

Minutes

Meeting of Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board

Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

held at:

Louisiana Emergency Response Network
14141 Airline Hwy., Suite One, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA

1. *Welcome/Introductions*

The April 20, 2017 meeting of the Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board (LERN) was called to order on April 20, 2017 at approximately 1 p.m. by Dr. Will Freeman, LERN Chair. The meeting was held pursuant to public notice, each member received notice, and notice was properly posted.

2. *Roll Call*

Roll Call was taken by Celia Cangelosi, attorney. The following members were present:

Members Present:

William Freeman, MD, Chair, Presiding
Coletta Cooper Barrett, RN, FACHE
Billy Conerly
Dieadra J. Garrett, MD
Jimmy Guidry, MD
Danita LeBlanc
William Lunn, MD
Dawn McKeown, RN
John Owings, MD
Tracy Wold
Robert Wolterman, BS, MBA, MHA
Richard M. Zweifler, MD

There were 12 board members present when the roll was called constituting a quorum.

Craig C. Greene, MD, arrived at 1:40 p.m.

Gerald Cvitanovich, MD, arrived at 1:55 p.m.

Members Absent:

Cynthia Baker, OD
Regina Ashford Barrow, State Senator
Chris Gilbeaux
Katherine Hebert
Frank Hoffman, Louisiana State Representative
John Hunt, MD
Tomas Jacome, MD
Dustin Miller, Louisiana State Representative
Jeannette Ray, BS, MS
John P. Reilly, MD
Carl "Jack" Varnado, Jr., RPL, ENP
Honorable Mack A. "Bodi" White, Jr., State Senator

Staff Present:

Paige Hargrove, Executive Director
Jasmine Jackson, Administrative Assistant
Sheryl Martin-Schild, MD, Stroke Medical Director
Yvette Legendre, RN, Tri Regional Coordinator
Ted Colligan, RN, Tri Regional Coordinator
Deborah Spann, RN, Tri Regional Coordinator
Chris Hector, Administrative Director
Cassandra Woods, Finance Manager

Contractors Present:

Celia Cangelosi, Attorney
Jason Allemand, Call Center Supervisor
Anita Byrne, Consultant

3. *Approval of Agenda*

A motion was made by Ms. LeBlanc and seconded by Mr. Connerly to add an item to the agenda to discuss Region 9 Trauma issue re pre-hospital interstate transfers. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Dr. Zweifler and seconded by Ms. LeBlanc to accept the agenda as amended. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

4. *Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 19, 2017*

A motion was made by Ms. McKeown and seconded by Dr. Lunn to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2017 Board meeting as written. See Attachment 4. The motion was approved

after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

5. LERN Business

a. Ratification/Resignation of Commission Members

A motion was made by Dr. Owings and seconded by Mr. Wold to add an agenda item re adding a law enforcement member to the Region 2 Commission as requested in a letter from Region 2. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

The Board considered the March 15, 2017 letter request from the Region 2 Commission, attached as Attachment A, to add a member to the commission representing law enforcement.

A motion was made by Ms. Barrett and seconded by Ms. LeBlanc to add a law enforcement member to the Region 2 Commission, and each Commission shall select the nominating group. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Dr. Garrett and seconded by Ms. LeBlanc to accept the following resignations and to approve the following nominations to the regional commissions:

- Appointment of Jeffrey Littleton, MD, to Region 2 Commission (nominee of American College of Surgeons);
- Appointment of Stephanie Sea, MD, to Region 2 Commission (nominee of Trauma Center representative);
- Resignation of Thomas Falterman, MD, from Region 3 Commission (nominee of American College of Emergency Physicians);
- Appointment of Kirk Coussan, NREMT-P, to Region 4 Commission (nominee of Air Medical);
- Appointment of Mark Morris, RN, Paramedic, to Region 4 Commission (nominee of Air Medical);
- Appointment of Robert Abramson, MD, to Region 5 Commission (nominee of American Stroke Association);
- Appointment of Richard Shimer, MD, FRACS, to Region 5 Commission (nominee of American College of Surgeons);
- Appointment of April Cotton, RN, to Region 6 Commission (nominee of Rural Hospital Coalition);
- Appointment of Jeff Atkins, RN, to Region 7 Commission (nominee of Rural Hospital Coalition);
- Appointment of Chenoa Hanson, RN, to Region 7 Commission (nominee of Emergency Nurses Association);
- Appointment of Mandy Grey, RHIT, CCS, to Region 8 Commission (nominee of Rural Hospital Coalition);
- Appointment of Monica Jenkins, RN, to Region 8 Commission (nominee of Louisiana Hospital Association);
- Resignation of April Wilborne, RN, CHPN, from Region 8 Commission (nominee of Service District Hospital);
- Appointment of Brandon Cambre, MD, to Region 9 Commission (nominee of Louisiana Hospital Association);

- Appointment of Michelle Collins, NREMT-P, to Region 9 Commission (nominee of Local Ambulance Service);
- Resignation of Juan Duchesne, MD, from Region 9 Commission (nominee of Louisiana Hospital Association); and
- Resignation of John Taylor, NREMT-P, from Region 9 Commission (nominee of Local Ambulance Service).

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

b. Executive Director

- ***Operations Overview/Annual Review***

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, presented Annual Report, attached as Attachment 5b. No formal action was taken by the Board.

