

MEETING SUMMARY
November 14, 2017
EMS Office, Yaphank, New York 11980

NOTE: This is a draft summary until formally approved at the January, 2018 meeting.

Members Present: See attendance list, provided **as attachment 1.**

- Meeting opened at 7:05 PM by Chairman Philip Cammann.
- The Chair led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a moment of silence for those departed serving our military, public safety, and especially for Dr. Michael Guttenberg, beloved Emergency Medicine / Emergency Medical Services Physician, who began his medical career as a youth squad member in the Commack Volunteer Ambulance Corps.
- CPR Save certificates and lapel pins presented to members of the following agencies:
 - Suffolk County Police Department 3rd PCT. officers; and the
 - Greenlawn FD. The Greenlawn FD was accompanied to the meeting by the patient they saved.
- Motion approved to accept the September, 2017 meeting summary as distributed.

Correspondence – distributed

- Mr. Delagi noted that there were incoming correspondence requiring action that will come up in the Nominations Committee Report, and two (2) Enforcement Action Notifications from NYSDOH regarding EMS Providers in the Suffolk County System.

Incoming – date; from

9/14/17; NYSDOH (Clayton); acknowledging receipt of letter and associated files for REMSCO endorsement of the COT Application filed by Stony Brook Fire Department/District.

9/15/17; NYSDOH (J. Taylor); acknowledging receipt of Port Jefferson EMS Course Sponsor renewal, with REMSCO endorsement for July 1 2017 – June 20 2019 period.

9/18/17; SCPD Course Sponsor; EMT-B Refresher Course Announcement 11/6/17 – 12/21/17.

9/20/17; J. Grady, Esq.; requesting information regarding processing pursuant to NYSDOH Policy 06-06.

9/22/17; EMS Staff (Komosinski/Masterton); receipts for September Instructor Update.

9/21/17; North Shore Ambulance & Oxygen Service (Orlando); requesting information regarding expansion of operating authority process.

10/2/17; Infrastructure Solutions; Invoice 17715 for September services rendered.

10/3/17; Suffolk County Fire District Manager's Assn. (Santangelo); recommending J. Boyd to fill vacant seat on the REMSCO.

10/3/17; Language Line; September Invoice 4165346; for services rendered..

10/5/17; Suffolk County Fire Chief's Council (Thebold); letter supporting SCFDMA recommendation to fill vacant seat on REMSCO.

10/5/17; Suffolk County Fire District Officers Assn. (Egan)); letter supporting SCFDMA recommendation to fill vacant seat on REMSCO.

10/5/17; Town of Babylon Fire Officials Assn (Hartill); letter supporting SCFDMA recommendation to fill vacant seat on REMSCO.

10/6/17; NYSDOH (Brandt); acknowledgement of receipt of second quarter report and voucher.

10/11/17; SCPD Course Sponsor; EMT-B Original Course Announcements, 1/22/18 – 3/5/18, 12/18/18 – 2/15/17, 11/13/17 – 1/18/18.

10/13/17; NYSDOH (Aponte); Notice of Enforcement against Gregory Monsky. In the Suffolk System, notifications made.

10/27/17; Suffolk FRES (Williams); recommending Greg Miniutti as FRES Delegate to the REMSCO; filling seat vacated by J. Vetter.

10/31/17; NYSDOH; Reimbursement check for second quarter voucher.

Continued.

MEETING SUMMARY
November 14, 2017
EMS Office, Yaphank, New York 11980 – Page 2.

Correspondence – continued.

