

Minutes

**Meeting of Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board
Thursday, November 18, 2021 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 November 18, 2021 meeting of the Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board (LERN) was called to order at approximately 1:03 p.m. by Karen Wyble, Board Chair. The meeting was held pursuant to public notice, each member received notice, and notice was properly posted.

Some members participated in person and others participated via zoom 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
Schaun Chevis, MSW (via teleconference)
William Freeman, MD
Dieadra J. Garrett, MD
Paul Gladden, MD (via teleconference)
Honorable Jonathan Goudeau, State Representative
Scott Guidry (via teleconference)
Chris Guilbeaux
John Hunt, MD (via teleconference)
Tomas Jacome, MD
John D. Jones, MD
Joseph Kanter, MD
Brandon J. Mauldin, MD (via teleconference)

Charles Nassauer, OD
Monica S. Nijoka, RN (via teleconference)
Michele Sutton, FACHE
Robert K. White, MD (via teleconference)
Richard Zweifler, MD (via teleconference)

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

Jeffrey E. Carter, M.D., joined the meeting at 1:42 p.m. (via teleconference)

Members Absent:

Honorable Regina Ashford Barrow, State Senator
Gerald Cvitanovich, MD
David Daly, Jr., MD
Buddy Mincey, Jr., State Representative
Carl “Jack” Varnado, Jr., RPL, ENP
Honorable Mack A. “Bodi” White, State Senator

Staff Present:

Paige Hargrove, Executive Director
Chris Hector, Administrative Director
Ted Colligan, LERN Regional Coordinator
Deborah Spann, LERN Regional Coordinator
Xiaoping Nie, LERN 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 (via teleconference)
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 Dr. Garrett to accept the agenda as written. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2021

A motion was made by Dr. Kanter and seconded by Dr. Freeman to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2021 Board meeting as written. See Attachment A. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Introduction of New Board Members

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, welcomed two new board members: Michelle Sutton, CEO of North Oaks Medical Center, who is replacing former Board member Greg Stock; and Duke Walker, VP of Operations of Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, who replaced former Board member Janet Clark.

Ratification of Commission Members and Resignations

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

Resignations

- Shawn Moreau, MSN, RN, CEN, TCRN –Louisiana Hospital Association – from Region 6 Commission (resignation of Hospitals > 100 beds).

Appointments

- Michael Parent, NREMT – Public Health Emergency Response Coordinator, LDH/OPH - nomination to Region 5 Commission (nomination of Emergency Medical Response);
- Shawn Moreau, MSN, RN, CEN, TCRN - nomination to Region 6 Commission (nomination of Trauma Center Representative);
- Jacqueline Bowers, MD, FACEP - nomination to Region 8 Commission (nomination representing American College of Emergency Physicians); and
- Katie Cook, RN, BSN, CEN, TCRN – nomination to Region 9 Commission (nomination of Emergency Nurses Association).

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

Board Treasurer Election

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, advised the Board that Tracy Wold who had been serving as Treasurer was no longer a member of the LERN Board. Dr. William Freeman offered himself as a candidate for the position of Treasurer. There were no other nominations. A motion was made by Dr. Garrett and seconded by Dr. Kanter to elect Dr. Freeman Treasurer. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative

Board Meeting Dates 2022

A motion was made by Dr. Freeman and seconded by Dr. Jones to accept the proposed dates for Board and executive committee meetings. See Attachment B. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Ethics Reminder

LERN Executive Director Hargrove reminded Board members of the mandatory ethics training required of each of them by La. R.S. 42:1102 to be completed by December 31, 2021. No formal action was taken by the Board.

2022 Officer Elections

LERN Executive Director Hargrove advised that LERN rules require elections for Board Chair and Vice Chair to be held at the January 20, 2022 Board meeting. Two members of the Executive Committee will also be elected at the January meeting. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Executive Director Report Operations Update

LERN Executive Director Hargrove gave an update on the Strategic Plan and the progress LERN has made. See [Attachment C](#). No formal action was taken by the Board.

Attorney General Opinion

LERN Executive Director Hargrove provided the Board members with copies of the Attorney General Opinion No. 21-0102 issued in response to an opinion request from State Senator Bodi White, a member of the LERN Board, that concluded that the LERN Board “has the authority to participate in pre-hospital direction of patients coming into Louisiana from Mississippi and patients going from Louisiana to Mississippi. The Board also has the authority to facilitate and coordinate the transfer of patients coming into Louisiana from Mississippi.” See [Attachment D](#). Ms. Hargrove discussed how the Attorney General Opinion supports one of LERN’s 2022 goals. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Trauma Update

Michael Sutherland, MD, LERN Trauma Medical Director, discussed recent trauma center development in the state. See [Attachment E](#). Dr. Sutherland noted that Region 8 now has two trauma programs; that 82.8% of the people in Louisiana are within a one hour drive to a trauma center; and that approximately 89% are within a one hour drive to a trauma center or program. Dr. Sutherland reported that all the ACS reviews that have recently taken place in the state have been successful. The Trauma System 2022 Goals were reviewed and discussed. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Stroke Update

Sheryl Martin-Schild, MD, LERN Stroke Director, presented a Stroke Update, including Strategic Priorities 2022-2024. See [Attachment F](#). Dr. Martin-Schild advised that there is now a Pediatric Stroke Workgroup. Dr. Martin-Schild gave an overview of Quarter 2 performance; and

advised that all 57 hospitals except one submitted data for Quarter 3, which data is in the process of being analyzed. 2022 Stroke System Goals were discussed. No formal action was taken by the Board.

STEMI Update

Christopher White, MD, LERN STEMI Director, updated the Board on performance of STEMI Receiving Centers. See Attachment G. Dr. White discussed LERN's 2022-2024 STEMI Strategic Priorities. No formal action was taken by the board.

Other Strategic Priorities

Burn Update

Executive Director Hargrove reported on LERN's 2022-2024 Strategic Priorities for the burn system. See Attachment H.

Board member Dr. Carter complimented the LERN team and voiced support for the Disaster Preparedness Strategic Priorities. Dr. Carter advised that there has been a drop in mortality in southeastern system since opened trauma center there and began routing. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Funding

Strategic Priority Nos. 3 and 4 were presented to the Board by Rudy Gomez of SSA Associates. See Attachment I. No formal action was taken by the Board. For a complete list of the Board Strategic Plan and 2020 goals see Attachment J.

Budget

Executive Director Hargrove distributed and discussed LERN's Budget Request for FY 2022-2028. See Attachment K, the last page of which contains the Fiscal Overview as of 11/12/21. No formal action was taken by the Board.

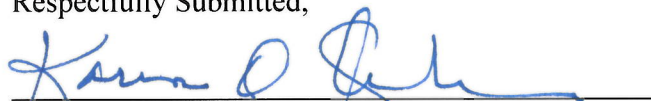
Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Freeman and seconded by Dr. Garrett to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


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