

# Minutes

**Meeting of Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board  
Thursday, January 21, 2021 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 January 21, 2021 meeting of the Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board (LERN) was called to order at approximately 1:05 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  
Gerald Cvitanovich, MD  
William Freeman, MD  
Dieadra J. Garrett, MD  
Paul Gladden, MD  
Chris Guilbeaux  
John Hunt, MD  
Tomas Jacome, MD  
John D. Jones, MD

Buddy Mincey, Jr., State Representative  
Charles Nassauer, OD  
Monic S. Nijoka, RN  
Carl “Jack” Varnado, Jr., RPL, ENP  
Robert K. White, MD  
Tracy B. Wold, Treasurer  
Richard Zweifler, MD

There were 19 board members present when the meeting began constituting a quorum.

**Members Absent:**

Regina Ashford Barrow, State Senator  
David Daly, Jr., MD  
Representative Jonathan Goudeau  
Brandon J. Mauldin, MD  
Gregory K. Stock  
Mack A. “Bodi” White, State Senator

**Staff Present:**

Paige Hargrove, Executive Director  
Chris Hector, Administrative Director  
Cassandra Woods, Financial Manager  
Deb Spann, Regional Coordinator  
Yvette Legendre, Regional  
Coordinator  
Ted Colligan, Regional Coordinator  
Xiaoping Nie, Data Assistant

**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 Dr. Zweifler 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 November 19, 2020***

A motion was made by Dr. Garrett and seconded by Mr. Varnado to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2020 Board meeting as written. See Attachment A. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

### ***Ratification of Commission Members***

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

#### Resignations

- Cynthia Davidson, JD – from Region 1 Commission (nomination of Office of Public Health);
- Joseph Kanter, MD - from Region 1 Commission (nomination of Office of Public Health);
- James Rhorer, MD - from Region 2 Commission (nomination of Louisiana State Medical Society);
- William B. Bisland, Jr., MD - from Region 3 Commission (nomination of American College of Surgeons);
- Michael Burley, NRP - from Region 4 Commission (nomination of local ambulance service); and
- Lisa Griffen, RN - from Region 8 Commission (nomination of registered nurse practicing in emergency or critical care).

#### Appointments

- Jovan Bernard, MPH, BSN, RN - nomination to Region 1 Commission (nomination of Office of Public Health);
- Shantel Hebert-Magee, MD - nomination to Region 1 Commission (nomination of Office of Public Health Medical Director);
- Eric Jukes, MD - nomination to Region 3 Commission (nomination of American College of Surgeons);
- Blake Miller, NRP - nomination to Region 4 Commission (nomination of local ambulance service);
- Scott Kyle, NRP - nomination to Region 5 Commission (nomination of hospitals > 100 beds);
- Charles “Craig” Menefee - nomination to Region 7 Commission (nomination of local law enforcement);
- Jamin Rankin, RN - nomination to Region 8 Commission (nomination of registered nurse practicing in emergency or critical care); and
- David Toups, MD - nomination to Region 9 Commission (nomination of LHA/Service District Hospitals).

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

***Executive Director Report  
Operations Update***

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, advised the Board that Dr. Jimmy Guidry recently retired after 34 years of service to the State. Dr. Guidry was involved with the initial development of LERN and its ongoing operations since inception. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Ms. Hargrove advised the Board that Act 45, which involves the pass through of money to the Orleans Communications District, was complete. No formal action was taken by the board.

A motion was made by Dr. Zweifler and seconded by Dr. Freeman to renew Dr. Martin-Schild's contract with the Board for three years, at \$70,000 per year (or \$210,000.00 for the three years), under the same terms and conditions as the existing contract (except for the \$5,000 annual increase). The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

***2021 Strategic Goals***

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, advised that the 2021 Strategic Goals approved at the last board meeting had been emailed to all members.

Paige Hargrove presented an update on COVID-19 vaccination. See pp. 8-10 of Attachment B.

Ms. Hargrove reported on the status of the 2020 Strategic Goals. See pp. 11-18 of Attachment B. Ms. Hargrove advised that the full 2020 strategic Goal update had been emailed to the board prior to the meeting. (Attachment C).

Ms. Hargrove reported that the medical directors from the 4 burn centers developed a 6 part education course, titled "Burn Basics for EMS". This course was CAPCE approved for 3 continuing education hours and is now available to Louisiana EMS practitioners statewide.

Chris Hector, LERN Administrative Director, reported on the Call Center Annual Volume. See pp. 19-25 of Attachment B.

No formal action was taken by the board.

***Burn System Update***

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, updated the board on the development of the burn system. See p. 26 of Attachment B. No formal action was taken by the board.

### ***Trauma System Update***

Dr. Sutherland, LERN Medical Director, reported on the status of the trauma system in Louisiana. Dr. Sutherland stated that this will be a busy year for trauma in Louisiana. See p. 27 of Attachment B. No formal action was taken by the board.

### ***STEMI Update***

Dr. Christopher White, LERN STEMI Medical Director, updated the board on STEMI system in Louisiana and the recent State STEMI Workgroup, held on January 5, 2021. The workgroup reviewed the existing STEMI Receiving Center Requirements and proposed updates. See pp. 28-31 of Attachment B.

A motion was made by Dr. Zweifler and seconded by Dr. Cvitanovich to approve the changes to the requirements to the STEMI Receiving Centers included in attestation to go out this year, as shown on pp. 30-31 of Attachment B. The motion was approved after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

### ***Stroke Update***

Dr. Martin-Schild, LERN Stroke Medical Director, updated the board on the stroke system. See p. 32 of Attachment B. No formal action was taken by the board. State stroke workgroup meeting is scheduled on January 22, 2021, and plans to discuss strategy to help hospitals that are struggling with DIDO.

Paige Hargrove, LERN Executive Director, showed the Board p. 33 of Attachment B, a third party report indicating that Louisiana is one of the few states that has favorable state destination protocols in place. No formal action was taken by the board.

### ***Budget***

#### ***Budget Recap***

Executive Director Paige Hargrove updated the board on the LERN Budget. See pp. 34-35 of Attachment B. Tracy Wold advised the board that there is currently a not encumbered or expended balance that should be addressed. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Paige Hargrove advised the Board that Donicia Jackson has been hired to replace -Jasmine Jackson as Administrative Assistant. Ms. Donicia Jackson is due to start in February.

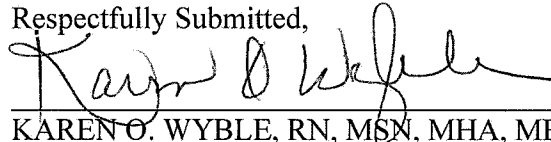
#### ***Public Comment***

There were no public comments.

*Adjournment*

A motion was made by Ms. Nijoka and seconded by Mr. Varnado to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Respectfully Submitted,



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