



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 Directors Meeting Minutes **Wednesday, June 24, 2026**

25-26 Board Members Present:

Greg Porter	Allegheny County EMS Council	Keith Laws	Main Line Health Systems
Tiffany Rohde-Wyant	Allegheny General Hospital	David Paul Brown	Montgomery County Regional EMS Council
Robert Twaddle	Allegheny General Hospital	Dr. Alvin Wang	National Assoc of EMS Physicians - PA Chapter
Donald DeReamus	Ambulance Association of PA	John Sly	PA Fire & Emergency Services Institute
Heather Harris	Ambulance Association of PA	Dr. Stephanie Costa	Pennsylvania ACEP
Kent Knable	Centre Lifelink EMS	Bob Hotchkiss	Southern Chester County EMS
Matthew Welch	Elverson Honey Brook Area EMS	Matt Collins	Southern Chester County EMS
Robert Carpenter	Emergency Services of Northeastern PA	Mark Trueman	Susquehanna Regional EMS
Chris Chamberlain	Hospital & Healthsystem Assoc. of PA	Tony Bixby	Susquehanna Regional EMS
Dr. Jeff Kuklinski	Lehigh Valley Health Network	Mervin Wertz	Tower Health
Tony Deaven	Lower Allen Twp EMS	Dr. Christian Martin-Gill	UPMC EMS Physicians
Dave Holl	Lower Allen Twp EMS	Garry Vinnacombe	West Grove Fire Dept.
John Goddard	Main Line Health System	Dave Jones	PEHSC Immediate Past President

Council Members Present:

Alexander Kuhn	American Heart Association	William Miller	LTS EMS Council
*Dr. Gerald Wydro	Bucks County EHS Council	Tim Hinchcliff	Montgomery County Ambulance Association
Harry Moore	Chester County EMS Council	Wade Amick	Municipal EMS Authority of Lancaster Co.
John Kloss	Eastern PA EMS Council	David Kirchner	Myerstown First Aid Unit
Dr. Duane Siberski	Eastern Regional EMS Council	*Steve Bailey	Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver Co.
Dr. Michael Rehart	Emergency Health Services Federation	Dr. Francis Feld	Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers Society
Robert Stakem	Emergency Health Services Federation	*Amy Kempinski	Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation
Brian Shaw	EMS West	Edward Lendvay	Philadelphia Regional EMS Council
Tylor Glenn	Forbes Hospital	Joseph Festa	Plum EMS
Chaz Brogan	Good Fellowship Ambulance & Training Ins.	Jordan Anthony	Southern Alleghenies Regional EMS Council

Affiliate Members Present:

William Kline	Cambria Alliance EMS	John Petro	White Oak EMS
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**Elected to 2026-2027 Board of Directors*

DOH Staff Present:

Dr. Dan Bledsoe	Medical Director, PA Bureau of EMS	Madison Clayton	PA Bureau of EMS
Daniel Myers	Director, Legislative Affairs	Tim Reitz	PA Bureau of EMS

PEHSC Staff Present:

Janette Swade	Executive Director	Duane Spencer	EMSC Program Manager
Donald Potter	Sr. EMS Systems Specialist	Alexander Snyder	Administrative Officer
Andrew Snavelly	EMS System Specialist		

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action or Resolution
Call to Order Board of Directors Meeting- FY 25/26		The meeting was called to order by President Dr. Alvin Wang at 1000 hrs.
Approval of Meeting Minutes	The meeting minutes from March 11, 2026, were reviewed.	MOTION: Welch SECOND: Knable RESULT: Motion carried. To accept the March 11, 2026 minutes as drafted.
President's Report	Dr. Alvin Wang reported the following: • LODD Kevin L. Brehm – Dover Area Ambulance Club – York County ○ 1/16/1966 — 4/9/2026 • May 6 Testimony before the Center for Rural Pennsylvania regarding Pennsylvania's Rural Health Transformation Plan. The testimony emphasized the critical role rural EMS agencies and providers play in sustaining access to healthcare across the Commonwealth's underserved communities and highlighted the ongoing struggles facing the rural EMS community. • Letters to SOH – EMSC delays – Agreement received June 18 • Congratulations to Keith McMinn (Penn State Hershey Medical Center) appointment to the National EMS Advisory Council • Thank you for your service to the PEHSC Board of Directors Term Ending 2026 ○ Allegheny General Hospital ○ Cetronia Ambulance Corps ○ Lower Allen Township EMS	

