



Minutes

**Meeting of Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board
Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**

Held at:

**Louisiana Emergency Response Network
14141 Airline Hwy., Building 1, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70817**

**Via teleconference due to the declared COVID-19 Public
Health Emergency.**

Welcome/Introductions

The January 20, 2022 meeting of the Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board (LERN) was called to order at approximately 1:01 p.m. by Karen Wyble, Board Chair. The meeting was held pursuant to public notice, each member received notice, and notice was properly posted.

Members participated via teleconference due to the declared COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Board Attorney, Celia Cangelosi, with the following results:

Members Present:

Karen O. Wyble, RN, MSN, MHA, MBA, Chair

Jeffrey E. Carter, M.D.

Schaun Chevis, MSW

Gerald Cvitanovich, MD

William Freeman, MD

Dieadra J. Garrett, MD

Paul Gladden, MD

Honorable Jonathan Goudeau, State Representative

Scott Guidry

John Hunt, MD

John D. Jones, MD

Buddy Mincey, Jr., State Representative

Charles Nassauer, OD
Monica S. Nijoka, RN
Michele Sutton
Duke Walker
Robert K. White, MD
Richard Zweifler, MD

There were 18 board members present when the meeting began constituting a quorum.

Members Absent:

Honorable Regina Ashford Barrow, State Senator
Chris Guilbeaux
Tomas Jacome, MD
Joseph Kanter, MD
Brandon J. Mauldin, MD
Carl “Jack” Varnado, Jr., RPL, ENP
Honorable Mack A. “Bodi” White, State Senator

Staff Present:

Paige Hargrove, Executive Director
Chris Hector, Administrative Director
Deborah Spann, Regional Coordinator
Yvette Legendre, Regional Coordinator
Ted Colligan, Regional Coordinator
Xiaoping Nie, Data Manager
Cassandra Woods, LERN Finance Manager

Contractors Present:

Michael J. Sutherland, MD, Trauma Medical Director
Sheryl Martin-Schild, MD, Stroke Medical Director
Christopher J. White, MD, STEMI Medical Director
Celia Cangelosi, Legal Counsel
Jason Allemand, Call Center Supervisor
Rudy Gomez, SSA Consultants

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Guidry and seconded by Ms. Sutton to accept the agenda as written. There was no public comment. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2021

A motion was made by Dr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Guidry to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2021 Board meeting as written. See Attachment A. There was no public comment. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Ratification of Commission Members and Resignations

A motion was made by Dr. Hunt and seconded by Ms. Sutton to accept the following resignations and to approve the following appointments to the following regional commissions:

Resignations

- Chad Guillot, NRP – from Region 2 Commission (resignation of Local Ambulance Service);
- Dawn Marcelle, MD – from Region 2 Commission (resignation of LDH – Office of Public Health);
- Donnie Simon, NRP – from Region 4 Commission (resignation of HHS Designated Regional Coordinator);
- John Armand, RN – From Region 4 Commission (resignation of RN Practicing in Emergency or Critical Care); and
- Jonathon Koob, RN – from Region 4 Commission (resignation of Hospitals > 100 Beds).

Appointments

- Paulette Grey Riveria, MD, nomination to Region 2 Commission (nomination of LDH-Office of Public Health);
- Barbara Griffin, MSN, RN, NE-BC, nomination to Region 6 Commission (nomination of Hospitals > 100 beds; and
- Danielle Maples, NRP, nomination to Region 4 Commission (nomination of HHS Designated Regional Coordinator).

There was no public comment. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Board Officer Elections

Nominations were opened for the position of Board Chair. Dr. Garrett was nominated by Karen Wyble. Dr. Garrett accepted the nomination. A motion was made by Dr. Nassauer and seconded by Mr. Guidry to close the nominations for Chair. There were no public comments. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative. As there were no other nominations, Dr. Garrett was elected to serve as Board Chair.

Nominations were opened for the position of Board Vice Chair. Dr. John Jones volunteered to serve as Vice Chair. There were no other nominations or volunteers. A motion was made by Dr. Freeman and seconded by Ms. Sutton to close the nominations. There were no public comments. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative. As there were no other nominations, Dr. Jones was elected to serve as Board Vice Chair.

Ms. Wyble nominated Dr. Freeman to serve as Board Treasurer. Dr. Freeman accepted the nomination. A motion was made by Dr. Jones and seconded by Ms. Sutton to close the nominations. There were no public comments. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative. As there were no other nominations, Dr. Freeman was elected to serve as Board

Treasurer.

