



PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL
Your Voice In EMS

600 Wilson Lane Suite 101 Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 • (717) 795-0740 • www.pehsc.org

Board of Director Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2024

Board Members Present:

Mary Kovac	Allegheny General Hospital	Dr Alvin Wang	NAEMSP-PA
Robert Twaddle	Allegheny General Hospital	Dr Bryan Wexler	PACEP
Bob Mateff	Cetronia Amb Corp	Josh Fremberg	Penn State University
Harry Moore	Chester Co Dept of Emerg. Svcs	Keith Laws	Riddle Hospital
Larry Smythe	Chester Co Dept of Emerg. Svcs	Myron Rickens	UPMC
Barry Albertson	Community LifeTeam EMS	Tammy Whiteman	Uwchlan Ambulance
Matthew Welch	Elverson Honybrook EMS	Justin Eberly	VFIS
John Brindle	HACC	Dr Avram Flamm	Wellspan York Hospital
Tony Deaven	Lower Allen EMS	Anthony Tucci	Western Berks Amb Assoc
Dr Rick Wadas	NAEMSP-PA		

Council Members Present:

Don DeReamus	Amb Assoc of PA	David Brown	Montco Office of EMS
Heather Harris	Amb Assoc of PA	Wade Amick	Municipal EMS Authority Lanc
Tim Hinchcliff	Burholme EMS	Dave Kirchner	Myerstown First Aid Squad
Jim Houser	Center for Emerg Medicine	Steve Bailey	Non Profit Amb Svcs Beaver Co
Kent Knable	Centre Lifelink EMS	Francis Feld	PA Athletic Trainers Assoc
Patrick O'Connell	Delaware Co EMS Council	Brent Smith	PA Athletic Trainers Assoc
Dr Duane Siberski	Eastern PA EMS Council	Robert Brooks	PA Professional Firefighters
Dr Michael Reihart	EHSF	Keith McMinn	Penn State - Hershey
Gene Lesneski	EMS of Northeastern PA	David Jones	Community Member
Tom McElree	EMS West	Ed L.eveny	Philadelphia EMS Council
Brian Shaw	EMS West	Joe Festa	Plum EMS
Joe Stevens	First Captital EMS	Matthew Collins	Southern Chester Co EMS
Craig Wheeler	Lewsitown Hospital	Bob Hotchkiss	Southern Chester Co EMS
Mervin Wertz	Lower Alsace EMS	Dr Christian Martin-Gill	STAT MedEvac

BEMS Staff Present:

Anthony Martin, Director, BEMS

PEHSC Staff Present:

Janette Swade	Butch Potter	Andy Snavelly	Duane Spencer
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Topic	Discussion	Action/Resolution
Call to Order		The meeting was called to order at 1000 hours by Dr. Alvin Wang
Approval of Minutes	The meeting minutes of June 11, 2024, were reviewed.	MOTION: Matt Welch SECOND: Tony Deaven To accept the June 11, 2024, meeting minutes as drafted. RESULT: motion carried
EMSC Report	Duane Spencer, EMSC Project Manager, reported the following: The EMSC Advisory Committee met in person Tuesday September 10, 2024 2024 Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project assessment Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program - ED (PRRP-ED) Pilot program include eight facilities Engagement over the seven focus areas to develop each level requirement Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program - ED (PRRP-EMS) Discussed and finalized new program outline	
President's Report	Dr. Alvin Wang reported the following: • Death of Neil Jones • Follow up to June Meeting - Athletic Trainers legislation* - Pilot Project ALS Staffing - EMS of Northeastern PA * - DOH Pilot and Research Project guidance • Welcome to Jenn Yetter from Emergency Nurses Association Many thanks to Kay	Poll of BOD taken to support Act review. The members were unanimous in their support.

	Bleecher for her unwavering dedication to EMS Discussion(s) - “Divert” ED status definition comment period until this Friday* - IV Solution Agency Guidance for PEHSC * - Act Review for 2025-26, there is BOD support for review and revision. Concern expressed on the gap period between legislation and promulgation of rules and regulations. (staff note – project to begin July 2025)	
Treasurer’s Report	Dr. Bryan Wexler reported the following. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes	MOTION: Tony Deaven SEDOND: Matt Welch To acknowledge and file the treasurer’s report. RESULT: motion carried
Executive Director’s Report	ED Janette Swade reported the following: • Annual Report (in meeting materials) • Council Finances (received additional \$60.00 – total EMSOF \$354,000). Awaiting EMSC funds from HRSA – currently using council funds to sustain EMSC program. • Independent Audit Report (cost to complete is ~\$8,000) • Stakeholder Meetings ED Overcrowding, LODD, 911, Ag Safety, AAP Workforce Group • Shared Goals Project with Regional EMS Councils • Annual Internal Workplan • Legislation of Interest • Mental Health/PTSD • Grant Program – no changes in \$\$\$. Extended for another 5 years. • SB1278 provides PA death benefit for providers during COVID period.	2

