



**State EMS Board Meeting
December 10, 2024
Agenda
10:30 a.m.**

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Stamp
 - Approve minutes from November 12, 2024 meeting
- II. MSP Aviation Command – Written Report
- III. MSFA Update – Written Report
- IV. Old Business
 - Hospital Accreditation – Dr. Delbridge
 - COMAR 30.01.01 and 30.02.02 amendments – Dr. Delbridge
 - COMAR 30.09.04.08 amendments – Ms. Pierson
- V. New Business
- VI. Adjournment

Adjourn to closed session to carry out administrative functions, to consult with counsel, to obtain legal advice on pending disciplinary actions under General Provisions Article §3-305(b) (7), and to maintain certain records and information in confidence as required by Health Occ. Art. §14-506 (b) under General Provisions Article §3-305 (b) (13).



**State Emergency Medical Services Board
December 10, 2024
Minutes**

Board Members Present: Clay B. Stamp, Chairperson; Jim Scheulen; Eric Smothers; William J. Frohna, MD; Sally Showalter; Stephan Cox; Dany Westerland, MD;

Board Members Absent: Sec. Laura Herrera Scott, MD Tom Scalea, MD

MSPAC: Major Tagliaferri

OAG: Mr. Malizio; Ms. Pierson; Ms. McAllister

Others: Nilesh Kalyanaraman, MDH

MIEMSS: Dr. Delbridge; Mr. Abramovitz; Dr. Barajas; Mr. Bilger; Ms. Chervon; Dr. Chizmar; Ms. Gainer; Ms. Geisel; Ms. Hall; Ms. Hammond; Mr. Linthicum; Mr. Tandy

Chairman Stamp called the meeting to order at 9:05am and proceeded with calling the role. He recognized and thanked the MIEMSS staff for the work they do every day to promote the health and safety of the citizens of Maryland. He also thanked the partners for their consistent attention to the success of the EMS system.

Chairman Stamp asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting on October 8, 2024.

ACTION: Upon the motion made by Mr. Scheulen, seconded by Dr. Frohna, the EMS Board unanimously approved the November 11, 2024 EMS Board meeting minutes as written.

Chairman Stamp advised that the meeting would be abbreviated due to a lengthy agenda in closed session.

MSPAC

A written report was disseminated. Major Tagliaferri said there was nothing to add to the written report.

MSFA

A written report was disseminated. Mr. Smothers said that the MSFA Executive Committee meeting will be held Saturday and Sunday (December 14 & 15th, 2024) at Berlin, everyone is welcome.

Old Business

Hospital Accreditation

Dr. Delbridge said that hospital accreditation is not a requirement. It is a path to verifying compliance with CMS conditions of participation, which then makes a hospital eligible to get Medicaid reimbursement. This can be done by a state agency (health department can do this), or an accrediting organization that has deeming authority. We are most familiar with the Joint Commission which has had deeming authority as designated by CMS since 2010 and they accredit 3117 acute care hospitals across the United States and currently all the ones in Maryland which is relevant. DNV has had deeming authority since 2008 and as accredit approximately 359 acute care hospitals. DNV started as a maritime risk management company that now accredits healthcare organizations through its national integrated accreditation for healthcare organizations.

Dr. Delbridge said that COMAR 10.07.01.01 (MDH, Acute General Hospitals and Special Hospitals) defines an accredited hospital as a hospital accredited by The Joint Commission or other accreditation organization approved by the Department. OHCQ approved DNV in June 2020. EMS regulations all require accreditation by The Joint Commission: 30.08.05 Trauma Center, 30.08.08.03 Pediatric Trauma Center, 30.08.11.01 Stroke Center, 30.08.12.04 Perinatal Center, 30.08.14.02 Hand Trauma Center, 30.08.18.01 Acute Stroke Ready Hospital.

After cross-walking the appropriate standards between The Joint Commission and DNV, Dr. Barajas, MIEMSS' Chief, Office of Care Integration, he concluded that The Joint Commission standards are generally more detailed and prescriptive than DNV standards and that DNV provides more flexibility emphasizing prioritization and continuous improvement. Dr. Barajas said that while accrediting hospitals generally have better patient outcomes, there is no evidence to suggest that hospitals accredited by DNV have significantly better or worse patient outcomes compared to those accredited by The Joint Commission. Dr. Delbridge said that he concurred with this conclusion.

ACTION: Upon the motion made by Mr. Scheulen, seconded by Mr. Smothers, the EMS Board unanimously approved changing appropriate language within COMAR 30.08, i.e. “licensed by the Maryland Department of Health and accredited by the Joint Commission or another entity recognized or approved by the Maryland Department of Health”.

When appropriate changes are made, regulations will be presented for Board approval to be published in the Maryland Register.

COMAR 30.01 and 30.02

Dr. Delbridge gave an overview of the proposed regulation changes to COMAR 30.01 and 30.02 presented at the November Board meeting. He said that MIEMSS is requesting to amend the Licensure regulations that were approved by the Board but never codified due to concerns expressed by educational programs. He expressed his thanks to MFRI for assisting with the proposed changes.

SEMSAC recommended approval of the changes to COMAR 30.01 and 30.02 by the EMS Board at the December 5, 2025 meeting.

ACTION: A motion was made by Mr. Smothers, seconded by Dr. Frohna, and unanimously voted upon to approve the changes to COMAR 30.01 and 30.02 for publishing in the Maryland Register.

COMAR 30.09.04.08

Mr. Legore said that proposed changes to COMAR 30.09.04.08 would augment the previous driver waiver for ALS and BLS. These proposed changes include removing specific section references to allow personnel and equipment waivers for all of 30.09, adding the wording of “or maintaining” to section B(3) to accurately reflect current practices, adding the wording “in conjunction with the MIEMSS Office of Integrity” to section F(9), and correcting a typo in section B(3)(f).

SEMSAC recommended approval by the EMS Board at the December 5, 2024 meeting.

ACTION: A motion was made by Ms. Showalter, seconded by Mr. Scheulen, and unanimously voted upon to approve the changes to COMAR 30.09.04.08 for publishing in the Maryland Register.

New Business

Educational Programs

Upon completion of the appropriate site visits and document reviews, Dr. Delbridge said MIEMSS recommends for the Board to approve the following Educational programs.

- The College of Southern Maryland ALS educational program for 5-years.
- The Charles County Department of Emergency Services ALS and BLS continuing education program for 5-years

ACTION: A motion was made by Dr. Frohna, seconded by Mr. Smothers, and unanimously voted to approve the College of Southern Maryland ALS educational program for 5-years and the Charles County Department of Emergency Services ALS and BLS continuing education program for 5-years.

Adjourn to closed session to carry out administrative functions, to consult with counsel, to obtain legal advice on pending disciplinary actions under General Provisions Article §3-305(b) (7), and to maintain certain records and information in confidence as required by Health Occ. Art. §14-506 (b) under General Provisions Article §3-305 (b) (7).

Upon the motion by Mr. Scheulen, seconded by Ms. Showalter, the Board adjourned to closed session.

In closed session:

Board Members Present: Clay B. Stamp, Chairperson; Jim Scheulen; Eric Smothers; William J. Frohna, MD; Sally Showalter; Stephan Cox; Dany Westerland, MD;

Board Members Absent: Sec. Laura Herrera Scott, MD Tom Scalea, MD

OAG: Mr. Malizio Ms. Pierson; Ms. McAllister

MIEMSS: Dr. Delbridge, Dr. Chizmar, Ms. Chervon, Ms. Goff; Mr. Linthicum

The Board considered disciplinary matters.