MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

STATE BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL, FIRE AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

MEETING MINUTES
February 15, 2022 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Committee Meeting Date and Location: Tuesday, February 15, 2022, Ohio Department of Public Safety, Conference Room 1107

Committee Members Present: Amy Haughn, Doug Wolters, Julie Rose, Mark Resanovich, Robert Norton, Ruda Jenkins, Thomas Allenstein

Committee Members Absent: Dudley Wright, Jerry Winkler, John Bichard, Dave DeVore, Kent Appelhans, Vincent Harris

DPS and EMS Staff Members Present: Dave Fiffick, Stephanie Ferguson, Amanda Harper, Aaron Jennings, and Beverly Cooper.

Visitor: Scott Melling, Cherie Pepping

Welcome and Introduction: – T. Allenstein- Meeting convened at 2:43 p.m.

Review / Approve October 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes:


Committee Members Attendance:

The committee currently sits at 12 members, new applications have been received for John Weimer (Board Member), Patrick Kelley (Hocking) and Christopher Grosch (Mahoning)

Passenger Assistance Training Program:

None
**Discuss status of Ambulance and Ambulette Rules:**

On February 2, 2022 the changed rules (addition of NEO Ambulance) for Ambulance were passed by JCARR. The unchanged rules will pass on February 27, 2022. We will then be able to move forward with putting the changed rules in to effect.

An amendment has been proposed to be added to HB 138 that would reduce the staffing requirement for “non-emergency transports” to an EMT or above and a qualified noncertified driver. HB 138 is legislation that contains updates on EMS medical protocols, medical director qualifications, Do-Not-Resuscitate orders, nonemergency transports, COVID-19 testing, and first responder certification requirements. ODPS legislative liaisons are working with Senator Huffman, the legislator that proposed the amendment, showing him the ambulance rules that just passed JCARR and the addition of the non-emergency only ambulance level of service. Division of EMS will be monitoring this Bill and have an update at the next meeting.

Ambulette and MoICU are on the same schedule, both were submitted to the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) on December 29, 2021. We could hear back from CSI in March. These will then be filed with JCARR sometime between March 11th – 15th, depending on CSI responses. These should go into effect in the middle of July 2022.

**Review Inspection Forms:**

The committee did a final review of all ambulance inspection forms and the ambulette inspection form for any updates or changes. During the discussion, the question of if ambulances need to carry two backboards or was a reeves stretcher or vacuum splints equivalent. A lot of agencies have limited or do not use backboards any longer. Committee members agree, they’re all very similar and any of the 3 would meet the requirements on the inspection form and requirements.

The reviewed inspection forms will be taken to the Board for approval on February 16, 2022.

**Medical Protocol:**

A question was brought up by the field inspectors at their last meeting regarding EMS agencies protocol. There are a lot of items on the inspection forms that are marked as “per protocol”. Inspectors are having to review each agencies protocol to determine if certain equipment is required or not. Their question is, should certain equipment be required in the agencies protocol? An example is should some type of invasive airway and waveform capnography be required on BLS units that respond to emergency calls. After a long discussion, it was decided that the EMS agency and their medical director can determine what they carry when it comes to the items that are marked “per protocol” on the inspection form.
Ambulette Jurisdiction: Only wheelchair transport or all Transport

A question was asked of the committee. Does the Division of EMS have authority over all transports a licensed ambulette service provides using a permitted ambulette or just wheelchair transports? The law, ORC 4766.04, changed several years ago so that only services that transport wheelchair confined individuals between medical facilities need to be licensed. A permitted ambulette can transport ambulatory clients or a client from home to the doctor’s office and are not required to be licensed. If the service is transporting a person that does not require licensure and is injured during the transport, does the Division of EMS have the authority to investigate?

After a long discussion, the committee felt that the removal of the law requiring ambulette licensing should be explored. It was felt that ambulettes do not provide any type of patient care and does not need to be licensed. They should fall under taxi licensing. It was discussed that with the changes made in ORC 4766.04 and not requiring all ambulette services to be licensed, there is no need to continue licensing ambulette services that perform the same type transports for people between medical facilities.

Next Committee Meeting: June 14, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.
ODPS Conference Room 1107

Adjournment:

ACTION: Motion to adjourn – Mr. Norton – First. Mr. Wolters – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:25 pm