



PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL

Your Voice In EMS

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Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2023

Board Members Present:

Robert Twaddle	AlleghenyGeneral Hospital	Juliet Altenburg	PA Trauma Systems Foundation
Don DeReamus	Ambulance Association of PA	Dr Bryan Wexler	PACEP
Tim Hinchcliff	Burholme Ambulance Corp	Keith McMinn	Penn State Health EMS-Hershey
Kent Knable	Centre Lifelink EMS	David Jones	Penn State University
Bob Mateff	Cetronia Ambulance Corp	Keith Laws	Riddle Hospital
Harry Moore	Chester Co EMS Council	Greg Porter	Southwest Ambulance Alliance
Larry Smythe	Chester Co EMS Council	Anthony Martin	Tower Direct EMS
Mehmet Barzev	City of Allentown EMS	Myron Rickens	UPMC
Barry Albertson	Community LifeTeam EMS	Dr Ron Roth	UPMC
John Brindle	Hbg Area Community College	J.R. Henry	Valley Ambulance Authority
Chris Chamberlain	Hosp/Healthcare Assoc of PA	Justin Eberly	VFIS
Tony Deaven	Lower Allen EMS	Dr Tom Yeich	Wellspan York Hospital
David Holl	Lower Allen EMS	Anthony Tucci	Western Berks Ambulance
David Brown	Montgomery Co. EMS Council		

Council Members Present:

Krista Brands	American Trauma Society-PA	Dr Jeffrey Kuklinski	Lehigh Valley Health Network
Michele Rymdeika	Bucks Co EMS Council	Rich Kelley	Mt. Nittany Medical Center
Nathan Harig	Cumberland Goodwill EMS	Dave Kirchner	Myerstown First Aid Squad
Patrick O'Connell	Delaware Co EMS Council	Steve Bailey	Non-Profit EMS of Beaver County
Annie Phillips	Delaware Co EMS Council	Jerome Ozog	PA Fire and Emerg. Svcs. Institute
John Kloss	Eastern PA EMS Council	Ed Lendvay	Philadelphia EMS Council
Matthew Welch	Elverson Honeybrook EMS	Jim Slotterback	Susquehanna EMS
Joe Stevens	First Capital EMS	Bill Wells	Tech College High Sch-Brandywine
Andrew Rennie	Lancaster General Hospital	Christopher Ritter	Temple University Hospital

PA Department of Health:

Sunny Podolak, Acting Director, BEMS

PA Emergency Health Services Council:

Janette Swade, Director
Butch Potter

Andy Snavely
Duane Spencer

Guests/Liaisons:

Heather Sharar
Dr Alvin Wang

Ambulance Association of PA
Montgomery Co. EMS Council

Merv Wertz

Tower Direct EMS

Topic	Discussion	Action/Resolution
Call to Order		The meeting was called to order by President Dave Jones at 1000 hours.
Approval of Meeting Minutes	The minutes of June 18, 2023 were reviewed.	MOTION: BARRY ALBERTSON SECOND: GREG PORTER TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES AS DRAFTED RESULT: MOTION CARRIED
President's Report	President Dave Jones reported the following: • The annual PEHSC report has been released and is on the website. For the first time, we are tracking volunteer hours. • Recommendations from last meeting; abandonment language in the draft protocols removed; position statement on continued use of the NREMT testing process released. • Along with the AAP, we have agreed to share the expenses for legal review of draft BLS Protocol 201. • John Campos from Northeast EMS Council is retiring after 40+ years of service – congratulations! Bob Carpenter will be the acting director. • Bob Cooney, a longtime member of PA's EMS system and former BEMS Program Manager passed away. • Mary Bailey, a longtime member of the council's nursing advisory committee passed away. • John Englert a longtime member of PA's EMS system and former BEMS Program Manager passed away.	

Treasurer's Report	Dr. Ron Roth reported the following: [See attached report]	MOTION: J.R. HENRY SECOND: DAVID BROWN TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT AS PRESENTED. RESULT: MOTION CARRIED
Executive Director's Report	Executive Director Janette Swade reported the following: • The state budget has passed, but there is a glitch with the passing of the fiscal code, which could cause a slowdown in funding. BEMS is working to get our invoices paid for July-Sept. We have not yet needed to access our line of credit. • The council's FY Audit for 21-22 has been accepted by the Department. The audit for FY 22-23 is in progress. • We are still waiting on a few conflict of interest forms from the FY 23-24 BOD. • Dementia Friendly Pennsylvania has asked PEHSC to be a member.	
Department of Health Report	Acting BEMS Director Sunny Podolak reported the following: • BEMS Director position continues to be vacant. Search and interviews are being conducted. • Staff Positions • Admin. Officer – Open • Education Mgr – Tim Reitz (acting) • EPS Leadership – starts 10/2/23 • EPS Recruitment – starts 10/2/23 • EPS Compliance – starts 10/2/23 • Funding - First three months of payments from the EMSOF are currently being processed for payment. In response to the Auditor General audit of the EMSOF, a new invoicing workbook will be introduced to assist with improving the administration and monitoring of these funds. Meetings are being scheduled with recipients of EMSOF. • Updated protocols and related training are being finalized and will be released very soon. • PEHSC Recommendations - All review/approvals of pilots are on hold	

