



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2022

Board Members Present:

Don DeReamus	Ambulance Association of PA
Doug Garretson	Ambulance Association of PA
Tim Hinchcliff	Burholme Ambulance Corps.
Walt Stoy	Center for Emergency Medicine of Western PA
Robert Mateff	Cetronia Ambulance Corps.
Harry Moore	Chester County DES
Barry Albertson	Community LifeTeam EMS
Bob Stakem	Harrisburg Area Community College
Bob Wanovich	Highmark Inc.
Chris Chamberlain	Hospital and Healthsystem Association of PA
Anthony Deaven	Lower Allen EMS
Steve Bailey	Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County
Jerome Ozog	PA Fire & Emerg Services Institute
Juliet Altenburg	PA Trauma Systems Foundation
Anna Over	PA Trauma Systems Foundation
David Jones	Penn State University
Keith Laws	Riddle Memorial Hospital
JR Henry	Valley Ambulance Authority
Justin Eberly	VFIS
Dr. Steven Schirk	Wellspan York Hospital
Gary Vinnacombe	West Grove Fire Company
Wayne March	West York Ambulance
Anthony Tucci	Western Berks Ambulance

Council Members Present:

Dr. Bryan Wexler	American College of Emergency Physicians - PA
Michele Rymdeika	Bucks County Regional EMS Council
Ron Romano	City of Pittsburgh EMS
Patrick O'Donnell	Delaware County EMS Council
Annie Phillips	Delaware County EMS Council
John Kloss	Eastern PA Regional EMS Council
Jason Smith	Eastern PA Regional EMS Council
Dr. Michael Reihart	EHSF Regional EMS Council
Kay Bleacher	Emergency Nurses Association

Thomas McElree	EMS West Regional EMS Council
Kim Holman	Good Fellowship Ambulance
Craig Wheeler	Lewistown Hospital
Kent Knable	LifeLink EMS
Wendy Hastings	LTS Regional EMS Council
Abby Houseknecht	LTS Regional EMS Council
Ed Martin	Montgomery County EMS Council
Rich Kelley	Mt. Nittany Medical Center
David Kirchner	Myerstown Ambulance
Wayne Reich	Pennsylvania State Nurses Association
Ed Lendvay	Philadelphia Regional EMS Council
Jean Bail	Philadelphia University
Terry Sloan	Portage Area Ambulance Association
Jim Slotterback	Susquehanna Regional EMS
Mark Trueman	Susquehanna Regional EMS
Anthony Martin	Tower Health
Mervin Wertz	Tower Health
Myron Rickens	UPMC Prehospital Care
Dr. Alvin Wang	VMSC of Lower Merion & Narbreth

PA Department of Health:

Dr. Aaron Rhone, Director, BEMS

PEHSC Staff:

Janette Swade, Executive Director

Butch Potter, Sr. EMS System Specialist

Andy Snavely, EMS System Specialist

Duane Spencer, EMS for Children Project Manager

Guests and Liaisons:

Gwen McNamara American Red Cross

Aaron Workman American Red Cross

Patricia Berger Legislative Budget & Finance Committee

Sadie Carns

Binh Doan

Mark G.

April Liskowacki

Heather Sharar Ambulance Association of PA

Chris R.

Vi Shirke

Anne Witkonis Legislative Budget & Finance Committee

William Miller LTS Regional EMS Council

Call to Order		The meeting was called to order by President David Jones at 1005 hours
Approval of Minutes	The meeting minutes from March 9, 2022 were reviewed by the board.	Motion to accept of the meeting minutes as drafted. Motion: JR Henry Second: Gary Vinnacombe Result: Motion carried
President's Report	President David Jones reported: • The was a recent press event at the First Responder Plaza related to Act 10 funding for EMS in the amount of \$25M or about \$37,000 per agency. • At the event, Rep. Causer spoke about the HB 2434 to increase Medicaid rates. • Congratulations and best wishes to Dr.Walt Stoy, Dr. Greg Frailey and Wendy Hastings upon their retirement • PEHSC is forming an EMS Law Committee – if interested, contact Janette Swade. • PEHSC is forming a Bylaws Committee comprised of board members . if interested, contact Janette Swade.	
Treasurer's Report	JR Henry reported on behalf of Dr. Ron Roth. Please see report below.	Motion to acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. Motion: Keith Laws Second: Anthony Tucci Result: Motion carried

ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	7/31/2021	8/31/2021	9/30/2021	10/31/2021	11/30/2021	12/31/2021	
Contract Fund	2021-2022 Contract Amount \$320,000	87,301.69	105,067.92	170,279.83	157,915.06	117,894.54	77,759.00	
Payroll Account	Transfer Account	17,951.23	18,933.42	19,915.63	20,952.38	21,334.40	22,849.91	
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA	2,335.61	3,111.70	3,111.73	3,111.76	3,111.79	3,111.79	
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income	112,910.04	63,328.22	127,694.76	102,621.55	105,075.66	105,029.80	
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance	319,662.91	324,581.22	318,244.81	328,731.52	321,648.61	330,129.80	
CASH BALANCE AS OF:								
ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1/31/2022	2/28/2022	3/31/2022	4/30/2022	5/31/2022	6/30/2022	
Contract Fund	2021-2022 Contract Amount \$320,000	103,243.15	63,617.14	90,620.79	98,617.13	127,511.85		
Payroll Account	Transfer Account	15,127.15	28,540.04	32,534.13	36,521.69	40,509.33		
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA	2,494.10	2,484.12	2,474.14	2,464.14	2,764.18		
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income	104,983.94	95,268.54	68,765.27	67,764.08	69,634.67		
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance	320,351.40	316,044.50	320,109.53	302,734.31	303,751.71		

Executive Director's Report	Executive Director Janette Swade reported: • Contract status: received the EMSC contract for \$128K. PEHSC contract is in process for \$353,940.00. In consideration of the PPP loan this budget is \$ 33,000 less than our current FY. Staff is looking at cost reductions and other strategies. • Conflict of Interest statement is due from all board members will be sent via email • Form 990 was filed with the IRS. • Received EMS Week Resolution from Senate, nothing from the House (as per new House rules) or Governor's Office. • Participated virtually with NAEMT's EMS on the Hill Day. We can look at strategies used by NAEMT to be more effective when communicating with legislature. • Center for Rural Pennsylvania survey – working with staff on final report. • Work continuing on the EMS workforce project. Goal is to develop recommendations focused on workforce issues. • Pending legislation: HB 2579 by Rep. Roae to require PA to offer its own EMS certification exam and demoting the NREMT exam to optional. This is viewed as a step backwards for PA and could negatively impact PA joining REPLICA, however is has been voted out of committee. HB2097 related to continuation of BLS staffing exemption. HB 2394 POLST, which now includes EMS.	
DOH Report	Dr. Aaron Rhone reported: • The BLS staffing exception legislation has been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee. • The BEMS is finalizing guidance for agencies to file to apply for an Act 17 exception related to staffing modifications.	

	• HB 2079, staffing exceptions, may not make it to the House floor with 9 legislative days left. There are many concerns about this bill. • The BEMS is working with OSFC to revitalize rescue training. • Working to add positions to BEMS, including the vacant manager's position. • Act 10 grant money distribution - there are still have 27 agencies that have not completed the signature process with the OSFC and could be excluded from the process. What happens to unexpended funds? They are returned to the APRA fund.	
Presentation: Legislative Budget & Finance Committee: EMSOF Fund Audit	Anne Witkonas/Patricia Berger reported: • LB&FC is a committee of the legislature. • Act 93 required the committee to review the revenue collections for EMSOF. • Interest and EMS fines for the study period amounted to \$3.1M • Assessment of fine appears to be between 98 & 99% • Some violations are not assessed based on judicial discretion • Assessment on DUI ARD is less at approximately 88%. Counties with lower assessment rate were contacted and they are investigating. • Over 5 year review period, EMSOF revenues are declining. Possibly due to COVID-19 and less travel hence less fines • Not all costs are collected in full at one time – many dependents are on payment plan. • Amounts collected and submitted to Treasurer's Office match actual deposits. • Recommend that AOPC work to educate courts on the proper assessment and collection of EMSOF fines at the district justice and court of common pleas level.	

Presentation: ARC Resuscitation Suite Program	Aaron Workman/Gwen McNamara reported: • Covers ACLS, PALS and BCLS for EMS providers • Process somewhat similar to AHA • Evidence-driven education, e.g. ILCOR • Easy to become a training center at no cost to the agency • AHA and ASHI instructors can be bridged over to ARC. • Process is very user friendly • Accredited in all 50 states • Developed in response to provider input that a shorter, more user friendly option is needed. • Courses can be delivered in traditional or blended format • Experienced providers can challenge out of the recertification process • All course materials are online and free of charge	
Reports: MAC	Dr. Michael Reihart reported: • Dr. Kupas reported the BEMS is working with the interim CARES Coordinator to publish 2021 data. • The 2023 protocol update cycle has begun. PEHSC will be publishing the biannual stakeholder's survey in June. • A pilot on the use of TXA was presented by UPMC Susquehanna. TXA is an approved ALS medication by medical command order; the pilot seeks to add its use to the protocols, above the medical command line. The committee recommended to forgo the pilot and add it to the protocol update. • Dr. Chris Martin-Gill presented the research study, "Pedi-Dose," for control of pediatric seizure activity based on age instead of weight. This is a multi-center study out of the University of Utah. The committee recommended the BEMS approve the project. • Dr. Duane Siberski discussed the need for revising the agency medical director qualification in the EMS Act.	

