



PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL
Your Voice In EMS

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2024

Board Members Present:

Mary Kovac	Allegheny General Hospital	Juliet Altenberg	PA Trauma Systems Foundation
Robert Twaddle	Allegheny Health Network	Dr Bryan Wexler	PACEP
Don DeReamus	Amb Assoc of PA	Keith McMinn	Penn State LifeLion EMS
Heather Harris	Amb Assoc of PA	Josh Fremberg	Penn State University EMS
Tim Hinchcliff	Burholme Amb Corp	Jerry Ozog	PFESI
Kent Knable	Centre LifeLink EMS	Mark Giangiulio	Riddle EMS
Bob Mateff	Cetronia Ambulance Corp	Keith Laws	Riddle EMS
Harry Moore	Chester Co Dept of Emerg Svcs	Gary Watters	Southern Alleghenies EMS Council
Mehmet Barzev	Cirity of Allentown EMS	Jordan Anthony	Southern Alleghenies EMS Council
Matt Brett	City of Allentown EMS	J.R. Henry	Southwest EMS Alliance
Barry Albertson	Community LifeTeam	Mark Trueman	Susquehanna Regional EMS
John Brindle	Hbg Area Community College	Justin Eberly	VFIS
Chris Chamberline	Hosp. and Health Care Assoc of PA	Dr Steven Schirk	Wellspan York Hosptial
Anthony Deaven	Lower Allen EMS	Gary Vinnacombe	West Grove Fire Company
Dave Brown	Montgomery Co Dept of Public Safety	Anthony Tucci	Western Berks Ambulance

Council Members Present:

Bill Wells	Brandywine Technical High School	Christopher Dell	McCandlis Franklin Park Ambulance
Ian Liberatore	Bucks County EMS Council	Dr Alvin Wang	NAEMSP - PA
Patrick Oconnell	Delaware Co EMS Council	Bob Timko	National Vol Fire Council
John Kloss	Eastern PA EMS Council	Steve Bailey	Non Profit Amb Service of Beaver County
Dr Michael Reihart	EHSF	Frances Fled	PA Athletic Trainers Assoc
David Kirchner	ELCO EMS Training	Norman Prycl	PA Professional Firfighters Assoc
Stephen Zimmerman	ELCO EMS Training	Brent Smith	Pleasant Gap Fire Co
Matthew Welch	Elverson Honeybrook EMS	Joe Festa	Plum Emergency Medical Services
Thomas McElree	EMS West	Eric Valentine	Plum Emergency Medical Services
Brian Shaw	EMS West	Greg Porter	Ross Westview EMS
Gene Lesiresla	EMSNP EMS Council	Matthew Collins	Southern Chester County EMS
Bob Carpenter	EMSPA EMS Council	Bob Hotchkiss	Southern Chester County EMS
Kay Ella Bleacher	ENA-PA	Tony Bixby	Susquehanna Regional EMS
Bryan Davis	JET Response EMS	Jim Slotterback	Susquehanna Regional EMS
Dr Jeff Kuklinski	Lehigh Valley Health Network	Tim Weaver	Susquehanna Regional EMS
Mervin Wertz	Lower Alsace EMS	Myron Rickens	UPMC
Willian Miller	LTS EMS Council	Dr Ron Roth	UPMC

Tammy Whiteman Uwchlan Ambulance

DOH Staff Present:

Anthony Martin, Director

Dr. Dan Bledsoe, Commonwealth EMS Medical Director

PEHSC Staff Present:

Janette Swade, Director

Butch Potter, Sr EMS Systems Specialist

Andy Snavelly, EMS Systems Specialist

Duane Spencer, EMSC Project Manager

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION/RESOLUTION
Call to Order		The meeting was called to order by President Dave Jones at 1007 hours
Approval of Meeting Minutes	The members reviewed the minutes of March 20, 2024.	MOTION: Kent Knable SECOND: Tony Deaven To approve the meeting minutes as drafted. RESULT: Motion carried.
President's Report	President David Jones reported the following: 1. Conversations with Director Martin to develop, along with the regional councils, 3-5 EMS systems goals in order to move the system forward. 2. EMS Week resolutions are present for review. 3. Thanks to organizations that are leaving the board due to term limits. 4. Several representatives are retiring including President Jones and Dr. Roth. JR Henry will continue to represent Southwest Alliance but has retired from Valley Ambulance Authority.	
Treasurer's Report	Treasurer Dr. Ron Roth presented the attached report:	MOTION: Kent Knable SECOND: Josh Fremberg

