

*** MEETING SUMMARY ***

May 25, 2010

**Suffolk County Department of Health Services
Division of Emergency Medical Services
Hauppauge, New York**

Hospitals/Physician members-at-large represented: See attached attendance list: Eastern Long Island, Good Samaritan, Huntington, J.T. Mather, St. Catherine's, and University Hospital. Physician Members-At-Large present was Dr. Coyne; excused were Dr. Mermelstein and Dr. Goodman (BMH).

Non-Voting Members Present: See attached attendance list. The following non-voting members were present: Kevin Pesce, Helen Rosenblum, and Dave Sterne. Excused were Richard Skelton and Rob Stoessel. EMS Staff present was Karl W. Klug; excused were Robert Delagi and Tom Lateulere.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm by Chairman Dr. Tarsia, presiding. The Secretary took roll call and determined that a quorum was present, and official business could be conducted. A motion was made, seconded to accept the previous meeting summary as amended, passed unanimously.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Dr. Tarsia

- Chairman Tarsia reported that he had no specific items to address at this point but that he would like to introduce Mr. Ed Boyd, Chairman of the REMSCO and Mr. Ed Stapleton, immediate Ex-Chairman of the REMSCO asked that they provide the REMAC with a brief overview of the

work of the REMSCO Committee that conducted the interviews for the impact/feasibility of the transfer of the EMS Division from the Department of Health Services to the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services. A very informative presentation was given to the REMAC and Chairman Tarsia thanked Mr. Boyd and Mr. Stapleton and the entire Committee for their perseverance and dedication in preparing the comprehensive report. Dr. Tarsia asked for a motion to endorse the recommendations of the REMSCO Committee; a motion was made by Dr. Pollack, seconded by Dr. Coyne to accept the recommendations as put forth by the Committee, a roll call vote was taken as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| ○ Brookhaven Memorial | ABSENT/EXCUSED |
| ○ Eastern Long Island | YES |
| ○ Good Samaritan | YES |
| ○ Huntington | YES |
| ○ J.T. Mather | YES |
| ○ Peconic Bay | ABSENT/EXCUSED |
| ○ Southampton | ABSENT |
| ○ Southside | ABSENT |
| ○ St. Catherine's | YES |
| ○ St. Charles | ABSENT |
| ○ University Medical Center | YES |
| ○ Dr. Mermelstein | ABSENT/EXCUSED |
| ○ Dr. Coyne | YES |

The motion carried, 7-0.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Dr. Levy (excused)

- No report at this time.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Dr. Robert Korn (absent)

- Monthly statements are e-mailed to Secretary Klug by the Treasurer on a regular basis, with the latest statement as noted in the correspondence.

CORRESPONDENCE- Karl W. Klug

Incoming

- Copy of eight letters from Mr. Lateulere to ALS field providers and/or agency Chiefs/Presidents regarding confidential QA/QI issues.
- E-mail from Dr. Korn with attachment of the 3/31/10 and 4/30/10 bank statements with an ending balance of \$3,238.92.
- E-mail from Mr. Ed Stapleton with attached copy of the REMSCO's White Paper requesting that the report be distributed to all REMAC members.
- Copy of the EMS Division Staff report.
- Letter from Suffolk County FRES asking for updates to the Fire-Rescue Directory for the REMAC (if any).
- E-mail from Dr. Goodman with attached announcement of Therapeutic Hypothermia seminar to be posted on the website and distributed to all REMAC members.
- E-mail from Chairman Tarsia asking that Mr. Boyd and Mr. Stapleton be added to the agenda for the 5/25/10 meeting to make a brief presentation on the findings of the REMSCO White Paper report.
- **Letter from the East Marion Fire District requesting permission from the REMAC to upgrade its level of service from BLS to ALS. (Note: this will require action by the REMAC under New Business)**
- Letter from Mr. Delagi to the Chair transmitting the 2007 PCR data as received from the NYS-DOH/BEMS.
- E-mail from Mr. Stapleton asking for a current list of membership of the REMAC.
- AT&T Teleconference statements dated 4/1/10 and 5/1/10 to be forwarded to Treasurer for payment.
- E-mail from Dr. Pollack asking that a notification be sent to all interested parties to attend the QA/QI Subcommittee meeting on 5/25/10 at 5:30pm at the Paradise Diner.
- Voice mail message from Rich Skelton advising he would not be able to attend this REMAC meeting and asking to be excused due to another commitment
- E-mail from Dr. Goodman indicating he will be attending the SEMAC meeting and can not attend the REMAC meeting. Included was a brief review of the REMSCO meeting he attended; a brief review of items discussed between him as Chair of the Protocols Subcommittee and the Chief of Education and Training in anticipation of potential protocol changes, including Intranasal Naloxone and pelvic stabilization.