Incoming – date; from

11/1/17; Infrastructure Solutions; Invoice 17749; for October services rendered.
11/6/17; Language Line; October Invoice 4186077 for services rendered.
11/8/17; NYSDOH (Apointe); Notice of Enforcement against Vincent Ilardi. In the Suffolk System, notifications made.
11/13/17; North Shore Ambulance and Ambulette Service (Tufaro); requesting support for Expansion of Operating Authority application.
11/13/17; Port Jefferson EMS Course Sponsorship; EMT-B Original Courses 1/3/2018-5/9/2018, and 1/2/2018 – 5/9/2018.
11/14/17; R. Reilly; email transmitting unable to attend 11/14 meeting, alternate (Manzi) will be present.
11/14/17; Mike's ragtime Pizza; invoice for November meeting expenses

Outgoing – date; to whom; subject

9/12/17; CVAC; check 941 for Annual Awards Dinner & Ceremony.
9/13/17; NYSDOH (Clayton); letter and associated files with REMSCO endorsement of the COT Application filed by Stony Brook Fire Department/District.
9/14/17; Mike's Ragtime Pizza; Check 940 payment for services rendered.
9/14/17; Infrastructure Solutions; check 939 payment for services rendered, invoice 17681.
9/14/17; Infrastructure Solutions; check 938 payment for services rendered, invoice 37416.
9/15/17; NYSDOH (J. Taylor); transmitting Port Jefferson EMS Course Sponsor renewal, with REMSCO endorsement for July 1 2017 – June 20 2019 period.
9/21/17; Response to J. Grady, Esq.; providing information regarding processing pursuant to NYSDOH Policy 06-06.
9/21/17; Response to North Shore Ambulance & Oxygen Service (Orlando); providing process for expansion of operating authority.
10/5/17; NYSDOH (Brandt); second quarter report and voucher.

End of November, 2017 Correspondence

Executive Committee – P. Cammann

- No Report

Treasurer's Report / Budget and Finance – M. Zender

- Mr. Zender reported that he met with the Chair and Vice Chair to modify check signing authority signature cards.
- All invoices have been paid with all finances in order.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNICATIONS – I. Levine

- In Mr. Levine's absence, Mr. Delagi stated that the meeting tonight was not being webcast as the committee had not yet met to address the purchase of new computer equipment.

Continued.

MEETING SUMMARY
November 14, 2017
EMS Office, Yaphank, New York 11980 – Page 3.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE – H. Rosenblum

- Ms. Rosenblum reported that the committee met, and comes with several seconded motions.
 - After much consideration in response to the letter received from the Suffolk County Fire District Managers Association, seeking to fill the vacancy created by Joel Vetter (FRES) resignation, the committee recommends that the seat be retained by FRES, and brings forth a seconded motion to elect their nominee, Greg Miniutti, to the REMSCO. Motion passed.
 - After reviewing the constituencies represented by members whose terms expire December 31, 2018, a seconded motion to retain each of those constituencies, consisting of Suffolk County ENA; Suffolk County Department of Health Services; Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighters Association; and Fire Island Law Enforcement and Safety Council. Motion passed, the Chair directed Mr. Delagi to send re-appointment letters to each organization, to be elected at the January meeting.
 - Presented a seconded motion to allow Mr. Zender to remain in the position of Treasurer/Secretary for a third consecutive year, motion passed.
 - Presented a seconded motion for the 2018 Officers: Chair – Philip Cammann; Vice Chair – Anthony Pellicone; Treasurer/Secretary Mark Zender; and NY State EMS Council Delegate – Bob Delagi, motion passed with each elected to their respective office.

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE – B. Talmage / A. Pellicone

- Mr. Talmage reported that the committee had not met since the last meeting, but would be re-convening soon. Mr. Pellicone stated that progress on ePCR transition will occur under old/ongoing business.

RESOURCE NEEDS – E. Boyd

- Mr. Boyd advised that there was no current business before the committee, and that the committee anticipated an Expansion of Operating Authority from North Shore Ambulance and Ambulette Service, Inc. he cited a letter that was sent out by this commercial service. Mr. Delagi explained that per NY State EMS Policy Statement 06-06, soliciting support from existing ambulance services, among other specific organizations in the region, such as hospitals, County EMS Coordinator, elected officials of municipalities, was a required component of the process. He further stated that he had been contacted by the applicant, and separately, by their legal counsel, soliciting information about ALS protocols, Medical Control, and REMSCO guidelines for processing such applications. Mr. Delagi stated that the process for an Expansion application required a Public Hearing with a hearing officer, the applicant's responsibility to meet the definition of "Public Need" and strict adherence to a timeline for processing contained in 06-06, which will be sent to all REMSCO members for their understanding via email.