	○ Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services, Inc. ○ Wellspan York Hospital • Welcome to new members to the Board of Directors for Term 27-29 ○ Bucks County Emergency Health Services Council, Inc. ○ Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County ○ PA Trauma Systems Foundation ○ Second Alarmers Association and Rescue Squad of Montgomery County ○ Western Berks Ambulance Association	
Treasurer's Report	Janette Swade on behalf of Dr. Bryan Wexler gave the Treasures Report as of 5/31/2026. A copy of this report is attached to the minutes.	MOTION: Welch SECOND: Laws RESULT: Motion carried. To acknowledge and file the Treasurer's report.
Executive Director's Report	Janette Swade reported the following: • Member Software from MemberZone to Star Chapter – see information folder • PEHSC Financial Update ○ FY 26-27 Draft PEHSC Workplan submitted to DOH ○ 990 Filing and PA Annual Report requirement ○ New Audit Firm • Regional Innovation Project • New Task Force for the development of Agency Self-Assessment Tools • EMS Week activity • LODD document revisions pending Reminder – please review the information items in the shared folder	
PA DOH Report	BEMS State Medical Director Dr. Dan Bledsoe reported the following: • DOH is monitoring several EMS-related bills, including HB 996 (BLS staffing), SB 730 (POLST), EMS direct reimbursement legislation, and treat-no-transport initiatives. • HB 996 remains a top priority and must pass before its sunset deadline; a five-year extension to 2032 is being pursued.	

	• SB 730 passed the Senate and is now in the House. • EMS direct reimbursement bills are unlikely to pass this session, but groundwork is being laid for next year. • State budget negotiations appear more promising than last year, with hopes for completion by mid-summer. • BEMS reported MSOF funding distributions, a 5% PEHSC funding increase, ongoing measles vaccination efforts, and progress toward a new EMS Registry system, with a potential launch by the end of summer. • Agencies are encouraged to participate in legislative advocacy efforts and upcoming EMS roundtables.	
Membership Committee	Membership Application presented by Janette Swade as approved by the committee. • VMSC Emergency Medical Services Non-Profit EMS Agency	MOTION: Welch SECOND: Deaven RESULT: Motion carried.
Medical Advisory Committee Report	The MAC met via Zoom on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 • VTR 0626-02 Recommends the BEMS amend the list of required equipment and supplies to make the current ECG printer requirement optional if this device is capable of displaying, storing and transmitting a diagnostic quality 12-lead ECG. ○ This is an agency medical director option. ○ This recommendation is consistent with VTR# 0326-01 pertaining to 12-lead ECG device options for basic and intermediate life support vehicles ○ Based on manufacturer, removing the printer from the device could reduce the unit's cost by \$3,000 – 4,000 each • Dr Scott Goldstein provided an update on Temple Transport's dexmedetomidine pilot. Approx 30 pts enrolled each month with no reported problems • Possible pilot for use of Keppra in seizure patient experiencing signs of status epilepticus –<i>awaiting proposal from PI.</i> • Consider pilot to expand use of syringe-based glucagon v. auto injectors for EMTs	MOTION: Deaven SECOND: Laws RESULT: Motion carried. To recommend the Department accept VTR# 0626-02 regarding BEMS to amend the list of required equipment and supplies to make the current ECG printer requirement optional if this device is capable of displaying, storing and transmitting a diagnostic quality 12-lead ECG

