



Minutes

**Meeting of Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board
Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.**

Held at:

**Louisiana Emergency Response
Network
7979 Independence Blvd., Suite 207
Baton Rouge, LA 70806**

Welcome/Introductions

The August 15, 2024 meeting of the Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board (LERN) was called to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. by John Jones, MD, Board Chair. The meeting was held pursuant to public notice, each member received notice, and notice was properly posted.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Celia Cangelosi, LERN attorney, with the following results:

Members Present:

John D. Jones, MD, Chair
Deiadra J. Garrett, MD, Immediate Past Chair
Jeffrey E. Carter, M.D.
John P. Hunt, MD
Dan Godbee, MD
Granville A. Morse, II, MD, Vice Chair
Honorable Brach Myers, Louisiana Representative
Monica S. Nijoka, MHA, BSN, RN
J. Patrick Smith, Jr., MD
Michele K. Sutton, FACHE
Porter Taylor, IV
Honorable Christopher Turner, Louisiana Representative
Carl "Jack" Varnado, Jr., RPL, ENP
Karen O. Wyble, DNP, MSN, MHA, MBA, RN

Richard Zweifler, MD

Robert K. White, MD

There were 16 board members present when the meeting began constituting a quorum.

Brandon J. Mauldin, MD, arrived at 1:15 p.m.

Neal Fudge, arrived at 1:30 p.m.

Members Absent:

Honorable Heather Cloud, State Senator

Venkata S. Gadi, MD

Peter W. Croughan, MD

Paul Gladden, MD

Tomas Jacome, MD

Honorable Katrina Jackson-Andrews, State Senator

Eva Lamendola, OD

David Marcus, NRP

Keith Van Meter, MD

Staff Present:

Paige Hargrove, Executive Director

Chris Hector, Administrative Director

Ana DePuy, LERN Regional Coordinator

Yvette Legendre, LERN Regional Coordinator

Cassandra Woods, LERN Finance Manager

Contractors Present:

Celia Cangelosi, Legal Counsel

Michael Sutherland, MD (Trauma Medical Director)

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Sutton and seconded by Mr. Porter to approve the agenda as written. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2024

A motion was made by Ms. Sutton and seconded by Dr. Goodbee to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2024 Board meeting. See Attachment A. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Ratification of Commission Members and Resignations

A motion was made by Mr. Varnado and seconded by Dr. Hunt, to accept the following resignations from and to approve the following appointments to the following regional commissions:

Resignations

- Barbara Griffin, MSN, RN, NE-BC – from Region 6 Commission;
- James Hebert, MD - from Region 6 Commission;
- Aquila L. Haney – from Region 7 Commission; and
- Mandy Grey, RHIT, CCS – from Region 8 Commission.

Appointments

- Toni Gross, MD, MPH, FAAP, FAEMS - to Region 1 Commission (nominee of Hospital > 100 Beds);
- Lloyd Tripp Blanchard – to Region 2 Commission (nominee of LANREMT);
- Lisa MacDonald - to Region 2 Commission (nominee of National Emergency Number Association);
- Charles Burnell, MD – to Region 4 Commission (nominee of Louisiana State Medical Society);
- Williard Mosier, Jr., MD – To Region 4 Commission (nominee of American College of Surgeons);
- Jarod Meaux – to Region 4 Commission (nominee of LANREMT);
- Michael “Nick” Nicosia – to Region 5 Commission (nominee of law enforcement);
- David Holcombe, MD – to Region 6 Commission (nominee of Louisiana State Medical Society);
- Jordan White, BSRT, RT – to Region 6 Commission (nominee of Service District Hospital);
- Sherry Carter – to Region 7 Commission (nominee of military);
- Jinger Greer – to Region 8 Commission (nominee of Rural Hospital); and
- Euil Luther, MD – to Region 8 Commission (nominee of Office of Public Health).

The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Executive Committee Appointment

The Executive Committee is composed of the current officers, the past Chair, two elected members, and one member appointed by the Board Chair. The Board was advised Dr. Croughan has been appointed to the Executive Committee by Dr. Jones, the Board Chair. No formal action was taken by the board.

Executive Director Report

Strategic Plan Update

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, presented and discussed a powerpoint on the 2024 Strategic Plan progress. See Attachment B, pp. 1-19. Paige noted LERN is at the end of the existing three year plan. Dr. Jones advised that Board members, in preparation for devising the next 3 year plan, would be contacted, either by phone or in writing, to discuss Board operations and activities to provide input on the vision for the next strategic plan. He strongly requested that each member respond to the survey/interview when contacted. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Trauma System

ACS Trauma System Consultation Report

Dr. Sutherland, LERN Trauma Medical Director, notified the Board that the final report from the American College of Surgeons had been issued. He described it as a 77 page document with 112 recommendations. See Attachment B, pp. 20-30. It was recommended that a small work group be formed to review the report, and determine strategic priorities for presentation to the Board. Ms. Hargrove is to develop the work group. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Porter Taylor, IV, left the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Trauma System

Adult Transfer Guideline

Dr. Sutherland advised that the Adult Transfer Guideline has been used for a month and it appears to be working well. See Attachment B, p. 31. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Hand Injury Workgroup

Dr. Sutherland discussed the ongoing efforts of the Hand Injury Workgroup. See Attachment B, p. 32. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Image Sharing

Dr. Sutherland described the program called Powershare which allows for image sharing to better advise on transfers and reduces repeat imaging. Dr. Jones opined on a system called Pulsara, which allows technology to increase the ability to do tracking and ongoing transfers would be beneficial. Dr. Jones suggested the Board get more information and ask Pulsara to appear at a Board meeting. See Attachment B, p. 33. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Maternal Child Health Discussion

Dr. Jones advised that he had been presented facts about maternal and child health. Dr. Jones advised that he had been approached by Dr. Gillespie at LDH about LERN helping with education for prehospital providers. (See Attachment B, p. 34.) No formal action taken by the Board.

Region 2, 4 and 5 Commission Update

Ana DePuy, RN-Tri Regional Coordinator for Regions 2, 4 and 5, updated the Board on activities, needs, strengths and weaknesses in each regions. See Attachment B, pp. 35-46. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Budget

Review Budget Status and budget planning going forward

Karen Wyble, Treasurer, discussed the decreased funding for the state budget for next fiscal year. See Attachment B, p. 48. Rep. Brock Meyers suggested the Board locate a sustainable fee structure for LERN income. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Review Budget Status

Dr. Wyble reported on the current budget status. See Attachment B, p. 47. No formal action was taken by the board.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John D. Jones, MD, Chair
Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board

Date: 11/7/24