REMAC – Dr. M. Minnerop

- In Dr. Minnerop's absence, Mr. Cammann reported that he had been in contact with Dr. Minnerop and there was no report.

Continued.

MEETING SUMMARY
November 14, 2017
EMS Office, Yaphank, New York 11980 – Page 4.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – R. Franz

- Mr. Franz reported that the Governor has signed the Volunteer Firefighters Cancer bill, but still many details regarding eligibility to be worked out.
- Mr. Franz reported that NYSVARA and other statewide organizations were seeking input on State EMS Director Lee Burns' successor.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER – E. Komosinski

- In Ms. Komosinski's absence, Mr. Masterton reported that the Suffolk County Recruitment & Retention Committee reports a recent uptick in applications.

EDUCATION & TRAINING – Dr. Pigott

- Dr. Pigott asked that some previously identified old business be considered and that a REMSCO member be appointed as Co-Chair, to assist in addressing matters that come before the committee.
- Reported that he was working on the Tom Lateulere Memorial Critical Care Conference, stating that the Fall of 2018 was the target date. Mr. Pellicone stated that he was in contact with Community Ambulance Company, pledging the use of their building as the conference venue.
- Dr. Pigott will be reaching out to those volunteering to assist, including Connie Kraft; Meryl Montrose; Jane McCormack; Anthony Pellicone; Helen Rosenblum; and Bobbi DeBono.

NY STATE EMS COUNCIL DELEGATES REPORT- R. Delagi

- Mr. Delagi distributed the September 25-27, 2017 report provided as **attachment 2** and summarized salient points including:
 - New naloxone (Narcan™) nasal spray formulation that is now being distributed in the community, so that EMS may be informed if its single unit dose packaging and contents;
 - PROPOSED change in age of EMS Certification from 18 to 17;
 - Lack of progress on the EMT-CC to EMT-P Bridge program;
 - New research regarding fatigue and its implications on safety and performance; and
 - the significant decrease in EMS funding through the State Aid to Localities funding. Motion made (EB), seconded (BT), passed to write a letter to NY State Legislative Delegation to ensure ongoing adequate funding.
- Mr. Delagi stated that the next series of meetings are scheduled for January 8-10, 2018 with the remainder of the 2018 meeting schedule under development.

EMS DIVISION STAFF REPORT – R. Delagi, M. Masterton, Dr. Pigott

- Mr. Masterton acknowledged the work of EMS staffer Dina Wayrich and provided update on the success of the BLS 12-Lead EKG Program, now consisting of forty one (41) agencies participating, with another nine (9) agencies undergoing their training. Thus far, two hundred fifteen (251) 12-lead EKGs have been acquired and transmitted, including five (5) STEMI patients positively affected by 12-lead that would not otherwise be available.
- Mr. Masterton reported that Ms. Wayrich will be working to revitalize and re-energize the BLS CPAP Program.

Continued.

MEETING SUMMARY
November 14, 2017
EMS Office, Yaphank, New York 11980 – Page 5.

OLD BUSINESS

- Referencing one of the items in the Delegate’s Report, Mr. Pellicone asked Mr. Delagi if there has been any discussion of furthering the EMS profession by licensing EMTs and Paramedics. Mr. Delagi stated that there was a TAG created a few years ago, and after more than a year of researching what other states do, and devising a plan towards licensure, State Education Department and State Health Department could not come to acceptable terms. Mr. Zender described how the PA profession is licensed by State Health, not State Edu and asked if that path was ever considered, with Mr. Delagi recalling that it was not, and acknowledging that may be worth further exploration. He stated that given the Bureau of EMS staffing shortages and fiscal constraints, new projects are not likely at this time.
- Mr. Pellicone reported that he continues to work with Stroke, Trauma, and STEMI Coordinators for their respective key data elements, and distributed a cross walk of those elements, in furtherance of the development of regional closed call rules for ePCR. Discussion ensued regarding the currently poor validity scores by agencies using ePCR, further supporting the need to locally defined required data elements that go further than the NY State minimum data set.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Cammann indicated that there were several housekeeping items requiring action at this, our annual meeting.
 - Motion (RD), seconded (MZ), approved to continue retaining Mr. Timothy Glynn as Legal Counsel;
 - Motion (MZ), seconded (RD), approved to continue using J.P. Morgan / Chase Bank as financial institution;
 - Motion (RD), seconded (MZ), approved to continue using Newsday as official publication; and
 - Motion (RD), seconded (MZ), approved passed to set the meeting schedule, as in the past, as the 2nd Tuesday of every other month, commencing in January, except for the September meeting, so as not to conflict with 9/11 ceremonies. The 2018 meeting schedule is January 9, March 13, May 8, July 10, September 4, and November 13.