- E-mail from Mr. Rob Stoessel asking to be excused for tonight's meeting due to work obligations and reporting there was no meeting of the Credentialing Subcommittee so not report is available.
- Invitation from the Burn Center at Stony Brook and the Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighters Burn Center Fund to attend their annual Burn Center Recognition Day on May 16, 2010 at 1pm.
- E-mail from Raegin Kellermann requesting that the flyer announcing the First Annual REMSCO Golf Outing be sent to all REMAC members.
- E-mail from Dr. Levy indicating he will be in Phoenix and not able to attend the REMAC meeting.

Outgoing

- Meeting announcement for 5/25/10.
- Previous meeting summary from 3/23/10.
- Copy of the EMS Division Staff Report for distribution.
- Sent e-mail at the request of Dr. Pollack informing all interested parties to attend the QA/QI Subcommittee meeting on 5/25/10 at 5:30pm at the Paradise Diner.
- E-mail from Dr. Goodman forwarded with attached announcement of Therapeutic Hypothermia seminar distributed to all REMAC members.
- E-mail from Mr. Ed Stapleton forwarded with attached copy of the REMSCO's White Paper distributed to all REMAC members.
- E-mail in response to Mr. Stapleton's request for a current list of membership of the REMAC with the requested information.
- Forwarded Invitation from the Burn Center at Stony Brook and the Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighters Burn Center Fund to attend their annual Burn Center Recognition Day on May 16, 2010 at 1pm. to the Chairman.
- Completed survey form and submitted response to letter from Suffolk County FRES asking for updates to the Fire-Rescue Directory for the REMAC.
- E-mail to all ED Directors requesting information pertaining to EMS Week activities that might be able to be posted on the website.
- Forwarded e-mail to all REMAC members regarding the First Annual REMSCO golf outing.

EMS DIVISION STAFF REPORT:

EMS DIVISION STAFF REPORT – BY: Bob Delagi, Tom Lateulere & Linda Mermelstein, MD, MPH
For the REMSCO & REMAC. March-April, 2010

AMBULANCE SERVICE OPERATIONS

- Attended FRES Commission meeting.
- Attended Suffolk County Ambulance Chiefs Association meeting.
- ePCR Update: three of the five (3/5) Pilot Agencies that went live on January 1, 2010 continue to report success. Eighteen (18) new agencies that came on board at the August 12th training session are diligently working on in-house training and procuring equipment. EMS Division staff continues to receive lap tops from agencies and are completing programming requirement. North Amityville FD, Rocky Point FD and East Hampton VAC indicate they will be ready to transition from paper to electronic by June, 2010.
- Provided technical assistance to the Islip Town Ambulance Chief's regarding mutual aid and areas of operating authority.
- Provided technical assistance to the Commack Volunteer Ambulance Corps and FRES regarding dispatch of mutual aid agencies.
- Provided staff support to the REMSCO for their March, 2010 meeting.
- Provided staff support to the REMAC for their March, 2010 meeting.
- Work continues with the on-going QI Project on Spinal Immobilization.
- Attended meeting of REMAC's Credentialing Committee.
- Provided technical support to the Long Island Maritime Museum and local agencies regarding a Part 18 Public Function permit application.
- Division staff providing focused guidance and targeted education to a VAC in the region to address a series of operational deficiencies and meet the requirements of a Corrective Plan of Action.
- Met with representatives of Eastern Long Island Hospital and the North Fork Rescue Association regarding the implementation of the recently approved pilot program for BLS Blood Glucometry
- Provided technical support to EMS agencies on the south fork and the Village of East Hampton regarding the loss of a tranquilizing dart on the beachfront.
- Provided technical support to the REMSCO's Resource Needs Committee regarding potential Transfer of Operating Authority (TOA) application.
- Completed and submitted the 2010-2011 Training Plan & Budget Template to the NY State DOH.

