



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

Minutes of the St. Lawrence County EMS Advisory Board  
January 22, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 1900 by Chair Mark Deavers, roll call taken and duly recorded.

**Members present:** Mark Deavers, Joyce Dalton, Tammy Sykes, Ann Smith, Dick McDougall, Phyllis McDougall, Jay Moore, Don Thompson, Dr. Coates, Mark Dalton, Aaron Johnson

**Members excused:** Julianne Sciorra, Mallory Buckley, R. Storm Cilley, James Barr, David Sherman, Kevin Wells, Carol Muench,

**Members absent:** Chelsea Snyder-Dennis, Tammy Mitchell, James Barr, James Blackburn,

**Guests:** Jonathan Mitchell, Rita Curran, Andrew Tieg

**Correspondence:**

- None

**Minutes from December 2018 Joint Fire and EMS advisory Board**

- Minutes were passed out and will be approved at the next meeting.
- Round table introductions completed, following the introduction of our new Deputy Director Jonathan Mitchell and our new legislative representative Rita Curran

**Office of Emergency Services – See attached report**

- Updated the towers that were going in Hammond, Gouverneur and Waddington

**NCEMS Program Agency and REMSCO/REMAC report together**

- No regional meeting since our last meeting
- Announced Leadership Conference on February 9<sup>th</sup> and as of a couple weeks ago we had 38 registered.
- Ann discussed concerns over the future of EMS and that we needed to get engaged in helping make change happen before the system collapses all together.
- Ann reviewed highlights of the State EMS meeting, see attached
  - Discussion regarding the Bound Tree recall check and inject kit, does not change NYS protocol regarding dosing of epinephrine for BLS or the policy statement regarding syringe epinephrine for BLS. A memo went out to agency directors on 12/19/18 regarding their choices moving forward until all providers are trained on graduated syringes. Please contact your medical director.

- Schedule of NYS EMS meetings, EMSC meetings, STAC meetings attached to the minutes that were handed out.

**Air Medical** – Andrew Tieg in attendance and introduced self as representative of Life Net

• **Upcoming Trainings**

- EMS Leadership Conference on February 9<sup>th</sup> at the Best Western in Canton
- Difficult Airway Class was cancelled due to low enrollment, attempting to reschedule in the March time frame.
- Spring Fling last weekend in April

**Executive Committee-**

- No report

**Communications Committee-**

- No Report

**Legislative Committee**

- None to report currently

**Personnel-**

- Received letter of appointment for Chelsea Snyder-Dennis
- We have 2 open at large positions.

**Ad-Hoc EMS Task Force Committee** – working on setting up meeting, Rita Curran will be our new legislative representative

**Old Business**

- Leadership Meeting- there has not been one
- Fire Advisory Board/Joint OSHA best practices initiative- Mike is departing emergency services soon so where we stand on this is unclear, will leave for Jonathan to look into.
- Mutual aid plan – It was made clear at NYS State EMS Meetings that the Region had statutory oversight over the mutual aid plans, so we need really look at who we are dispatching. There is not a county mutual aid plan it is MCI. Aaron was working on this with Ann. Jonathan has started to get information from all the agencies on what resources they have. It is a job of this committee to decide how ambulances are dispatched, have been trying to find the percentage of calls that EMD is completed on. Need to have further discussion and we need to go to a known status. Colton discussed getting dispatched 40 minutes away, 40 minutes into a call.
- Known status – Discussion if the initial agency does not get out the door it really needs to go the next staffed agency. EMResource will be helpful with this. Need a committee to focus on dispatch to develop and draft a policy on unknown status, work on MCI, and create mutual aid plan. Advising the 911 center when the ambulance is not covered is common place in most counties. It was discussed that we need to look at the county system. We are talking about it taking an hour and half to get an ambulance. Will be looking into other systems.

Dispatch Committee – Mark Deavers, Phyllis McDougall, Rita Curran, Jonathan Mitchell

**New Business:**

- Whale Presentation – will invite to next meeting
- Kids should not be transported in Caregivers labs, you should have the appropriate seat to transport them in. Ann then discussed Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators, every agency should have one and applications should be coming out. Martha Gohlke from the EMSC program stated to contact here if there were funding concerns
- Air Methods announced they are now in network with Blue Cross, Blue Shield, Excellus, and Anthem in the State of New York and makes 80% of people in NY in network.

