



**ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD**

**Minutes of the St. Lawrence County EMS Advisory Board
March 22nd, 2016**

Meeting was called to order at 1902 with Richard McDougall Chairing until Chairperson Carol Muench arrived. Roll call taken and duly recorded.

Members present: Ann Smith, Phyllis McDougall, Richard McDougall, Carol Muench, Ken Gardner, Christopher Adams, Kevin Wells, Julianne Sciorra, Craig Ballard, James Barr, Mark Deavers, Joyce Dalton,

Members excused: Ron Hance, Brenton LaGrow, Don Thompson, Storm Cilley, Tammy Sykes

Members absent: Dr. Greg Healey, Wayne Love, Michael Abrunzo, David Sherman,

Guests: - Michael LeCuyer- St. Lawrence County Office of Emergency Services
Steve Anderson- Air Methods LNNY

Correspondence:

Received correspondence from Julianne Sciorra regarding question about the transport of blood by EMS, discussion deferred until later in meeting

Letter from provider seeking endorsement for REMSCO and REMAC deferred to REMSCO/REMAC report on agenda

Minutes from January-

Motion to approve January Minutes by Kevin Wells, seconded by Phyllis McDougall
Motion carried

Office of Emergency Services –

Mr. LeCuyer presented the Office of Emergency Services Report for month of February

	February	YTD ending February 2016
Fire	382	711
EMS	1419	2916
Local Police	130	311
NYS Police	244	474
Informational Calls	941?	1075?
Sheriff	700	1449

Additional stats provided as to who took the calls

Chair Carol Muench arrived and took over meeting as Chair after
Round Table Introductions done for the benefit of guests

NCEMS Program Agency and REMSCO/REMAC report together

Report attached, highlights discussed

Correspondence from Bryan Goyette, EMS Provider with Potsdam Rescue, to be endorsed for the REMAC/REMSCO. Open positions were discussed and it was noted that the only opening was an education representative previously held by Bill Mason (SUNY Canton). Arthur Garno, who is currently overseeing the EMT program at SUNY Canton has expressed interest in joining the REMSCO.

Motion made by Craig Ballard to table endorsement of Bryan Goyette until Ann Smith has an opportunity to discuss potential membership on REMSCO with Art Garno, SUNY Canton, seconded by Jim Barr, motion carried.

The following agencies were acknowledged and commended for Zero scratches

Cranberry Lake
Governor Rescue
Ogdensburg
Parishville

Life Net/Air Methods – Steve Anderson provided stats from Air Methods (attached)

Discussion on the ability for plane to fly in more adverse weather than the helicopter and that Air Methods continues to work on identify the best resource to send. There are weather situations that the fixed wing can't fly, but they are less than the helicopter.

Teamwork and communications will help ensure that the correct resource is asked for and sent.

Question asked regarding the ability to staff pilots, currently all pilot positions are full, although one pilot will be leaving, they have 4 applications for the position. The bigger challenge is clinical staff due to the time it takes to train and orient them (2 to 3 months after hire date before they are actually working at base, then orientation continues locally).

Discussion on upcoming construction on airfield in Potsdam. The fixed wing will be temporarily relocated for approximately 90 days to the Massena Airport. Clinical decisions will need to be made as to whether the patient goes to the hospital or directly to aircraft in Massena. Helicopter can still land at the airport. The construction starts on May 9th, relocation will occur sometime between the 1st of the month and the construction start date. Communications will be sent out through the Program Agency and Public Safety when the aircraft relocates.

Canton Potsdam Hospital is working directly with them to ensure transfers can continue smoothly.

Upcoming Trainings- Covered in the Program Agency Report, Reminder Isolation quarantine for rural communities on April 15th. Watch email for some additional trainings up and coming in Syracuse, Mark Deavers is doing a BLS training day March 26th at Gouverneur rescue all are welcome, please RSVP Mr. Deavers.

Old Business – Hospital letter were sent, although Ann forgot to include the biodata sheet and forgot to tell Tammy LaBrake her name was used as an RSVP on it, Mike LeCuyer volunteered to let her know.

Leadership meetings continue, last one held in February- Scratch rates provided, good attendance, many requests for training. Scratch rates will eventually be mailed to agencies, if no participation

from agencies the scratch rates will be sent to their municipalities. The next leadership meeting is the 4th Tuesday in April.

Carol Muench spoke with Dr. Healy and he desires to resign from the committee as he is unable to contribute to them. We will need a physician; Carol would like to send a letter out to the hospitals to see if any physicians step forward.

Joyce Dalton received her letter of endorsement from the St. Lawrence County Legislature for membership on the board. Discussion on positions, why are they not 3 years, it was explained that new members go into the remaining term of the position that they fill.