	Federal legislation (HR8977) to ask CMS to pilot a treat-in-place initiative.	
Medical Advisory Committee Report	Dr. Mike Reihart reported the following: The MAC held an in-person meeting on August 14, 2024, at the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. The incoming class of EMS fellows from around the Commonwealth attended this meeting to gain a better understanding of the EMS system and advisory role of PEHSC. - Dr. Bledsoe reported that numerous pilot programs have been approved by the Department. - Dr. Bledsoe also reported the BEMS is reviewing the current EMS Agency Medical Director's course. - Director Martin offered clarification on EMSIB# 2024-13 regarding use of mechanical CPR devices. - The intent of the update was to allow for QRS agencies to use the devices. An unintended consequence is that with ePCR and data reporting requirement for QRS agencies differing from those of BLS agencies, this has actually made things potentially more restrictive. - Dr. Derek Isenberg presented a pilot project, OPUS REACH-I. - This study aims to optimize the current prehospital stroke algorithm when triaging patients to an	Alternate destination sub-committee on TIP and alternate destinations – looking for additional participants to serve on the subgroup.

	appropriate stroke center. The study has now received IRB approval and is in the process of obtaining funding. The MAC voted to recommend the Department approve the project. • Dr Chris Berry, Associate EMSNP Regional Medical Director, presented a joint pilot project between Greater Valley EMS and the regional council. • The proposed pilot would allow for adjustment of the minimum staffing for ALS transport units (MICU's) to a single ALS provider and a single EMSVO certified individual. Current statute requires a crew of a single ALS provider and a single BLS provider. • This is in response to significant staffing difficulties in a rural region coupled with prolonged mutual aid. • The MAC voted to recommend the Department approve the pilot project. • Dr. Alvin Wang presented the FASTEST Study. • The FASTEST study is a currently running national study involving mobile stroke units (MSU's) and the identification and treatment of intracranial hemorrhage. Dr. Wang would like to enroll the Bensalem Jefferson MSU in this study.	
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	• The MAC voted to recommend the Department approve the study. • Dr. Alex Rosenau announced his retirement to the group. • The members expressed their appreciation for his years of dedicated service to the EMS system and as member of the MAC.	
2025 Protocol Update Report	Dr. Alvin Wang reported the following; • The workgroup has developed a template for the unified 2025 treatment protocols. • It is a compilation of several existing state and large agency documents. • Supports POC by limiting content to the most relevant information. • Provides “clinical pearls” to support provider critical decision making. • The draft template was shared with the MAC who supports the template.	
RSI Task Force Report	Butch Potter reported the following: • Progress on the project continues. • Putting together a participant guide to provide agencies with project • Requirements and expectations	

	• Application and approval process • All information in guide derived from previously reviewed/approved source documents.	
Special Operations Workgroup Report	Dr. Duane Siberski reported the following: • Met on July 29, 2024 • Continued work on Wilderness EMS Service recommendations • Finalized scope of practice, course/education content, medical director, and medical command content • Only outstanding item is the recommended formulary • Reviewed and offered support on a proposal for Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) to EMT bridge program • Next meeting TBD	
EMS Education Task Force	Andy Snavelly reported the following: • EMS Education Institute – Best Practices • Survey • 30 responses (40%) • 11 regions represented • Meeting will be planned to review results and continue development of recommendations • Next meeting TBD	
Department of Health Report	Director Anthony Martin reported the following:	

	• Thanks to everyone involved in the shared goals project. Currently being vetted within the DOH. • Addressed the length of time that some initiatives take to process, e.g. tuition reimbursement. • Feedback on the divert draft document. • Outstanding items: • Approval on tactical standards document • Shared staffing and Greater Valley pilot project • CCT meds • EMSC funding • General system funding issues • Data availability	
EMS Conference Update	• Andy Snaveley reported the following: • Attendance: 2177 (3025 reg) • Last year totals • Attendance: 2459 (2795 reg) • 24 Sessions • 26 CE credits • (14.5 CPC/11.5 Other/1.0 EMSVO) • Session views: 1818-755	
Good for the Order	If you are submitting a grant to the fire commissioner's office, the deadline is rapidly approaching.	
Organization Reports	AAP: • 5 legislation days left and 3 voting days. • Senate did run an amended PTSD bill, now back to the House. • Grant bill has numerous changes from the current program, but no additional \$\$. • Talking with legislators about possible statewide fee schedule. There will be	

	the usual pushback from the insurance companies. • Met with Dr. Bledsoe to get his thoughts on TIP and alternate destinations. • Bill to allow areas with an EMS tax to use 100% for employee expense. PFESI: • Jerry Ozog is leaving the institute for a position at PSATS. Board is exploring replacements options.	
Adjournment	The next meeting of the board of directors is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 1000 hours via Zoom.	MOTION: Tony Deaven SECOND: Tony Tucci To adjourn the October 2024 meeting of the PEHSC board of directors. RESULT: motion carried

Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council
Account Balances FY 24-25

ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CASH BALANCE AS OF:						
		7/31/2024	8/31/2024	9/30/2024	10/31/2024	11/30/2024	12/31/2024	
Contract Fund	2024-20245Contract Amount \$353,940.00/ EMSC 34,864.00	92,707.43	122,989.79	108,395.61				
Payroll Account	Transfer Account	13,273.43	13,557.75	12,897.44				
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA	5,102.83	5,102.87	5,102.91				
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income	71,319.53	76,832.51	76,191.44				
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance	356,893.66	362,572.11	369,678.24				
ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1/31/2025	2/29/2025	3/31/2025	4/30/2025	5/31/2025	6/30/2025	
Contract Fund	2024-2025 Contract Amount \$353,940.0/EMSC 34,864.00							
Payroll Account	Transfer Account							
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA							
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income							
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance							