



Minutes

**Meeting of Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board
Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**

Held at:

**SSA Consultants
9331 Bluebonnet Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70810**

Welcome/Introductions

The August 18, 2022 meeting of the Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board (LERN) was called to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. by Deidra Garrett, MD, LERN 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 Board Attorney, Celia Cangelosi, with the following results:

Members Present:

Deidra J. Garrett, MD, Chair
Jeffrey E. Carter, M.D.
Schaun Chevis, MSW
William Freeman, MD
Scott Guidry
Chris Guilbeaux
Tomas Jacome, MD
John D. Jones, MD
Joseph Kanter, MD
Michele Sutton
Duke Walker
Robert K. White, MD
Karen O. Wyble, RN, MSN, MHA, MBA
Richard Zweifler, MD

There were 14 board members present when the meeting began constituting a quorum.

Board member John Hunt, MD, arrived at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Members Absent:

Honorable Regina Ashford Barrow, State Senator
Venkata S. Gadi, MD
Paul Gladden, MD
Honorable Jonathan Goudeau, State Representative
Brandon J. Mauldin, MD
Buddy Mincey, Jr., State Representative
Granvill S. Morse, II, MD
Charles Nassauer, OD
Monica S. Nijoka, MHA, BSN, RN
Carl “Jack” Varnado, Jr., RPL, ENP
Honorable Mack A. “Bodi” White, State Senator

Staff Present:

Paige Hargrove, Executive Director
Cassandra Woods, LERN Finance Manager
Justin Schlies, Data Manager
Chris Hector, Administrative Director
Yvette Legendre, RN, Tri-Regional Coordinator
Ted Colligan, RN, Tri-Regional Coordinator
Reed Douglas, RN, Tri-Regional Coordinator

Contractors Present:

Celia Cangelosi, Legal Counsel
Jason Allemand, Call Center Supervisor
Rudy Gomez, SSA Consultants

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Dr. Freeman and seconded by Ms. Sutton to accept the agenda as written. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2022

A motion was made by Dr. Freeman and seconded by Ms. Sutton to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2022 Board meeting as written. 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 Dr. Jones and seconded by Dr. Freeman to accept the following resignations from and to approve the following appointments to the following regional commissions:

Resignations

- Darren Guidry – from Region 2 Commission;
- Renata Schexayde, MHA, BSN, RN, NRP – from Region 3 Commission;
- Jacqueline Venable, RN, BSN – from Region 4 Commission;
- Paula Duck, MSN, RN – from Region 7 Commission;
- Curtis L. Elkins, BSN, RN – from Region 7 Commission; and
- Christopher Reine, NRP, from Region 8 Commission.

Appointments

- Tyrell Morris - to Region 1 Commission (nominee of National Emergency Number Association);
- Dan Clark Godbee, MD, NREMT-P – to Region 2 Commission (Nominee of Local Ambulance Service);
- Elliot Scott, MD - to Region 3 Commission (nomination of American College of Surgeons);
- Scott F. Thames, Jr., MD - to Region 3 Commission (nominee of American College of Emergency Physicians);
- Ali Klentzman, MSN, RN – to Region 4 Commission (nominee of Trauma Center);
- Corey G. Foster, MD – to Region 5 Commission (nominee of LA-ACC);
- Edward A. Shaheen, MD, FACEP - to Region 5 Commission (nominee of LA – ACEP);
- Sam Liggin, NRP, CCP-C, FP-C – to Region 8 Commission (nominee of Emergency Medical Services); and
- Cathy J. Patton, RN, BSN – to Region 8 Commission (nominee of American College of Cardiology).

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

A second motion was made by Dr. Jones and seconded by Dr. Freeman to add Susan Green, RN, to the Region 2 Commission as nominee of Hospitals > 100 beds. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Executive Director Report Operations Update/Annual Report

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, reported that LERN has a new STEMI Medical Director, Dr. Kanna Posina. The Executive Director further advised that HB 1 has funded two new job appointments at LERN. Deborah Spann was promoted from Tri-Regional Coordinator to Statewide Education Coordinator. Reed Douglas has been hired as the new Tri-Regional Coordinator for Regions 6, 7 and 8. We are in the process of posting the Disaster Manager position. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Executive Director Hargrove advised that the call center volume continues to rise year after year. (See Attachment B.) Advised we will discuss funding additional hours for staffing when we get to the budget on the agenda. No formal action was taken by the Board.

LERN Move Update

Executive Director Hargrove announced that LERN is expected to move to the new building in February of 2023. She updated the board on the delays encountered.

Stroke Update

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, reported in, Dr. Martin-Schild's absence, that there was nothing significant to report regarding Strokes at this time. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Legislation Update

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, advised that SB 411 passed the Legislature. This bill updated LERN's board composition. The new groups have submitted nominees to the Governor.

Executive Director Hargrove reported that SCR39 (which started out as SB18) and HR 62 (regarding a bill originated by Senator Allain, the purpose being to give LERN authority and responsibility to evacuate hospitals), passed in the form of the two resolutions. Rudy Gomez of SSA Consultants advised that the two resolutions overlap and authorize studies. HR 62 directs the Louisiana Department of Health to develop a proposal with statewide plan and patient transfer strategy for use in disasters and emergencies. HR 62 cites an Executive Order from Colorado as a sample/guide for the Department to consider. Executive Director Hargrove gave suggestions for the Board to consider for creating a system for care outside of the existing hospital systems. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Executive Director Hargrove reported that in HB 933, LERN is listed as the agency that helps to evaluate those plans. LERN succeeded on getting amendment that included a limitation of liability for LERN.

Dr. Hunt and Dr. Sutherland are desirous of an ACS visit to LERN. Cost would be \$70,000 and is not currently in the budget.

No formal action was taken by the Board.

Trauma Update

Amanda Perry, Clinical Systems' Team Lead for Bureau of Family Health, presented a power point on "Louisiana Emergency Department Recognition Program for Pediatric Readiness". (See Attachment C.) Ms. Perry discussed the program and advised that she is looking for endorsement from LERN and many other organizations to use names as part of a endorsement for credibility. Executive Director Hargrove asked that Ms. Perry find out the actual requirements and send them to the Board. The Board will need to consider if it wants to include this program in how it routes patients. Dr. Sutherland, LERN Trauma Medical Director, stated that next year all trauma

centers will have to refer to the National Pediatric Survey and address gaps as part of the verification process per new ACS requirements. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Dr. Sutherland presented a revised Pre Hospital Destination Protocol to the Board for approval. The changes to the protocol are listed in red. See Attachment D. A motion was made by Dr. Freeman and seconded by Dr. White to approve the protocol as presented, effective January 1, 2023. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Budget

Executive Director Hargrove presented Attachment E, "FY 22 Fiscal Overview as of 8/16/22" discussed LERN's Fiscal Overview as of 07/07/22." A discussion was held regarding the different needs of LERN's and plans to cover those expenses in the budget. Specifically the need for two permanent TO instead of the existing job appointments and increasing funding for the LERN Communication Center due to increased volume. A motion was made by Dr. Freeman and seconded by Dr. Hunt to accept the budget. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

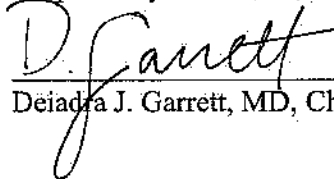
Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Deirdra J. Garrett, MD, Chair