



ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of the St. Lawrence County EMS Advisory Board Mtg.
November 26, 2024

Chris Towler called the meeting to order at 1802 hours.
Roll Call was taken and duly recorded.

Members present: Jay Moore, Miranda Simpson (V), Lynne Backus, Ryan Coates, Storm Cilley, Donald Thompson, Christopher Towler, Jay Moore, Tammy Sykes, Mike Abrunzo, Ann Smith

Members absent: Aaron Johnson,

Members excused: Doug Bohl

Ex Officio Members present: Rita Curran, Richard Rusaw,

Guests present: Erin Streiff

A motion was made by Dr. Coates, seconded by Storm Cilley, to accept the minutes from the October 2024 meeting. All in favor. Motion approved

Correspondence: Correspondence Received that will be addressed under the personnel report

Clifton Fine Presentation- Lynne Backus presented on Clifton Fine's Change to Rural Emergency Health status (Presentation attached)

Emergency Services:

- Call numbers sent via email
- Towers progressing, looking to go live mid-2025
- Will start visiting departments to ensure they have accurate counts for equipment
- Dispatch building delayed, possibly February or March
- One full-time opening for dispatcher; interviewed one last week
- Clarkson Medic graduation attended
- Meeting with Southwest Tech BOCES- They would like to do an EMT program; continue to meet with them to work on details
- Presentation of updated data and findings for the EMS system

REMSCO/REMAC

- The REMAC and REMSCO have not met since June but have meetings scheduled for December 9th (REMSCO) and December 10th (REMAC)

The in-person locations for both of those meetings will be at our office, 120 Washington Street, Suite 230, Watertown, NY 13601

- The REMAC will be approving the new protocol drugs and new minimum equipment list for the new optional drugs of Moxifloxacin at the BLS Level and Cefazolin at the Paramedic Level, as well as IV Tylenol at the Paramedic Level. Ipratropium .5mg/2.5 ml has been added to the AEMT Level.
- Regional Skills are due by the end of the year for ALL levels of care.
- Spring Fling 2025 is being planned, with the anticipated rollout of registration to be the week before Christmas. The cost of the conference will not change again this year, so we can continue to provide low-cost, quality education for our providers.

SEMSCO/SEMAC

- The BLS Igel Pilot has been a tremendous success and will be added to the BLS protocols when the next update is rolled out. Until then, agencies that wish to have their BLS providers participate in the BLS IGEL program can still enroll in the pilot program.
- The next SEMAC/SEMSCO meetings are on December 3 & 4 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy NY.
- NYS Policy Statement 24-10 Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Requirements for Youth Sports Leagues Policy Statement

Program Agency-

- Our CQI initiative has taken off to a good start. In general, our office reviews roughly 100 charts a month from both the North Country and Mountain Lakes Region. We typically see very poor assessments documented, as well as numerous spelling and grammatical errors. Our feedback to agencies has stressed the reminder that these are legal documents.
- We hosted EMS Education Day at North Country Community College (NCC) in Saranac Lake and are working on scheduling another Education Day. Thank you to our sponsors/supporters of the day- NYS BEMS, Mercy Flight Central, FDRHPO and NCC
- We are working on scheduling our Fort Drum EMS Days for 2025, anticipating holding one in the Spring and in the Fall.
- We upload a minimum of 2 educational pieces a month to our Learning Management System. If you're not signed up for it or having difficulties navigating, contact our office.
- We will start doing our ALS Minimum Equipment Inspections again in the Spring. Our goal is to get on the cycle with agencies' State recertifications.

Air Medical – No report

Hospital Update

- CHMC- Nothing new
- CPH – No new updates; the second half of ER will be open in a few more months
- Gouverneur Hospital – No updates, helipad cleared
- Massena- Lights fixed on the helipad
- Clifton Fine Hospital- Lynne presented earlier

Education Update – Nothing new

Committees:

- Executive Committee- Christopher Towler, Jay Moore, Ann Smith – No Report
- Legislative- Doug Bohl, Ryan Coates – No Report
- Communication- Donald Thompson, Chris Towler – No Report
- Personnel- Ann Smith, Rita Curran, Miranda Simpson
 - Aaron Johnson not renewing
 - Tammy and Don Biodata's sheets have been submitted
 - Received approval for Lynn, Keegan, Doug B., Kathryn T
 - Emailed Mike Abrunzo and Nicholas Wildey
 - Mike intends to stay on attend
 - Nick Wildley submitted resigned
 - Need a slate of officers for the January meeting per bylaws
 - Discussed that meetings will be held in person if there are extenuating circumstances. Reach out to Chris. As we are a public body, the majority must be in person
 - Welcome to Keegan Muldowney and round table introductions
 - It was reported that Katie was on vacation
 - Julie McBath was sent a bio-datasheet- Rita will follow up with her
 - Two consumer positions open, Five Rescue positions open, and four at-large positions open
 - Christina Cool, recommended from Parishville, for membership

Old Business

- County Ambulance Service
 - Discussed doing an outline of what the group wanted
 - Discussion that the legislatures want to do simple things such as support education and give stipends. Further discussion is that we can support those things, but it is only a band-aid and does not give sustainability to the system.
 - Discussed incentivizing providers to stay, another band-aid
 - Incentivize larger agencies to augment operating costs
 - Volunteer days are over

- The simplest solution is a subsidized county agency that subsidizes the current agencies. This provides structure, security, and sustainability to the county.
- Outline to start plan with BLS ambulance

New Business

- Mutual Aid Plan
 - Vehicle numbers need updating
 - Page 5 County all call- after three agencies, not four agencies, drop to the county all call
 - Agencies to update on vehicles
- Draft Ad for new members presented; recommended county lawyer and Ruth review it after Rick makes suggested updates.

Jay Moore moved to accept Nick Wildey's resignation, seconded by Tammy Sykes, which was approved.

Ann Smith moved to send Christina Cool a biodata sheet, seconded by Jay Moore, and the motion was approved.

Next Meetings:

December 30th – Decision to cancel due to the holidays and the unavailability of the conference room

- January 28th St. Lawrence Public Health Conference Room, County Office Building, 80 NY-310, Canton, NY 13617
- Set Schedule for 2025 -4th Tuesday of the month

Feb 25	Aug 26
March 25 Annual Meeting per bylaws	Sept 23
April 22	Oct 28
May 27	Nov 25
June 24	Dec. 23
July 22	

- Rita asked that Rick do the presentation given earlier at operations in December
- Chris mentioned that the board minutes were not posted on the website. Rita would like the last couple of months' minutes.
- Another request to have the invite location updated.

Dr. Coates made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Jay Moore, All in favor
 The meeting was adjourned at 2013 hours.