- Participated in a conference call with NY State DOH, Hospitals Association, and others in attempt to develop uniform post exposure follow-up guidelines for emergency workers.
- Assisted the Central Islip-Hauppauge VAC with resolving operating territory and contract issues.
- Attended Fire Island Fire Chief's Council Meeting.
- Provided technical support to developers of a Fire/ MCI exercise to be conducted on the barrier beach.
- Provided technical assistance to the Holbrook FD in preparation for a MOS wake and funeral services.
- Provided technical assistance to the West Islip FD in preparation for a MOS wake and funeral services.
- Presented program on EMS Response to School Bus Accidents/Emergencies to NYAPT (Bus Transportation Association)
- Attended Suffolk County Traffic Safety Board meeting

EDUCATION & TRAINING

1. Staff provided an in-service on ambulances and the EMS profession in the West Islip School District.
2. Division staff in collaboration with Suffolk County Regional Faculty (RF) conducted an Instructor Update for forty one (41) EMS instructors.
 - Provided focused RMA/Special Circumstances training for LI MacArthur Airport ARFF personnel.
 - Division staff conducted four (4) practical remediation sessions for ALS providers that had their operating privileges restricted.
 - Provided staff support to the REMSCO's Education & Training Committee.
3. Division Staff conducted:
 1. six (6) ePCR classes in Islip FD, East Hampton VAC, Bridgehampton FD, Medford VAC, Good Samaritan Hospital, and St. Charles Hospital.
 2. one (1) focused training class on Carbon Monoxide Poisoning at Mattituck FD;
 3. one (1) training class on Geriatric Emergencies at the Port Jefferson VAC;
 4. one (1) training class on OB/Pregnancy Emergencies at the Yaphank FD;

5. one (1) Atropen Train-the-Trainer class EMS providers representing 20 Fire/EMS agencies;
 6. one (1) ACLS course; and
 7. one (1) PHTLS course.
- Division staff remediated eighteen (18) ALS Providers due to case reviews.
 - Division staff conducted a four (4) week-end day EMT-CME Course (24 hours) in West Babylon FD.
 - The Division conducted an EMT-CC challenge practical skills exam (PSE) for Twenty nine (29) providers.
 - Opened one (1) CFR Original course in Gordon Heights FD for twenty four (24) Fire/EMS volunteers.
 - Partnered with FRES and the SCPD to co-host the Prevention and Response to Suicide Bombing Course for firefighters and EMS personnel.
 - Conducted PSE for seven (7) EMT-B original courses with 201 of 202 students passing.
 - Staff providing administrative oversight of the following courses in progress:
 - ten (10) EMT- Basic Originals
 - four (4) EMT-Basic Refreshers
 - one (1) EMT-CC Original
 - one (1) EMT-CC Refresher
 - Maintaining oversight of schedule of regular BLS and ALS Core Content refreshers.
 - Staff held off-site office hours to facilitate CME review of CME packages prior to submission to NY State DOH.
 - The Division's AHA Training Center conducted two hundred twenty nine (229) ECC courses collectively registering one thousand five hundred ninety eight (1,598) students.

DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS / HOMELAND SECURITY

- Participated in additional planning meetings and a tabletop exercise with other key internal and external stakeholders for an upcoming multi-agency exercise at BNL.
- Continued on-going efforts with regard to developing an on-line registry and application for Individuals with Special Health Care Needs.
- Attended NY State DOH-sponsored tabletop exercise on health care facility evacuations.

