

## Board Meeting Minutes

**March 20, 2020**

**Approved**  
**4/3/2020**

### Board Members Present

Rep. Eplee  
Dr. Gregory Faimon  
Sen. Faust-Goudeau  
Dr. Joel Hornung  
Comm. Ricky James  
Director Deb Kaufman  
Chief Shane Pearson  
Mr. Chad Pore  
Director John Ralston  
Comm. Bob Saueressig  
Dr. Martin Sellberg  
Director Jeri Smith

### Staff Present

Joseph House  
Curt Shreckengast  
Suzette Smith

### Board Members Absent

Rep. Henderson  
Mr. Dennis Shelby

### Attorney

Whitney Casement

### Call to Order

Chairman Hornung called the Board Meeting to order on Friday, March 20, 2020 at 4:30 p.m via teleconference call. A roll call by Director House found the above board members present.

### New Business

- In response to the possibility of needing additional EMS personnel Director House said the agenda gave a detail of the first item of discussion. This item identified the possibility of a certification expiration date extension for those individuals whose certification expired 12/31/18 or 12/31/19. This would be a potential way to reactivate up to 1,915 providers to help with the COVID-19 pandemic. Chief Pearson asked if any current issues had been identified so far since the last email said there were none. Chairman Hornung said there was nothing new on any issues. Chief Pearson said he was struggling with an expired provider being let back in, if this were to move forward. He said his call volume has been cut in half. Chairman Hornung agreed the same thing was happening in Manhattan. Vice-Chairman

Pore urged that this only should be considered if there was an agreement with the service to make sure the individual was competent. It was recommended this topic be delayed until issues arise. He suggested the solution might reside with moving to the next agenda item to grant delegated authority.

- The second agenda item asked for consideration for delegation of concurrent authority in order to rapidly adapt to the ever-changing environment caused by COVID-19. It outlined two options: schedule frequent board meetings to address concerns as they arise, or delegate the authority for the board for decisions specifically related to COVID-19 to a person(s). Chief Pearson agreed with Vice-Chairman Pore to delegate authority, but we need to clearly define what the service must do if an expiration extension were established. The service would have to identify a hardship of staff. Vice-Chairman Pore said the service would need to identify this is a coronavirus issue, not a staffing issue. Director Smith agreed with Chief Pearson and asked once this is resolved, do these individuals stay certified or go back to needing to reinstate. Dr. Sellberg said an expiration date can be set. Chairman Hornung said he is getting a lot of questions about what if we are overrun. This scenario is to head this off. He asked if anyone was concerned with putting this off for now. There was no response. He said we would continue to have this in place as an option and would need to address Director Smith's question of how long they stay certified.
- Chairman Hornung said we get daily updates so instead of resulting in a conference call frequently, we should look to delegate concurrent authority on this issue. Commissioner Saueressig said he has been working with the county staff, who have daily contact for updates on this virus. He is thinking the most involved person would be Director House. Dr. Sellberg said Director House is a good choice. He expressed that so Director House doesn't have to shoulder the whole burden, he would add discussion with two board members. Senator Faust-Goudeau agreed Director House was a good choice. There was discussion of adding a clinical board member for certain types of questions and other board members for issues more suited to their strength. Dr. Eplee agreed. Attorney Casement advised the board to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters. After additional discussion to clarify procedures, Chairman Hornung said he felt confident Director House would do well with delegated authority.

***Dr. Sellberg made a motion to designate Director House with concurrent delegated authority to act on behalf of the Board on the rapidly changing environment caused by COVID-19. Director Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.***

- Commissioner Saueressig asked to verify this delegated authority would let Director House implement a certification expiration date extension and Chairman Hornung said yes.
- Chairman Hornung asked that anyone hearing anything new to please share, so we can stay ahead of the game.

***Chairman Hornung adjourned the meeting at 5:03 p.m.***