- ***Contracts (STEMI/Cangelosi/RFP)***

A motion was made by Dr. Owings and seconded by Mr. Wold to approve a new contract for legal services with Celia Cangelosi for 2 years and a new contract with Dr. Ali as STEMI Director. The STEMI Medical Director contract shall be \$17,800/FY and the LERN Board Attorney shall be \$20,000/FY. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Ms. Hargrove informed the Board that the RFP for Consulting Services was awarded to SSA Consultants and the contract is in process per the terms previously voted on by the board.

c. Funding

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, informed the Board that SSA Consultants has reviewed all pre-filed bills looking for a vehicle that was a good fit for LERN funding. Representative Hoffmann, LERN Board Member; filed HB 118, which adds an additional 22¢ to the tobacco tax. Rep. Hoffman has indicated an interest in amending the bill to dedicate a portion of the new tax to the LERN Fund which may have the effect of removing LERN from the State General Fund. The bill is with the Ways and Means Committee, but has not yet been heard.

LERN budgeted \$1.62 M in HB 1 of which \$1.57 is from the state general fund. Budget exercise submitted today for \$26,000 reduction. House is pushing for standstill budget.

No formal action was taken by the Board.

d. Offsite Emergency Department

- ***Role in LERN Systems***

Dr. William Freeman, LERN Chair, presented the matter to the Board as raised by Region 1 regarding free standing emergency departments. Dr. Freeman advised that Louisiana law does not allow for an emergency department that is not associated within a hospital. As such, Louisiana does not have Free Standing Emergency Rooms, but Off-Site Emergency Departments. The

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Regional Commission felt that LERN should educate the public regarding the capability of off-site emergency rooms compared to Emergency Department located at the Tier 1 hospital, specifically as it relates to trauma, stroke and STEMI. It was discussed that, under the LERN system for trauma, stroke, and STEMI, it is LERN's responsibility to make sure the protocols and policy ensure that patients get to the most appropriate definitive care facility. The Board discussed how these facilities are utilized for time sensitive illnesses, for which LERN is responsible. Geography is a major consideration, with utility of Off-site ED's making more sense in rural areas as it relates to stroke or STEMI. Paige Hargrove is to follow up with the Louisiana Hospital Association to determine their position on Off Site ED's. No formal action was taken by the Board.

- **Stroke/STEMI Attestation**

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, presented the revised attestation, attached hereto as Attachment 5d, to be sent out in May. In this amended version, Hub hospitals will identify their off-sited ED's and their stroke capability. This information will be included in the ESF-8 Resource Management Portal. No formal action was taken by the Board.

- e. Stroke Update*

- *Large Vessel Occlusion*
- *Pre-Hospital Protocol*

Dr. Martin-Schild presented an update to the Board, attached as Attachment 5e1. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Dr. Martin-Schild presented the attached proposed new protocol for stroke, attached as Attachment 5e2.

After discussion, a motion was made by Ms. McKeown and seconded by Dr. Zweifler to approve the protocol. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

- f. STEMI Update (Q4 2016 Regional Report)*

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, gave the Board a brief overview of recent STEMI efforts. For the past 5 years we have worked to enlist hospitals to utilize the ACTION-GWTG registry and to agree to participate in the STEMI Regional Report. This report is generated through a partnership with AHA and ACC/NCDR. We now have 25 of the 37 STEMI Receiving Centers participating in the Registry. Unfortunately, last week we were notified that the partnership between AHA and ACC/NCDR will be ending and with it the STEMI Regional Report. Dr. Ali and Paige Hargrove are discussing options and will report back at the next board meeting. No formal action was taken by the board.

- g. Trauma System Update*

- *Medical Director Update*

Dr. William Freeman, LERN Board Chair, advised the Board that he has talked to two potential candidates for the Trauma Program Medical Director position, and both were great candidates: Dr. Michael Sutherland of Arkansas and Dr. Tony Meyer of North Carolina. Discussion ensued regarding the candidates.

A motion was made by Mr. Connerly and seconded by Dr. Owings to offer a three year contract for a trauma program medical director, at the rate of \$125.00 an hour, not to exceed \$132,500.00 a year and/or 75 hours per month, under the same terms and conditions of the last contract for trauma medical director, to the candidate to be selected by the executive committee. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

- ***Lafayette General***
- ***St. Tammany Parish Hospital***

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, directed the Board's attention to the rule for Trauma Program Recognition; and presented letters from Lafayette General and St. Tammany Parish Hospital, attached as Attachment 5g1 and Attachment 5g2. Both letters requested extension of trauma program recognition. A motion was made by Dr. Owings and seconded by Dr. Lunn to extend the time for each program to receive their ACS Verification Site Survey as requested. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

The Board also directed the Executive Committee to consider amending the rule to require the attesting hospital to request the consultation or survey at the time of the attestation or 30 days thereafter. The attesting hospital shall schedule the consultation or survey to occur within one year of the attestation or as close to 1 year as the ACS schedule allows. Written documentation shall be submitted to LERN to this effect.

- **Region 9 Issue with Mississippi (Added to agenda)**

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, presented a letter from Regional Commission 9 requesting LERN to investigate setting up a reciprocity agreement with Mississippi's State Trauma system. See Attachment 5*. After discussion, it was decided that this was beyond LERN's scope of authority, but noted that in other areas of the state some creative solutions have been used for similar situations. Will continue to investigate options and best solution for injured patients. No formal action was taken by the board.

h. Regional Update (Regions 2, 4 & 5)

The Board was provided with "Board Report/Regions 2-4-5" submitted by Ted Colligan, RN, Tri Regional Coordinator, attached as Attachment 5h. No formal action was taken by the Board.

i. Budget/Finance

Tracy Wold, LERN Treasurer, presented FY17 Fiscal Overview as of 04/18/17, attached as Attachment 5i. No formal action was taken by the Board.

6. Public Comments

The Board recognized Deborah Spann, RN, Tri Regional Coordinator, was recognized as 2017 RN of the year by the Louisiana State Nursing Association at the Nightengale Awards banquet.

There were no other public comments.

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7. *Adjournment*

The Board adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



William Freeman, MD, Chair