	<i>–difference in cost does not such support a change and would require additional provider education.</i> • Consider the addition of Famotidine to the allergic reaction protocol as adjunctive therapy • Addition of Metoprolol as an option in the narrow tachycardia protocol <i>–referred to the protocol development workgroup.</i> • Development of a protocol to for continuous bladder irrigation during interfacility transport <i>–referred to the protocol development workgroup.</i>	
2025 Protocol Update Report	Dr. Alvin Wang reported the following: • Section 1 and 2 draft protocols sent to MAC for review and comment. • Workgroup now reviewing Section 3 drafts prior to being sent to MAC – this process will be followed until all 10 sections have been reviewed • DOH to partner with a vendor to develop an application program to display protocols and other important information on phones and tablets.	
Critical Care Transport Taskforce Report	Butch Potter reported the following: • Our condolences to family, friends and colleagues on the passing of Jerry Splitt, Operations Manager, Geisinger LifeFlight • The CCT protocol workgroup is continuing their work to update and enhance protocols. ○ Most of the existing protocols have been reviewed ○ Current discussion regarding online medical direction • Recent approval from Vanderbilt University to use the Red Cap System for data collection and analysis. • Working with data subgroup to set up data point parameters and queries.	
Special Operations Taskforce Report	Dr. Duane Siberski reported the following: • Background work continuing Tactical EMS Agency recommendations • At the request of BEMS, developing a package of documents and checklists to guide the licensure process • TF meeting scheduled for Friday, July 10	

EMS Education Task Force Report	Merv Wertz & Mark Trueman reported the following: • VTR 0626-01 - "Proposed Pennsylvania Standards for EVOC Program Sponsors and Authorized Training Sites" ○ In response to a request from BEMS for guidance on a variety of issues related to current EVOC courses. ○ Provides suggested standards on all aspects of EVOC courses	MOTION: Collins SECOND: Laws RESULT: Motion carried. To recommend the Department accept VTR# 0626-01 regarding the Proposed Pennsylvania Standards for EVOC Program Sponsors and Authorized Training Sites"
EMS for Children Project Report	Duane Spencer Presented for EMS for Children Project • Grant Award ○ Partial funding (33%) Notice of Award released April 9th ○ Full funding Notice of Award released June 17th for FY Apr 25' – Mar 26' • Prepared for Pediatrics – ED program outline received DOH approval March 11, 2026 • Prepared for Pediatrics – EMS program ○ Required to continue Pediatric Recognition after July 1, 2026 ○ 26 applications in progress as of 5/26/26 ○ 1 agency recognized • Supplemental program projects seeking stakeholder support ○ Family Advisory Network Taskforce – first meeting June 22nd ○ Education subcommittee – in development ○ Emergency Guidelines for Schools update – July first meeting • Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project – emspedsready.org ○ EMS agencies can complete the Open Assessment at any time and receive a current Gap Analysis Report	

EMS Conference Report	Andy Snavelly, Conference Coordinator, reported the following: • Schedule nearing completion • Website build ongoing • Expected registration opening in early July • Sponsors needed!	
Other Business	Statewide Awards 2026 • Dr. George Moerkirk Memorial Contribution to EMS Award ○ Darrell Fisher - New Holland EMS • Amanda Wertz Memorial EMS for Children Award ○ Theresa Walls, MD - Children's Hospital of Philadelphia • EMS Physician of the Year ○ Chris Berry, MD - Geisinger Health • David Lindstrom EMS Innovation Award ○ Gerald Wydro, MD – PennDel-Middletown Emergency Squad & Bucks County EHS Council • EMS Educator of the Year Award ○ Kimmin Dara Kalyaniwala - Harrisburg Area Community College • EMS Clinician of the Year ○ Tarin Dawson - North Versailles EMS • EMS Agency of the Year – Large Agency Division ○ McCandless-Franklin Park Ambulance Authority • EMS Agency of the Year – Small Agency Division ○ City of Meadville Fire Department	
Nominating Committee Report	Tony Deaven reported: • Thanks to the committee members • One virtual meeting AND several group emails • Confirmation of Eligibility considered geographic balance, representation and participation • Confirmation that nominees agreed to serve if elected or re-elected	

Adjournment Board of Directors Meeting		MOTION: Welch SECOND: Wertz RESULT Motion carried To adjourn the June 24, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting.
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26-27 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action or Resolution
Call to Order Board Meeting FY 26-27		The meeting was called to order by President Dr. Alvin Wang.
Executive Committee Election	• Alvin Wang, DO – President National Association of EMS Physicians – PA Chapter • Gregory Porter - Vice President Allegheny Co. EMS Council • Bryan Wexler, MD – Treasurer PA Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians • Keith Laws – Secretary Riddle Hospital – Main Line Health System • Christopher Chamberlin, RN – Member at Large Hospital and Healthsystem Association of PA • Gerald Wydro, MD – Member at Large Bucks County EHS Council • J. David Jones, Immediate Past President the Immediate Past President is not an elected position, however per the bylaws is a member of the Executive Committee	MOTION: Wertz SECOND: Welch RESULT Motion carried To accept the nomination slate as is with no changes
Organization Reports	• PA Trauma Systems Foundation ○ PTSF reported a record number of trauma center accreditation site visits in 2026, with deliberation meetings remaining in July, September, and December. Disaster preparedness continues as a major strategic initiative, with stakeholder engagement beginning August 13. PTSF recently launched the public-facing Trauma by the Numbers data dashboard and introduced a new Trauma Clinical Excellence Award, with nominations open through	