		To accept the treasurer's report as presented. Result: Motion carried.
Executive Director's Report	Executive Director Janette Swade reported the following: 1. Conflict of interest statements are due for the new fiscal year. 2. Please keep us up to date on changes to your organization's representative. 3. We have our new contract for July 1st – same dollars as last year and we were unable to move money within budget categories. 4. We also have received the new EMSC project contract from HRSA. 5. Website functionality is a problem – working on a solution with our IT vendor to update. 6. The EMS awards come out of our budget without receiving additional dollars to offset the expense. 7. The EMSOF fund is slowly increasing - now about \$26 million. 8. We have been asked by the Dept of Ag to rejoin the farm safety committee. 9. Participating in a DOH group looking at ED overcrowding within an EMS group. 10. Planning a CISM team leader meeting in the near future. 11. Legislation: a. Increase SOP for athletic trainers. Francis Feld provided a brief explanation of the legislation. b. EMS grant bill – possibly with an additional \$30 million to pool. c. POLST – some movement, but nothing lately due to budget negotiations. d. HAP participated in a discussion about the EMS Commissioner/Commission concept. 12. PACEP – document from healthcare coalition regarding ED divert and	MOTION: Gary Watters SECOND: Keith McMinn To support the house and senate versions of this legislation to increase AT-C Scope of Practice . RESULT: Motion carried.

	bypass concept. Regional directors and PEHSC will be reviewing the document and providing comment. 13. Draft OHSA standard – emergency response rule. Would include EMS providers. A wide variety for proposed rules and requirements. Written as a one-size-fits all format and that will cause problems for everyone. Please review the draft and provide comment. NAEMSO, NAEMT, et al are also preparing comments as well.	
Department of Health Report	BEMS Director Anthony Martin reported the following: 1. At NAEMSO meeting in Pgh, there was a excellent presentation on the history of Freedom House Ambulance. Seeking the possibility of a congressional medal of freedom for Freedom House. 2. Compliments to PEHSC for their work delivering this year's awards. 3. Practical exam changes – converting to student minimum competencies vs. traditional practical exam. 4. Version control of documents coming from the BEMS needs to be reviewed to ensure the process is accurate and timely. 5. Have asked PEHSC to collaborate with regional councils on a set of 3-5 goals for the system. 6. Protocol planning workgroup is doing excellent work.	

Medical Advisory Committee Report	Drs. Reihart and Wang reported the following: VTR # 0624-01: Development and Use of Optional Agency-Level Treatment Protocols by Licensed Specialty EMS Agencies: A joint recommendation by the PEHSC Critical Care Transport and Special Operations Task Forces and Medical Advisory Committee. <u>The Department should authorize the development and use of OPTIONAL, department approved, agency-level treatment protocols, for use by licensed critical care transport ambulance services and special operations EMS agencies.</u> • Based on independent legal analysis, BEMS has the authority to permit optional development of agency-level protocols. • Scope would be limited to licensed critical care ambulance and special operations EMS agencies. • Agency medical director would have the option to develop. • Because of their unique nature of their respective missions, protocols need to be more tailored vs. one-size fits all. • Agency-level protocols will be subject to review and approval by BEMS, consistent with current air-ambulance protocol requirement. • Does not preclude continued development of statewide protocols in these specialty practice areas	MOTION: Tony Tucci SECOND: Dr Bryan Wexler To accept VTR 0624-01 on agency level protocols. RESULT: Motion carried
		MOTION: Kent Knable SECOND: Gary Watters To accept VTR 0624-02 on changes to IO needle requirements on required equipment list. RESULT: Motion carried.

	VTR# 0624-02 <u>The Department should amend the current required equipment and supply list to list needle specifications capable of both adult and pediatrics (1-each).</u> Currently the list requirements are needles with a range of gauge size. This reference is not consistent with current IO device drivers. These devices use a consistent gauge needle of varying length based on patient size. In other MAC business: 1. An update on the developing statewide RSI project. 2. 2025 Statewide Treatment Protocol development process 3. Three.(9).research.and.pilot. projects a. Optimizing the Prehospital Use of Stroke Systems of Care-Reacting to Changing Paradigms-Implementation (OPUS-i) – Temple University, et al b. c. Hepatitis A Vaccinations – City of Pittsburgh EMS d. MIH Prehospital Buprenorphine Administration – Montco Dept of Public Safety	
2025 Protocol Development Workgroup	Dr. Wang reported the following: Planning group recently held its first meeting, began discussions on: ➤ Structure – Protocol vs. Guideline? ➤ Format – Text or Algorithm driven? ➤ Content – Current mix of clinical/non-clinical or clinical only? ➤ Delivery Platform – PA EMS Resource App development? • Group will meet monthly through summer • Content development to begin fall of 2024 and finish fall of 2025 to facilitate 2026 rollout.	

Critical Care Transport Task Force Report	Drs. Trager and Poremba reported the following: • Fully supports the option of ground CCT agencies to develop and utilize department approved treatment protocols; • No changes or additions for 2023 update cycle, looking towards 2025 statewide protocol development using topics common to air-medical protocols. • Requests the BEMS publish previously recommended updates to the CCT scope of practice and approved medication lists.	
RSI Task Force Report	Butch Potter reported on behalf of Dr. Frailey: Finalizing participation requirements related to: ➤ Agency ➤ Medical Director ➤ Providers ➤ QA • Attestation statement for the agency medical director • Participant application • Developing a process for electronic collection of case data	
Special Operations Task Force Report	Dr. Siberski reported the following: • Met on April 12, 2024 • Fully supports VTR 0624-01 regarding development and use of department approved agency-level protocols. • Special Operations Emergency Medical Services – Wilderness EMS Service • Following format similar to Critical Care and Tactical EMS • Establish Scope of Practice and licensure recommendations	

