, Laura Downing, Judy Gerrish, Dr. Brandon Giberson, Steve Smith, Andrew Turcotte
Committee Members Absent: None
Maine EMS Staff: Melissa Adams, Jason Cooney, AAG Samantha Morgan
Guests: Chris Mitchell, Chip Getchell
- III. Public Comment: None
- IV. Modifications to the Agenda: None
- V. Investigations

a. Kaplan Application Review

Summary: The applicant for a new Ambulance Operator license was previously denied an EMT license.

MOTION to issue the license with a letter of guidance to be kept on file for (3) license cycles, citing professional conduct rules. The account will be flagged by staff to bring any application for clinical licensure to the Board. (Giberson, Turcotte)

In favor: Beals, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Smith, Turcotte

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

PASSED

b. Grant Application Review

Summary: The applicant for a new Ambulance Operator license failed to disclose Class D & E criminal convictions in 2014.

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MOTION to issue the license with a letter of guidance citing professional conduct rules and reminding the licensee that they will need to disclose the conviction on every application for licensure, to be kept on file for three (3) licensing cycles. (Turcotte, Giberson)

In favor: Beals, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Smith, Turcotte

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

PASSED

c. Richter Application Review

Summary: The applicant for a new Ambulance Operator license disclosed a conviction for Class D Sexual Assault in 1990.

MOTION to issue the license with a letter of guidance citing professional conduct rules and reminding the licensee that they will need to disclose the conviction on every application for licensure, to be kept on file for three (3) licensing cycles. The account will be flagged by staff to bring any application for clinical licensure to the Board. (Turcotte, Gerrish)

In favor: Beals, Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Smith, Turcotte

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: None

PASSED

d. 23-271 Case Review

Summary: A licensed EMS Service allegedly permitted paramedic staff to transport mechanically ventilated patients without hospital staff authorized by the sending facility, which may exceed the scope of practice for the paramedic or the expanded scope allowed by the paramedic inter-facility transfer (PIFT) program.

Discussion: The conduct was likely approved in 2003, the service has been transparent about its program since its inception, and the MDPB publicly supported it in documented meeting minutes in 2013. No patient harm has occurred as a result of the program. The service self-reported the potential discrepancy in practice with the Board's resolution of authority after the February 2023 Board meeting, and the Board and MDPB have since taken steps to resolve any potential violations by requiring the service to initiate a pilot project, and the service has been a willing participant in that process.

MOTION to recommend the Board dismiss the complaint. (Giberson, Gerrish)

In favor: Downing, Drinkwater, Gerrish, Giberson, Smith, Turcotte

Opposed: None

Abstained/Recused: Beals

PASSED

VI. Old Business: None

VII. New Business: None

VIII. Adjourned at 09:43
Next meeting: Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 09:00