

Minutes

**Meeting of Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board
Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.**

Held at:

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

**With Board participating via teleconference due to the
declared COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.**

Welcome/Introductions

The November 19, 2020 meeting of the Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board (LERN) was called to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. by Karen Wyble, Board Chair. The meeting was held pursuant to public notice, each member received notice, and notice was properly posted.

Roll Call

Board members participated in the Board meeting via teleconference due to the declared COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

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
Janet D. Clark
David Daly, Jr., MD
William Freeman, MD
Dieadra J. Garrett, MD
Paul Gladden, MD
Jimmy Guidry, MD
Chris Guilbeaux
John Hunt, MD
Tomas Jacome, MD
John D. Jones, MD

Brandon J. Mauldin, MD
Buddy Mincey, Jr., State Representative
Charles Nassauer, OD
Monic S. Nijoka, RN
Carl “Jack” Varnado, Jr., RPL, ENP
Robert K. White, MD
Richard Zweifler, MD

There were 20 board members present when the meeting began constituting a quorum.

Members Absent:

Regina Ashford Barrow, State Senator
Gerald Cvitanovich, MD
Representative Jonathan Goudeau
Gregory K. Stock
Mack A. “Bodi” White, State Senator
Tracy B. Wold, Treasurer

Staff Present:

Paige Hargrove, Executive Director
Chris Hector, Administrative Director
Jasmine Jackson, LERN Administrative Assistant
Yvette Legendre, LERN Tri-Regional Coordinator
Deb Spann, LERN Tri-Regional Coordinator
Xiaoping Nie, LERN Data manager
Cassandra Woods, Financial Manager

Contractors Present:

Jason Allemand, Call Center Supervisor
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
Rudy Gomez, SSA Consultants

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2020 and October 20, 2020

A motion was made by Mr. Varnado and seconded by Ms. Nijoka to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2020 Board meeting as written, Attachment A. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Dr. Garrett and seconded by Dr. Nassauer to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2020 Board meeting as written, Attachment B. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Introduction of New Board Members

New Board member, Dr. Jeffrey Carter, representing Metropolitan Hospital Council of New Orleans to represent hospitals with 100 beds or more, was present and was introduced to the Board.

Ratification of Commission Members

A motion was made by Dr. Zweifler and seconded by Dr. Garrett to accept the following resignations and to approve the following appointments to the following regional commissions:

Resignations

- Jeffrey Coco, MD – from Region 1 Commission (nomination of Metropolitan Hospital Council); and
- Katie Sheets, RN, BSN - from Region 9 Commission (nomination of Louisiana Hospital Association).

Appointments

- Tashfin S. Hug, MD - nomination to Region 3 Commission (nomination of American Stroke Association);
- Zola N'Dandu, MD - nomination to Region 3 Commission (nomination of LA Chapter of the American College); and
- Mark Morris, RN, NREMT-P - nomination to Region 6 Commission (nomination of Air Medical representation).

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

2021 Meeting Dates

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, advised the Board of the Board meeting dates for 2021. See Attachment C, pp. 6-7.

Executive Director Report Operations Update

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, advised the Board that Board employee Jasmine Jackson will be leaving LERN effective December 4, 2020. Ms. Hargrove thanked Ms. Jackson for her five years of service to LERN. Her position has been posted.

Ms. Hargrove reminded Board members that ethics training must be completed by all members by December 31, 2020.

No formal action was taken by the Board.

Call Center Volume

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, advised that the Call Center Volume is up the last three months. See Attachment C, p. 9. No formal action was taken by the board.

Ms. Hargrove presented the Trauma transfer data from January through October, 2020, Attachment C, p. 10, for Board review. No formal action was taken by the Board.

State Health Officer Update

Board member Dr. Jimmy Guidry updated the Board regarding the Department of Health's COVID response to the pandemic, and specifically about the vaccinations and the state planning for vaccine distribution, when available. See the slide presentation attached as Attachment D. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Trauma System Update

Dr. Sutherland, LERN Medical Director, provided information about the Trauma program development in the state. See attached as Attachment C, pp. 12. No formal action was taken by the board.

Christus St. Elizabeth/Beaumont, TX

Dr. Sutherland reported about difficulties with transfers in certain parts of state. Dr. Sutherland has spoken with St. Elizabeth in Beaumont, Texas about possibly entering into a MOU with LERN. No formal action was taken by the board.