- Attended NY State DOH-sponsored tabletop exercise on mass fatalities.
- Attended Suffolk County Decontamination Strike Team meeting and drill.
- The process of recruiting and training paramedics to serve as Medical Specialists as Suffolk County USAR TF-1 Team development continues.
- Assisted in the development of the After Action report (AAR) from the recent SCPD Med Cat MCI Drill on Fire Island.
- Participated in Teleconference for NYS-DOH Interoperable Communications Drill
- Participated on the NY State DOH-Sponsored rollout of the Health Care Facilities Evacuation Decision Making Tool, used to quantify risk and aid in decision making process.
- Participated in product inspection with the UAWG / EMS Committee regarding the purchase of regional Medical Ambulance Busses (MAB) and inter-regional mutual aid.
- Along with other key stakeholders, attended a follow-up planning meeting for the distribution of UASI and SHSP FY 09 and FY 10 grant funds.

Mr. Klug reported on several initiatives currently underway in the EMS Division:

- The Division continues to enhance care of the STEMI patient by the recent installation of new LifeNet software at Medical Control which will help facilitate the transmission of 12-lead ECGs through internet-based technology.
- The RescueNet TabletPCR project is moving ahead with an additional eighteen agencies expected to live in the next few weeks and months. Mr. Klug explained the importance of the ED Directors going back to their staff and explaining the process of completion, sign-off, and printing the PCR. It was noted that Mr. Klug has visited several EDs during shift change to demonstrate the program, clarify expectations, and to answer questions about the program and offered to do the same for any ED that may need it.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Protocol Sub-Committee – Dr. Goodman (excused, electronically submitted)

- Dr. Goodman noted that a formal protocol subcommittee did not meet however in anticipation of a full committee meeting the chair and chief of education and training met to discuss the following:
 1. Addition of Blood Glucose as a standing order to the ALS Care Protocol

2. Bleeding-hemorrhage control advisory regarding hemostatic dressings and commercial tourniquets
3. LVAD encounter advisory

- A more detailed meeting was also conducted with the Acting Medical Director, Chief of Operations, Chief of Education and Training and Chair of protocol subcommittee to discuss joining the Adirondack Appalachian Region EMS, Hudson Mohawk REMO and Mountain Lakes Region BLS Intranasal Naloxone Project. The purpose of this project is to make the use of opioid reversal agents available to BLS personnel and permit the use of intranasal naloxone by ALS personal therefore:

1. Reducing morbidity and mortality of an individual whom has developed life threatening hypoxia secondary to an opioid overdose
2. Harm reduction by reducing exposure to blood borne pathogens by ALS providers.

A conference call was conducted with the project Principle Investigator, Dr. Michael Dailey.

- An inquiry has been made to SEMAC regarding the use of pelvic stabilization devices and a response is pending.
- There is additional consideration regarding antiemetics and rescue medic protocols will be forthcoming at the County Urban Search and Rescue Task Force evolves.

REMSCO Report – Dr. Winslow

- Dr. Goodman attended and reported on the following:
 - The White Paper was presented and accepted by REMSCO. Three task forces will be formed to move the recommendation from suggestions to action
 - Data Collection
 - Medical Direction
 - Response Issues

Dr. Goodman noted he has been asked to participate on the Medical Direction Task Force.

Ad Hoc Behavioral Emergencies Sub-Committee – Dr. Coyne

- No report at this time.

New Medical Devices Sub-Committee – Dr. Cruzen (absent)

- Dr. Winslow has officially taken over as Chair of this subcommittee and will have a report at the next meeting.