	• PEHSC presented data from recent surveys that show 97% of EMS agencies have a medical director board certified in emergency medicine, emergency medical services or both. • Dr. Kupas commented that a revision would require defining which certifications from an accrediting board would be acceptable. This was a point of controversy in the past. • Duane Spencer reported on a NASEMSO alert regarding non-compatible defib pads from 3rd party manufacturers. Compatibility is especially important with pediatric pads that contain attenuator chips to adjust the unit's output. Services are being driven to 3rd parties due to supply chain issues with the OEMs.	
Reports: Critical Care Task Force	Butch Potter reported on behalf of Dr. Greg Frailey: • Dr. Alvin Wang reported the RSI is preparing to begin work on the statewide pilot program. This involves developing a standard education program, clinical protocol and QI reporting tools. • Dr. Jonathan Trager commented that with upcoming protocol update cycle, it is incumbent upon the task force to develop for review additional critical care transport protocols. • There are currently 9 protocols, the most recent being added at least 3 years ago. • It was suggested that current agency protocols could be adapted for statewide use and the members were asked to share their documents. • The members suggested a needs assessment to determine the most frequent	

	medical conditions that trigger transport requests. A workgroup will be established to draft new protocols.	
Reports: EMS Education Task Force	Mervin Wertz reported: • Discussed the future of psychomotor testing in light of the NREMT action effective April 2023. • Previous recommendation by PEHSC to permit optional BLS psychomotor testing by education institutes (VTR 1215-05). • Task force now working to revise that recommendation to encompass both ALS and BLS psychomotor testing. • Recommendation will consider regulatory compliance, flexibility, cost and quality assurance.	
Reports: EMSC	Duane Spencer reported: • 2022 EMS Survey – 44.6% response rate of state 911 EMS agencies. • National Pediatric Readiness Survey; Hospital Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators and Readiness score improvement. • Pediatric Mental Health Resources • Education – PECC Learning Sessions; Autism programs (April), Safe Transport (June), Skills assessments (October). • Pediatric Hospital Readiness Program • Pediatric Equipment Review Working Group • PEDIBYTES Newsletter • Website re-design • EMSC re-branding	

Reports: EMS Operations Committee	Tony Deaven reported: • The committee met on 4/15/22 • Discussed EMD protocol revision as it relates to EMS overutilization. • Interagency Shared Staffing Concept: • CFC 0622-01 "PEHSC asks that the PA Dept. of Health, Bureau of EMS, consider reviewing and clarifying the scenarios in which separate EMS agencies may combine personnel in order to satisfy minimum staffing requirements."	Motion to recommend acceptance of CFC 0622-01. Motion: Anthony Martin Seconded: JR Henry Result: Motion carried
PA EMS Conference Update	Andy Snavelly reported: • "Virtual" FREE conference to be held Sept. 6-9, 2022 with recordings available on-demand through Nov. 30 • Agenda is being finalized, registration is expected to open within the week. • Sponsor support is needed to ensure that the conference can remain free	

Nominating Committee Report	JR Henry reported: Slate of Candidates for the FY 2022-23 Executive Committee J. David Jones, President Representing: Pennsylvania State University Anthony Deaven, Vice President Representing: Lower Allen Township EMS Christopher Chamberlain, RN, Secretary Representing: Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA Ronald Roth, MD, Treasurer Representing: Center for Emergency Medicine of Western Pennsylvania, Inc. Anthony Martin, Member-at-Large Representing: Tower Health Kimberly Holman, RN, Member-at-Large Representing: Good Fellowship Ambulance and EMS Training Institute	
Adjournment		Motion to adjournment the FY 2021-2022 Board of Directors meeting. Motion: Anthony Tucci Second: Anthony Deaven Result: Motion carried
Convene 2022-2023 Board of Directors		President David Jones convened the FY 2022-2023 board of directors
Executive Committee Elections	JR Henry reported: Slate of Candidates for the FY 2022-23 Executive Committee J. David Jones, President Representing: Pennsylvania State University Anthony Deaven, Vice President Representing: Lower Allen Township EMS Christopher Chamberlain, RN, Secretary Representing: Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA Ronald Roth, MD, Treasurer Representing: Center for Emergency Medicine of Western Pennsylvania, Inc. Anthony Martin, Member-at-Large Representing: Tower Health	Motion to accept the report of the nominations committee. Motion: Anthony Tucci Second: Robert Mateff Result: Motion carried

	Kimberly Holman, RN, Member-at-Large Representing: Good Fellowship Ambulance and EMS Training Institute There were no additional nominations for the floor.	
Organizational Reports	Ambulance Association of PA: • EMSOF at \$13.4M in proposed budget • AAP will be holding 2 education sessions, one on Medicaid increase using an assessment, one on collecting and reporting costs of operations • EMS Foundation – events are posted on the website on 9/11 activities • Act 10 Funding – struggling to get some agencies through the application process. PFESI: • Talks with Chairman Boback on readiness funding. • Act 10 Press Event overview • SWAB and town hall meetings were held	
Adjournment	President Jones thanked the organizations leaving the board of directors and welcomed to those organizations joining the board. Next meeting: September 28, 2022, 10 am	Motion to adjourn the FY 2022-23 Board of Directors meeting. Motion: Anthony Tucci Second: Anthony Deaven Result: Carried