Next meeting

March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019

May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019

September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019

November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Motion to adjourn made by Dick McDougall, seconded by Jay Moore, all in favor,  
motion carried**

**Adjourned at 8:35 pm**

Respectfully submitted,

*Ann Smith*

Ann Smith

Secretary

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FIRE  
E.M.S.

EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT

TO: Ruth Doyle, County Administrator  
FROM: James Chestnut, Supervisor of Dispatch Operations  
DATE: Jan. 1, 2019

The following is a report of CAD calls for December 2018:

	DEC 18	YEAR 2018
FIRE DEPTS DISPATCHED	266	4,458
EMS DISPATCHED	1,424	18,173
LOCAL PD CALL FOR SERVICE	292	3,650
NYSP DISPATCHED BY B-COMM**	1,179	13,188
NYSP DISPATCHED BY SLC ES***	297	3,376
INFORMATIONALS CALLS*	933	11,610
SHERIFF'S CALLS FOR SERVICE	<u>1,106</u>	<u>11,728</u>
TOTAL CALLS DISPATCHED IN SLC	5,497	66,183

\*Informational calls include pocket dials, hang up calls, and test calls

\*\*Dispatched by NYSP at B-Comm from Lewis

\*\*\*St Lawrence County ES dispatched (911 calls)

Phone calls handled in dispatch center incoming and outgoing by line:

Emergency Services Dispatchers handled:

911	2439
EMS	2792
TEXT_2_911	4
NYSP/LAW	148
SHERIFF	<u>2690</u>
TOTAL	8,073

TOTAL PHONE CALLS HANDLED FOR DECEMBER: 8,073  
YTD: 107,024

Michael LeCuyer, Director  
James Chestnut, Supervisor of Dispatch Operations

## January 2019 State EMS Meetings

New members introduced

Roll call vote completed

Letter was sent from SEMSCO supporting Community Paramedicine

Governor's State of the State address for 2019, sadly no mention of EMS

Review of Council By-laws ongoing, there may be a way of speeding up vetting of members

Elections- no additional nominations received

Chair- Patti Bashaw

First Vice-Chair- Mark Phillipy

Second Vice-chair- Steve Cady

### EMS Staff Report

- Curaplex epinephrine Kit
  - Kit was recalled this does not change the state policy or dosage for EMS. Graphics and artwork are being developed by state for provider reference. Medical Directors should decide courses of action in the mean time
- Mutual aid concerns have been coming up across the state, state is looking at updating mutual aid policy statement. REMSCO is responsible for viewing and approving mutual aid plans, all agencies must have a mutual aid plan (signing on to county plan counts)
- ATS services- Regulations still in place and agencies should be moving toward becoming an ATS service if they are transporting patients
- Moving toward electronic forms
  - Inspection forms used by field staff are now electronic
  - EMT verification process is electronic, new email on DOH site
- New staff introduced
  - Steve Dysuria- Deputy Director
  - Lynn Fagguria- contracts
  - Jean Taylor- Director of education (new position, not new to bureau)
- Valerie has taken on vital signs role
- January 9<sup>th</sup> regulations change to allow 17-year old's to become EMT's.
- Director encouraged all agencies to become more involved with their trauma centers
- Hospital Hub will allow agencies to submit PCR's regardless of system they are using. Encourage everyone to get hospitals and agencies involved
- Hospitals being allowed to share information is on DOH website (hospital site)
- PECC program is progressing
- Standards of Excellence- a program that will be developed to credential agencies who achieve the standards in the state
- Vital Signs October 24<sup>th</sup> in Buffalo
  - Call for presenters will go out next month
  - Leadership track to be added
  - Watch the website
- May 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> next state meetings
- Working on statewide quality metrics- needs to be measurable through an ePCR program
  - Medical Standards working on it
- Leadership grant is being kicked off, will be developing online and in person training

- Opioid Grant also in progress- education on how to handle patients utilizing opioid users
- Multiple interns at bureau- working on recruitment and retentions, trauma program, and data
- EMS week in May- statewide initiative- May 19<sup>th</sup> would like all agencies to take 4 hours from noon to 4 pm to go out and educate your community.
- EMS Memorial Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup>
- Newsletter being developed following each meeting- will be looking at ways to distribute. Will probably go to program agencies
- Face book group for EMS community- NYSDOH EMS group- New way to get information out

#### SEMASC

- New BLS protocols passed, supported by SEMSCO
  - New format, multiple changes from previous protocols
  - Discussed having August 1<sup>st</sup> as the implementation dates. More to follow
- Collaborative protocols passed, supported by SEMSCO (being used by 15 of 18 regions)
  - Merged new BLS protocols into them to make them match
- Transfer protocols when moving patients, this was brought to last meeting as "Jimmy's Law" This stems from 2011 call that a child who was being transferred to air medical (fixed wing) from ground ambulance, Child was on ventilator, ambulance left and the air medical had ventilator failure with detrimental effects to the patient. Assemblyman concerns- should there be required malpractice insurance for all ambulances Should there be some interactions for fixed wing services to somehow be registered with state Discussion on transfers- should the ground ambulance stay and asked that we look at transfer protocols and add best practices if needed.
- Bill that was put forth by Patti Ritchie to make EMS an essential service was stalled and a tag has been put together to look at why.