New Business

Ambulance transport of patient receiving Blood, Julie Sciorra reviewed Draft forms from NYS DOH policy statement and had a few questions and discussion ensued over the process. The ambulance service must be the ones that draw up the forms. The process is very complicated, agencies have to apply and be approved by the NYS DOH. This is a cumbersome process for the agencies, must have a training program done by specific hospital staff, each EMS agency has to have a separate policy with each hospital they transport from, ambulance members need to become part of the hospitals transfusion process just to name a few of the requirements. It is very brutal and time consuming to complete. Julie Sciorra asked how to proceed, Ken Gardner stated that the agencies had to decide if they wanted to even do this at Ogdensburg Rescue. Hospitals and agencies who are going to potentially do this need to meet and work through the process. Currently Canton Potsdam Hospital is working on this and Gouverneur Hospital and Rescue.

Canton Potsdam Hospital will be sending a letter out regarding their provisional trauma level and the 2011 trauma triage guidelines. Discussed that they should be receiving all trauma patients that meet trauma center criteria. This is endorsed at the state level through the trauma committee. They would like to engage and educate EMS on the process.

Claxton Hepburn is working diligently on having 24/7 neurology available for stroke patients via telemedicine. Next EMS meeting at Claxton Hepburn this will be discussed, potentially this will be held the second week of April.

Trouble getting Narcotic orders discussed, recommendation that this be reviewed through the QA/QI process with service/hospital medical directors involved.

Piercefield has disbanded their CFR unit

Election of Officers

Chair – Jim Barr, Mark Deavers, Carol Muench- Mark Deavers indicated that he is willing to drop as long as others are interested. Discussion ensued as there has never been more than one candidate for a position.

Nominations asked from the floor 3 times, no additional from the floor- Carol Muench and Jim Barr are running for chair, Ballots handed out.

Carol Muench was voted in as Chair by the majority 9/3

Vice Chair- Mark Deavers

Nominations asked for the floor 3 times, Ken Gardner declined nomination from floor, no other nominations from floor.

Secretary cast 1 vote for Mark Deavers for Vice Chair, all approved.

Secretary

Nominations asked for the floor 3 times, no additional from the floor
Chair cast 1 vote for Ann Smith for Secretary, all approved.

Next meeting is May 24th, please put on Calendars. Ann Smith noted someone would need to take notes as she will be at State EMS Meetings.

Motion made by Ann Smith to adjourn, seconded by Kevin Wells, meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Smith

Ann Smith
Secretary



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REMSCO/REMAC - April 4th

Spring Fling is April 28-May 1

New Online Registration- early bird pricing good to April 1st

Air Methods- Gold Sponsor- sponsoring pizza party on Friday Night

New Breakfast Session on Sunday.

Initial Assessment Conference May 19-22 in Lake Placid

State EMS Meetings are May 24 and 25

We will be sending out agency updates routinely, you should have received one from our office in January, due on the 15th of February

Thank you to those who have responded, if you have not sent this back please do so.

We have one opening on REMSCO for St. Lawrence previous affiliation was education

State EMS Meeting Notes are attached



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SEMSCO March 2, 2016

Election of Officers

Chair- Steven Kroll

Vice Chair- Patty Bashaw

2nd Chair- Dr. Alexandrou

Committee designations made as members are required to be on two committees, see attached assignments

In the coming year the council would like to ensure statutory responsibilities are fulfilled, focus on education that will help us think about the future of EMS (this will allow us to take information back to our regions and share). Example- quality improvement that works well for regional council. We should look at what the future for EMS is and produce a white paper that can be released publically. They will publish a list of conference calls for people to participate in and add everyone's input regarding business models, challenged work force, integration in health system, rural EMS, and regulatory system surrounding ems was suggested

EMS Staff report

Trans care ambulance bankruptcy was a dark day for NYS and communities, but the EMS community shone, stepping up to the plate to cover. This speaks very highly of our colleagues in EMS

Rhonda Crispo retired, the bureau has multiple vacancies across the state and continues to try to get them filled but are understaffed at this time

Part 800 changes regarding controlled substances, reciprocity, certifications for those with criminal convictions moving forward

2 applications for blood transfusion services received, one approved, one in process.

BLS protocols are up to date on website, this is a work in progress and it is a dynamic document and will routinely update as changes occur

EMS Memorial May 17th, 2016

Six providers to be added

Next meeting May 24th and 25th at the Hilton Garden Inn located in Troy, NY

Multiple ACS trauma designation completed, many provisional designations given so the hospitals can begin to develop systems. None in or near our region

SEMASC

Motions to approve NYC protocol changes and Suffolk protocols- motions carried

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Motion to change hemorrhage control protocol to add that the tourniquet should be placed at least 3 inches above the wound, not over the joint. Unstable scene place high and tight and wording about transport to trauma centers. Motion carried

SEMAC advisory's rescinded on treatment of hemophilia and biphasic defibrillation, should be part of current curriculum- motion carried

Motion to approve BLS acquisition of 12 lead as a regional adjunct as discussed at the last meeting. REMAC must regionally approve it- Motion carried