Children's Hospital Attestation

Dr. Sutherland discussed the need to expand pediatric trauma care in Louisiana. New Orleans Children's Hospital submitted their Trauma Program attestation to LERN in September 2020. Dr. Sutherland and Paige conducted a site review and met with hospital administration. The results of the site survey were presented to the LERN Executive Committee at the October 15, 2020 meeting. Upon Dr. Sutherland's recommendation, the LERN Executive Committee approved Children Hospital New Orleans's (CHNO) attestation pending finalization of the Region 1 pre-hospital destination protocol and education on the protocol. One challenge is distance between the Level 1 trauma center located at University Medical Center (UMC-NO) and CHNO and determining which pediatric trauma patient population will continue to be directed to UMC-NO. Baton Rouge Children's Hospital has less of an issue, as the two centers are across the street from each other, making transfer relatively easy.

Work is ongoing in the New Orleans region to account for these issues and create a system for Region 1, specifically New Orleans and Jefferson Parish. Board member Dr. Hunt has been of immense help. New Orleans Children's Hospital would be the third trauma program in the state. No formal action was taken by the board.

Strategic Goals 2021

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, discussed the Trauma Strategic Goals, what has been accomplished, and what is to be done in 2021. See Attachment C, pp. 13-15. A motion was made by Dr. Guidry and seconded by Dr. Hunt to accept the Strategic Goals for 2021 as presented. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

STEMI System

Review Data/Update on State Workgroup

Dr. Christopher White, STEMI Medical Director, reported the progress of the STEMI Pilot program, which ended June 30, 2020. See Attachment C, pp. 16-18. Dr. White explained the pilot, gave an example of the de-identified data collected, and the feedback reports. Dr. White reviewed the data for all 18 hospitals. The State STEMI Workgroup has a goal for all 36 receiving centers to submit data for 2021. Primary area of opportunity is for Referral Centers to administer lytic when unable to meet first medical contact to PCI within 120 minutes.

LERN Executive Director communicated that the LERN Board adopted the existing STEMI Receiving Center Requirements in 2013 and they have not been updated. As required by rule, the 2021 Stroke and STEMI attestations will be mailed to all hospitals in July 2021. Therefore, we need to review and update the requirements as appropriate. Dr. White acknowledged that there are some issues, particularly with the volume requirements. The AHA guidelines indicate that volume is just a surrogate for outcome. The AHA will probably recommend a change to the guidelines in the future. Dr. White reviewed the existing AHA procedural requirements for hospitals and individual provider volume requirements. He also discussed potential outcome measures that could be considered as alternatives to volume. (Attachment C, pp. 19-27) No formal action was taken by the board.

Executive Director Paige Hargrove thanked Dr. White and stated that the State Workgroup hoped to make recommendations to the Board in January or April of 2021. Ms. Hargrove then presented STEMI Strategic Goals for 2021 to the board. (Attachment C, pp. 28-30) A motion was made by Dr. Daly and seconded by Dr. Freeman to accept the STEMI Strategic Goals for 2021 as presented. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

***Stroke System
Update- XX***

Dr. Martin-Schild, LERN Stroke Medical Director, updated the Board on the Stroke System. No formal action was taken by the board.

The Stroke Strategic Goals for 2021, Attachment C, pp. 32-34, were presented to the Board. A motion was made by Dr. Garrett and seconded by Dr. Guidry to accept the Stroke Strategic Goals for 2021 as presented. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

***Budget
Budget Recap***

Executive Director Paige Hargrove presented the FY20 Fiscal Overview as of 11/09/2020, 2020, Attachment C, p. 37. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Paige Hargrove advised that \$51,000 received as a grant has been allocated for purchasing radio consolettes needed as backup redundancy in the Call Center. No formal action was taken by the board.

Legislative Update

Standing Agenda Item

Executive Director Hargrove updated the Board on HB 39 of the Second Extraordinary Session of 2020. The board sent a letter to Representative Carter regarding using LERN as a pass through for funds to a third party without LERN knowledge. No formal action was taken by the board.

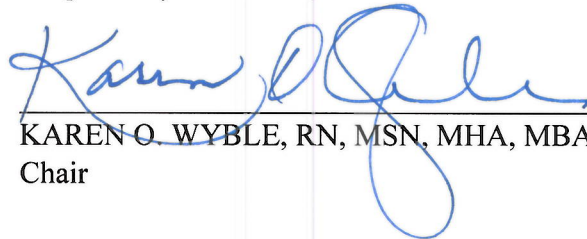
Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Varnado and seconded by Dr. Hunt to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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