#### Executive- No action

#### Education and training- no motion to bring forward

- Jean is having multiple people crossed trained due to staffing shortages
- New instructor policy statement coming out
- CIC's will be identified as BLS or ALS (would note on certificate) Those who want to teach at BLS level would not have to do the ALS portion of internship
- Currently accepting applications for those who would like to be regional faculty
- CC to paramedic program applications are open. 22 applications received. Applications must be post marked by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Possibly another course starting in June (but want to make sure this one gets up and running first).
- CME program revision are going to be out sometime soon (hopefully by May Meeting)
- Course sponsors-
  - Make sure that end of course paperwork is done correctly
  - If a CIC is going to expire before a course ends, the course will not be approved
  - Course sponsor renewals will be going out in April
- Will look at new paper on spinal motion restriction to make sure our education aligns with information in it
- Will look at the poor performance on AEMT exam, will be looking at the NYS additional items that were added and doing an analysis of how often they are used

#### Finance Committee

- 2019-2020 budget being worked on

## Systems Committee

### Systems

- Reviewing part 800 list for EASV, ambulances and part 18 events
- Introduced Steve, new Deputy Director of Bureau and reports directly to Ryan
  - He will be working on some specific projects over the next 6-12 months
- There are some issues with the part 800 section on the website as some citations are outdated. Updated this will be one of his projects
- Ambulance Transfusion Services- Bureau of EMS has been working with them, there has been no change but there is discussion of potential regulatory change. There is a citation in regulation that allows emergency transports of patients with blood transfusion (with hospital staff). The hospital blood bank is responsible to notify Wadsworth if a patient is transported with blood with a service that is not ATS certified. This is not to be utilized routine and regularly, so agencies must continue to work to become
- 12-06 policy is being updated on Mutual Aid as there are problems across the state. Regional councils are empowered via article 30 to review this. Law states that every agency must have a mutual aid plan which is covered if they sign on to a county plan. All plans need to be reviewed and approved by REMSCO.
- NYS Department of Health Bureau of EMS has multiple interns that will be working with them.
- There are 5 appeals that are going through the process, all active members of the SEMSCO should have an active account with HCS.
- First Net is starting to catch on around the state, encourage everyone to online and see what the deals are. If you show them ID that you are a first responder, they will sign you up to first net to get special rates. First net will give you priority access if the network is busy.
- There are a lot of mergers and transfers on the table. Please let DOH know the minute you have a CON action. One municipal CON was rescinded in the North Country.
- EPCR transition to NEMSIS V 3 are continuing to move along, 21 ePCR vendors are anticipated to be transitioned by the end of the year. Currently the largest vendors are testing to get their data transitioned. Paper PCR data needs to be submitted through the program agency as soon as possible as they are uploading thousands of PCR's a day. Make sure your paper PCR's are submitted to the program agencies.

Governor's budget does not include supplement for Medicaid- This could create many services to go out business.

Health committee hearing on February 5<sup>th</sup>, people need to be there to speak up state what is happened

### Legislative

- Approached second floor at capital to include community paramedicine in budget
- Engage your legislature

- One house bill
  - AB 1208 authorized collaboratives for community paramedicine

#### **Safety**

- Fitness for duty project
- Part 800 update with systems committee
- emsfatigue.org has best practices on dealing with provider fatigue

#### **EMSC**

- Working on pediatric BLS protocols and pediatric sepsis
- Still has vacancies on the EMSC group- SEMSCO delegate needed  
Need a PICU Nurse, next meeting March 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Child Restraints- Thank you to the protocol committee for adding statement that children need to be transported in a proper restraint (car seat)

#### **STAC**

- Make sure patient are going to the appropriate facility
  
- Look at New Yorker article on few drivers left to drive ambulances
- CQI manual needs to be updated.
- EMS coordinators met after program agency meeting on Monday. There is rejuvenated interest in this group