Update on Check and inject, epi pens should be kept if possible but they are not required to. No uses at this time

PIER

Reminder that in May 2015 it was motioned and approved for award nominations to be sent in by May 1st to comply with award program for national submissions to be done by state. Regionally they are needed by March 15th to process

Decline in award nominations, reminder to the importance of submitting applications and request for this to be brought back to each region

Education and Training

New CIC /CLI exam will begin in May

Motion to rescind the 85% score passing requirement for CIC/CLI to achieve on NYS written exam within 3 years of certification- Motion carried

Motion to require all instructors to achieve a one-time passing score on the new instructor exam as a new or recertifying instructor. Motion carried

Passing 70% if you fail then you can take again, second failure would have to do remediation course that will be developed as an online course prior to taking again.

They have completed the 4 hour instructor informational session online for new instructors who going through the NAEMSE fast track method of obtaining instructor certifications. No more trips to Albany

CLI course curriculum that has been in trial for a couple of years was discussed. Motion to approve curriculum carried

Bureau will begin printing certification cards in house

AEMT level pass rate went up

CPAP is a regional add on and needs to be done by advanced instructor

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Finance

Budget templates going out soon, need to get them back timely

Cash ceiling for bureau will be decreasing

Systems

Discussion on TransCare ambulance bankruptcy

500 agencies across the state now have controlled substance licenses

1 CON appeal in the hopper

Discussion on BLSFR agencies. Agency codes will not be given for education funding if they are not providing or have the ability to operate in the community.

Continuity of care planning for agencies and regions are encouraged

NYS ranks 50th in volunteerism, rate hike on minimum wage and other challenges discussed

Draft of CON policy revamp will be sent out to regions for comments

Legislative

S03500 or A0 1175 motion to oppose this bill motion carried

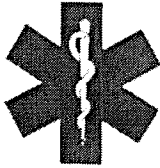
TITLE OF BILL: An act to amend the public health law, in relation to the provision of municipal advanced life support first responder service or municipal ambulance service

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS: Subdivision 7 (b) of Section 3008 of the Public Health Law is amended by removing the requirement that a municipality or

fire district apply to their requisite regional emergency medical services council for permanent operating authority at the conclusion of their initial two-year period and instead requires the Commissioner of Health to approve a subsequent application for permanent operating authority unless the municipality or fire district has failed to meet all standards set by the department for appropriate training, staffing and equipment.

Support A01431 exempt sales tax for new or used ambulances for all motion carried

Relates to exemption of new and used ambulance vehicles to an emergency services organization, pursuant to a



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written contractual agreement, for use in the transportation of emergency services personnel, under the sales and compensating use taxes.

SUMMARY OF SPECIFIC PROVISIONS: Section 1. Subdivision (a) of section 1115 of the tax law is amended by adding a new paragraph 26-a to read as follows:

New or used ambulance vehicles to an emergency services organization, pursuant to a written contractual agreement, for use in the transportation of emergency services personnel. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "emergency services organization" means a public or private agency, organization or group organized and functioning for the purpose of providing fire, medical, ambulance, rescue, housing, food or other services directed toward relieving human suffering, injury or loss of life or damage to property as a result of an emergency, including non-profit and governmentally supported organizations, but excluding governmental agencies.

Motion to support legislation to establish Medicare rates so providers can recoup costs motion carried

Motion to oppose A02043-

Requires ambulances to provide victims of motor vehicle accidents with information about certain insurance benefits available to such victims.

Motion to oppose operation outside of territory A02058- Enacts the Good Samaritan ambulance act of 2015 to allow the provision of ambulance services outside of an agency's primary territory in emergencies. No consideration of mutual aid given in the bill. Motion carried

Motion to support legislation that would provide diesel fuel sales tax exemption, motion to support carried

Motion to support legislation to add amber, blue and green lights under move over law .Motion carried

Community paramedicine legislation

Home care folks stopped action as they thought EMS would be reaching into their scope of work, Discussions ongoing with them, once a deeper understanding was achieved they made some progress and identified a Hospital collaborative with physician group that allows them to do additional things outside legislation and the proposal is to add them in. This is a demo project.

Discussion on proprietary /not for profit companies concern on potential implications of minimum wage hike to \$15.00 due to the fractured reimbursement system this may really be a challenge

Safety

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Incidence reportable form still in holding pattern awaiting for data base to be developed

Looking at ambulance spec in part 800, comparing two different national standards regarding structure with an emphasis on safety. Hope to have final product developed by next meeting for review

Looking at priority transports and red lights and sirens policy statement. May need to update the policy statement.

Workplace violence is real and there needs to be a greater emphasis on this for EMS, question to include unsafe scene in practical exams was suggested

EMS- C

Working on pediatric respiratory distress protocol update

Pediatric Assessment cards have been updated and should be posted soon

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Smith, Director

North Country EMS Program Agency Director