QA Sub-Committee – Dr. Pollack

- Dr. Pollack noted that the QA/QI Subcommittee met earlier just prior to the REMAC meeting and discussed the current county-wide study in progress on adherence to the NY State Spinal Immobilization Protocol. A review of the PCR data is ongoing and will continue through the end of July 2010. It was noted that the process of reviewing, acquiring, and entering the data points is a painstakingly slow process, as it must be done manually. Dr. Pollack noted he personally takes offense that the age parameter of “>55” is being considered “elderly”; Mr. Klug responded that although he too took umbrage, the NYS Adult Major Trauma Protocol defines patients >55 years of age as “high risk”, not necessarily “elderly.”
- Additionally, Dr. Pollack asked Mr. Pesce to review the current status of the use and transmission of 12-lead ECGs from the field. Kevin reported overall increases in the use of 12 lead – especially with the advent of the Rosetta device which compliments the 800 MHz radio system. Further discussion focused on how many agencies have the capability of transmitting 12 lead ECGs; Mr. Klug indicated that the EMS Division may be able to poll the agencies and determine exactly who does have the ability to send 12 lead ECGs.

Medical Review Board Committee – Dr. Pollack

- No cases currently under review.

By-Laws Committee – Dr. Glantz (absent)

- No report at this time.

Non-Emergent Calls Committee – Dr. Winslow

- No report at this time.

Credentialing Committee – Mr. Stoessel (excused)

- No report.

SEMAC/State Council: – Robert Delagi (excused)

The SEMSCO/SEMAC meeting is today; report will follow at next meeting.

OLD AND OTHER BUSINESS

- Dr. Tarsia asked about the status of the BLS Glucometry Pilot Project on the North Fork; Dr. Schiff responded by noting that two training sessions have already been held which were well-attended. Additional training is expected with implementation expected sometime in mid-to late June.

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Dr. Schiff, seconded by Mr. Sterne to allow the East Marion Fire District to upgrade its level of service from Basic Life Support to Advanced Life Support. A roll call vote was taken as follows:
 - Brookhaven Memorial ABSENT/EXCUSED
 - Eastern Long Island YES
 - Good Samaritan YES
 - Huntington YES
 - J.T. Mather YES
 - Peconic Bay ABSENT/EXCUSED
 - Southampton ABSENT
 - Southside ABSENT
 - St. Catherine's YES
 - St. Charles ABSENT
 - University Medical Center YES
 - Dr. Mermelstein ABSENT/EXCUSED
 - Dr. Coyne YES

The motion carried, 7-0.

- Dr. Pollack noted that the REMAC meetings seem to conflict with the SEMSCO/SEMAC meetings lately and suggested that a different meeting schedule be

considered so as to allow other members of the REMAC to attend who are otherwise committed to the meetings in Albany. Mr. Klug noted that there is no specific requirement in the REMAC's By Laws that would preclude us from having the meeting on an alternate night. Dr. Pollack further suggested that the REMAC Secretary check the SEMSCO/SEMAC meeting schedule for the rest of the year and determine if other conflicts exist – and if so, consider changing our meeting dates for the remainder of 2010.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 27, 2010 at the Suffolk County EMS Office, at 7 p.m. **** See below for directions.**

A motion was made by Dr. Pollack, seconded by Dr. Winslow and passed unanimously to adjourn; the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karl W. Klug, Secretary

DIRECTIONS TO SCEMS OFFICE

Directions to Suffolk County EMS office: Long Island Expressway to Exit 56 (Rt. 111) NORTH. Proceed WESTBOUND on the NORTH service road of the LIE, past Rt. 111 (Exxon/Dunkin' Donuts on your right).

Go up hill on service road, past P C Richards.

Just past P C Richards, you will see a green sign for "Government Buildings"; bear RIGHT at fork – right by radio tower and State DOT yard.

This road veers to the right and becomes SIMEON WOODS ROAD. Proceed north approximately ½ mile, look for signs for H. Lee Dennison building.

Make a left towards H. Lee Dennison building (you are now on the SOUTH side of building). Make a right into the parking lot, and enter the glass doors adjacent to child daycare center by LEFT side of building.

Coming from Veterans Memorial Highway/Northern State Parkway: Proceed to H. Lee Dennison Building, enter complex and drive around to the BACK (SOUTH) side of building and follow directions above.