EMS Education Task Force	Mervin Wertz reported the following: • Worked with BEMS leadership on changes to the practical skills for the AEMT and paramedic examination process consistent with changes at the NREMT and similar future changes for EMR and EMT • Completed a survey of BLS education institutes on a range of topics for a future best-practices guidance document • Currently collaborating with BEMS on EMS instructor enrichment and a new instructor development program. • Discussed changes in process for continuing education programs, for live, on-demand and hybrid formats.	
EMS for Children Project Report	Duane Spencer reported the following: The EMSC Advisory Committee met via Zoom Tuesday May 28, 2024 • 2024 Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project assessment • 2023-2027 State Partnership Grant • Partial Notice of Award for GY 2 received ~(44%), remainder pending • Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program - ED (PRRP-ED) • Pilot program began in May, program development ongoing • Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program - ED (PRRP-EMS) • (current PVRP) review and revision continuing • Statewide EMSC activity presentation @ NASEMSO - Pittsburgh	

PA EMS Awards Update	Duane Spencer reported the following: <u>BLS Practitioner of the Year</u> Rodger Stevenson – Newfoundland Area EMS <u>ALS Practitioner of the Year</u> John Goddard – Riddle EMS <u>Educator of the Year</u> Matt Small – Reading School of Health Sciences <u>EMS Communications Award</u> Bucks County Dept of Emergency Communications <u>Amanda E. Wertz Memorial EMS For Children Award</u> Sarah Alander MD – Geisinger Health <u>David J. Lindstrom EMS Innovation Award</u> Carli Bechtold, PHRN, MSN – Lancaster EMS <u>Dr. George Moerkirk Memorial Outstanding Contribution To EMS Award</u> Pike County Commissioners <u>EMS Agency of the Year Small Volume</u> Mount Union Fire Department – Huntingdon Co. <u>EMS Agency of the Year Large Volume</u> Susquehanna Regional EMS – Lycoming County	
PA EMS Conference Update	Andy Snavelly reported the following: The 47th Annual PA EMS Conference will be held on September 3-6, 2024. The conference will again be held virtually with both live and on-demand options. Registration is expected to open on July 1, 2024. More information is available at www.paemsconference.org	
Nominating Committee Report	The following organizations/ reps are nominated for the FY24-25 PEHSC Executive Committee: President - Dr. Alvin Wang –NAEMSP-PA	Moton By: Dave Brown Seconded by: Jerry Ozog Motion: to accept the nominating committee report.

	Vice President - Anthony Deaven -Lower Allen Twp EMS Secretary- Keith Laws – Riddle Hospital –Mainline Health Treasurer – Dr. Bryan Wexler – PA ACEP Member At Large – Justin Eberly – VFIS Member At Large- Greg Porter- Southwest Ambulance Alliance	Result: Motion carried.
Adjourn FY 23-24 Board of Directors Meeting		MOTION: Jerry Ozog SECOND: Dave Brown Meeting adjourned at 1215 hours.

Convene FY 24-25 Board of Directors Meeting		Meeting called to order by President Dave Jones at 1215 hours.
FY 24-25 Executive Committee Election	As previously reported, the following organizations/ reps are nominated for the FY 24-25 Executive Committee. Are there any nominations from the floor? None.	MOTION: Kay Bleacher SECOND: Dr. Steve Schirk To accept the slate of nominees for the FY 24-25 Executive Committee as presented. RESULT: Motion carried.
Organizational Report:	PFESI: 1. HB 1099 on the grant bill – supplement grant program of \$30M 2. AAP, PFESI, DOH and OSFC presented at the County Commissioner’s Association. AAP: 1. Fire and EMS Grant [3] bills with sunset extensions and one version has an additional \$30M, but also expands eligibility. 2. Bill to remove caps on the rate of taxation for emergency services tax. 3. Rep. Causer working on a bill for payment for treatment/no transport. 4. Act 84 issue – if you have received a letter about unfair trade practices. The AG’s office is not correct in it’s interpretation.	

	5. Please notify AAP if you have received one of these letters. 6. Working on the concept of a statewide fee schedule. Other states have done this an set the fee at 325% of the medicare rate. PTSF: 1. Juliet is retiring Jan 1, 2025 2. Accreditation continues to grow at a steady rate. 3. Trauma conference in October.	
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Adjourn FY 24-25 Board of Directors Meeting		MOTION: Dave Brown SECOND: Dr Steve Schirk To adjourn the 24-24 Board of Directors meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1231 hours.
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ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1/31/2024	2/29/2024	3/31/2024	4/30/2024	5/31/2024
Contract Fund	2023-2024 Contract Amount \$353,940.0/EMSC 186,254.00 to 3/24	39,530.82	125,444.62	130,070.72	161,290.60	133,070.97
Payroll Account	Transfer Account	26,753.29	15,626.94	12,136.14	12,420.45	12,704.80
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA	5,217.59	5,217.59	5,217.67	5,217.71	5,102.75
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income	85,789.48	61,575.43	61,406.81	61,395.56	63,884.34
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance	327,899.15	336,778.99	346,653.00	336,752.00	pending