	while the process is being reviewed by legal.	
Medical Advisory Committee Report	Drs. Reihart and Wang reported the following: The MAC met on August 16th : • The meeting was dedicated to completing the review of the 2023 statewide protocol update. • Final draft does NOT contain any references to patient abandonment. • The MAC's recommendations are now with the Bureau of EMS for final processing and development of the online provider education modules. • We thank Dr. Bledsoe for his support and active participation in the many discussions which led to the final work product. • The next scheduled meeting of the MAC will be on Wednesday, November 8th.	
Critical Care Transport Task Force Report	Dr. Greg Frailey reported the following: The CCT protocol workgroup met on August 29th: • The group is continuing their work to review the current CCT protocols and explore ways to better utilize crew resources. • Members are now engaged in re-drafting the CCT scope of practice and medication list based on stratifying patients as "stable" or "unstable." • To address the concern of no CCT resources being available in an acceptable timeframe, just-in-time training for ALS paramedics, as a last resort, is being further developed. • The workgroup will meet on October 5th , with a full task force meeting to follow later in the month.	

EMS Education Task Force	• Mervin Wertz reported the following: • The task force met on September 14th. • The focus of this meeting was developing strategies to strengthen our BLS Educational Institutes. • Strengthening the quality and consistency of the BLS education process will have a positive impact on raising first-time NREMT pass rates and consumer satisfaction. • A data request to the BEMS is being developed to help ensure our recommendations are fact-based. • A small workgroup is being developed to explore the feasibility of developing a best-practices resource document to assist BLS EI's in delivering high quality education.	
EMSC Committee Report	Duane Spencer reported the following: The EMSC Committee met on August 22nd: • Facility Readiness and Recognition Program Steering Committee and program development currently in progress with pilot facility engagement planned Q1 2024 • Pediatric Voluntary Recognition Program review of national recommendations and consideration of revising the current program planned to begin Q1 2024 • Family Advisory Network expansion Q4 2023 • Reviewed the new Performance Measures • May 2024 Comprehensive National EMS for Children survey • Attendance at the EMSC All-Grantee meeting in Austin Tx • National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) annual meeting is scheduled for May 12 to 16, 2024 in Pittsburgh	

Membership Committee Report	The committee presented and recommended two organizations for council membership: 1. UPMC EMS Physicians 2. JET Response Ambulance	MOTION: GREG PORTER SECOND: CHRIS CHAMBERLAIN TO ACCEPT UPMC EMS PHYSICIANS FOR COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP RESULT: CARRIED ----- MOTION: GREG PORTER SECOND: CHRIS CHAMBERLAIN TO ACCEPT JET RESPONSE FOR COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP RESULT: CARRIED
Pa EMS Conference Update	Andy Snavelly reported the following: • 2306 current registrants and growing daily • 1299 Participants (56%) • 25 education sessions • Live streams averaged 300 attendees per session • Most popular – 893 views • High degree of consumer satisfaction • All sessions recorded and available to view for credit until the end of November	
Organizational Reports	AAP: (Don DeReamus and Heather Sharar) • Special election in the House due to resignation – now democratic control • HB1300 – Fiscal Code – contains increase in MA mileage by eliminating 20 mile exclusion. • Stakeholder visits. • Memorial bike ride • Stars of Life dinner • EMS memorial ceremony at capitol • Honored Nora Helfrick, Tri Community South (ret.) with the the Sugar Fine Leadership Award PFESI: (Jerry Ozog) • Nothing to report until the legislature comes back into session • Upcoming meeting with other fire service organizations	

	• Thanks for AAP for the EMS Memorial and PEHSC for the PA EMS Conference • Wiedner EMS Law Conference Nov 17, 2023 PTSF: (Juliet Altenburg) • Upcoming board meeting on Sept 29th • Upcoming statewide conference Oct 19-20. Trauma lecture will be on military use of whole blood – also on the civilian use – PTSF surveying on civilian use of blood product. • Juliet shared a personal story on her husband's recent illness and EMS interaction. HAP: (Chris Chamberlin) • Upcoming emergency management conference (date?)	
Other Business	None	
Adjournment	The next scheduled meeting of the board of directors is Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 1000 hours.	MOTION: CHRIS CHAMBERLAIN SECOND: TONY DEAVEN TO ADJOURN THE SEPTEMBER 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING RESULT: MOTION CARRIED