Executive Committee Elections

Two members of the LERN Executive Committee are elected by the Board to serve two year terms beginning January, 2022 and ending January, 2024. Scott Guidry and John Hunt both volunteered to serve on the Executive Committee. There were no other volunteers or nominations. A motion was made by Dr. Freeman and seconded by Dr. Jones to elect Scott Guidry and John Guidry, MD, to serve on the Executive Committee. There were no public comments. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Stroke Sub-Committee

LERN Executive Director Hargrove advised of a vacancy on the Stroke Sub-Committee. Duke Walker volunteered to serve on the Stroke Sub-Committee. There were no other nominations. A motion to close the nominations was made by Dr. Nassauer and seconded by Dr. Garrett. There were no public comments. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative. There being no other nominations, Mr. Walker was deemed elected to the Stroke Sub-Committee.

Research Review Committee

LERN Executive Director Hargrove advised that the Research Review Committee is appointed by the Chair of the Board in every even year. Ms. Hargrove that she and Dr. Garrett would work together to appoint the members of that committee. No formal action was taken by the board.

Ethics Reminder

LERN Executive Director Hargrove reminded the Board members complete the annual ethics training each year before the end of the calendar year. No formal action was taken by the board.

Executive Director Report Operations Update

LERN Executive Director Hargrove presented the Board with and discussed "Operations Update" attached hereto as Attachment B.

Preliminary numbers show that the call volume has increased, approximately 20% increase from 2018.

The Executive Director advised that Xiaoping Nie, LERN Data Manager, has resigned for a promotion at LDH. Xiaoping Nie was thanked for his service to LERN. The position has been posted. No formal action was taken by the board.

The Board was advised that former Chair Wyble and Executive Director Hargrove met with

Department of Health Secretary Phillips. LERN funding needs and a possible location change for LERN was discussed. No formal action was taken by the board.

LERN Board Composition

LERN Executive Director Hargrove discussed a LERN Strategic Priorities is to increase EMS engagement in Board membership. Three existing positions which have been or are vacant will be considered by the Executive Committee which may have recommendations for legislative action to present at the next Board meeting. See Attachment C. No formal action was taken by the board.

Trauma Update

Michael Sutherland, MD, LERN Trauma Medical Director, updated the Board on recent developments with the Trauma program in Louisiana. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Stroke Update

Sheryl Martin-Schild, MD, LERN Stroke Director, presented a Stroke Update. See Attachment D. Dr. Martin-Schild advised of a hospital which should be reviewed by the Board and considered for demotion to a Stroke By Pass Hospital. LERN Executive Director Hargrove advised that the Stroke Sub-Committee recommends demoting the hospital to a Stroke By-Pass hospital but continue to support efforts to regain ASRH status. If the hospital can show two consecutive quarters that it has ability to meet all the standards for an Acute Ready Hospital, it could be upgraded. A motion was made by Ms. Sutton and seconded by Dr. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Stroke Sub-Committee. There were no public comments. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative. LERN Executive Director Hargrove said she would notify the hospital of the Board's decision.

STEMI Update

LERN Executive Director Hargrove updated the Board on the STEMI System. See Attachment E. A goal for 2022 is to increase public awareness of heart attack signs and symptoms and the importance of calling 911 through the use of communications/marketing plans. SSA Consulting is working on a marketing package. No formal action was taken by the board.

LERN Communication Center Update

Chris Hector, Administrative Director, reviewed the Communication Center call volumes. See Attachment F.

Budget

Executive Director Hargrove discussed LERN's Fiscal Overview as of 01/18/22. See Attachment G. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Public Comment

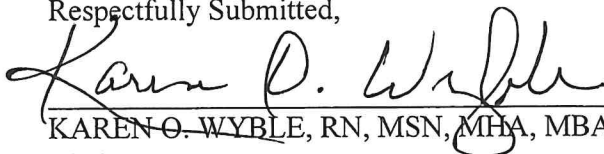
There were no public comments.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be April 28, 2022. Chair Wyble congratulated Dr. Garrett and stated that Dr. Garrett will take over for her at the April meeting. Chair Wyble thanked the Board for the honor of allowing her to serve as chair and told the board she was impressed with Board member commitment to LERN.

A motion was made by Dr. Hunt and seconded by Dr. Jones to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



KAREN O. WYBLE, RN, MSN, MHA, MBA,
Chair