	August 1. The annual PTSF Trauma Symposium will be held October 22–23 in Harrisburg and offers continuing education opportunities for EMS and hospital professionals. • PA Fire and Emergency Services Inst. ○ The Institute continues to navigate organizational changes while operating without a full-time Executive Director and remains grateful for the support of Vice President Deven and EMS partners. Over the past few months, a major focus has been expanding statewide awareness through a new marketing initiative. Working with Penn State student volunteers pursuing marketing degrees, the Institute has significantly increased its social media presence, achieving a 244% increase in views and a 238% increase in engagement in the last 30 days. The Institute remains committed to promoting fire and EMS priorities across Pennsylvania and serving as a strong partner to the EMS community. • Ambulance Association of PA ○ Skilled nursing facility reimbursement remains a significant EMS issue. Data from 25 EMS agencies identified approximately \$3.2 million in unpaid claims, and additional information is being collected to support ongoing advocacy efforts. EMS stakeholders have met repeatedly with the Department of Human Services, which has provided guidance on SNF occupancy thresholds and billing responsibility. The collected	
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	data will be used to demonstrate the need for more direct and reliable EMS reimbursement. - American Heart Association - Fifty-five EMS agencies were recognized through Mission: Lifeline, with 2027 recognition based on 2026 data. Efforts continue to improve real-time data reporting, integrate quality measures into ePCR systems, and support agency quality improvement initiatives. Additional updates included an EMS World reception, a T-Mobile-funded technology assessment project in the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia regions, and encouraging national data showing improved rates of performing 12-lead ECGs within 10 minutes for suspected heart attack patients. Ongoing education and quality improvement programs remain a key focus to improve patient outcomes and strengthen EMS data nationwide.	
For the Good of the Order	- St Lukes Survey sent to members - Impact of Mental Health, Wellness, and Job Satisfaction in EMS	
Adjournment Board of Directors Meeting	2026-2027 Board of Directors dates to be Announced.	MOTION: Wydro SECOND: Wertz RESULT Motion carried To adjourn the June 24, 2026, Board Meeting.

Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council
Account Balances FY 25-26

		CASH BALANCE AS OF:						
ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	7/31/2025	8/31/2025	9/30/2025	10/31/2025	11/30/2025	12/31/2025	
Contract Fund	<i>2025-2026 Contract Amount \$424,597.00 / EMSC \$186,284.00</i>	157,996.03	121,018.37	163,162.39	116,542.36	53,734.50	31,362.28	
Payroll Account	Transfer Account	29,546.61	25,091.94	28,666.49	24,211.82	5,879.33	50,079.87	
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA	4,803.31	4,803.35	4,803.39	5,303.43	5,303.47	5,303.52	
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income	29,702.99	40,503.31	61,814.49	61,259.84	61,004.34	37,585.69	
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance	393,006.94	403,608.38	411,486.85	414,676.62	418,511.81	420,684.84	
ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1/31/2026	2/29/2026	3/31/2026	4/30/2026	5/31/2026	6/30/2026	
Contract Fund	<i>2025-2026 Contract Amount \$424,597.00 / EMSC \$186,284.00</i>	153,604.60	134,252.85	114,395.02	72,467.06	132,004.30		
Payroll Account	Transfer Account	18,846.34	17,896.81	25,506.43	24,535.12	23,594.38		
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA	5,303.57	4,788.61	4,788.65	4,788.69	4,788.73		
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income	2,720.92	2,896.66	43,543.53	3,299.46	3,299.49		
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance	431,678.45	436,830.95	418,908.74	443,628.16	457,176.48		