There being no further business to come before the council, the Chair called for a motion to adjourn at 8:35 PM.

Next meeting of the Suffolk Regional EMS Council will be on
Tuesday, January 9, 2018
7:00 PM
Suffolk County EMS Offices
360 Yaphank Avenue, Yaphank, NY 11980

ATTACHMENTS TO FOLLOW

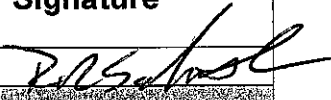




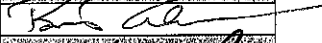




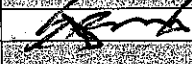


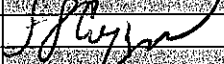
Prepared for the Suffolk Regional EMS Council by Robert Delagi, Program Agency Director.

SUFFOLK REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL

MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST

Date: NW 14, 2017

Location: EMS OFFICE

Constituency	Representative / Alternate	Signature
UCP of Greater Suffolk	Robin Sadowski	
	Patricia Caso	
Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council	Linda Wenze, PhD.	<i>Excused</i>
	Wendy Darwell	
Commercial Transport Sector	Joe Micheels	
East End Ambulance Coalition	Phillip Cammann	
Fire Island Law Enforcement and Safety Coalition	Ian Levine	<i>ABSENT</i>
North Fork Volunteer Rescue Association	Helen Rosenblum, Esq	
NYS Society of Physician Assistants	Mark Zender, PA-C	<i>Mark Zender, PA-C</i>
NYSVARA, District 7	Robert Franz	
Hudson River Healthcare	Carlos Ortiz	<i>ABSENT</i>
	Angelo Viera	
Southampton Town EMS Advisory Committee	Bruce Hoffman	<i>ABSENT</i>
	Danton Kerz	
Suffolk County Ambulance Chiefs Association	Bruce Talmage	
	Bobbi DeBono	
Suffolk County Department of Health Services Commissioner	Mike Masterton	
	Dina Wayrich	
Suffolk County Community College	Matt Zukosky	<i>ABSENT</i>
	Jenna Canavan, RN	
Suffolk County EMS Coordinator	Bob Delagi	
	Karl Klug	
Suffolk County EMS Medical Director	Gregson Pigott, MD	
Suffolk County Emergency Nurses Association	Connie Kraft, RN	
Suffolk County Fire Chiefs Council	Edward Boyd, Esq	
Suffolk County Fire District Association	Raymond Reilly	<i>Excused</i>
	John Manzi	
Vacant / TBD	Vacant	
	Vacant	
Suffolk County FRES Commission	Bryan Prosek	<i>Excused</i>
	Frank Boneventre	
Suffolk County Legislature	Hon. Robert Calarco	
	Bill Shilling	
Suffolk County Medical Control	Kevin Pesce	
	Steve Slovensky	
Suffolk County Police Department	Scott Coyne, MD	
	Angela Ferrara	

Director Burns announced her retirement, effective December 28, 2017. She spoke of other staffing changes that include Donna Johnson, departing within the next few weeks, and Frances Lopes and Tom Behanna, each of whom already left the Bureau. No information available regarding replacements. Director Burns also spoke of a NY State EMS System that is under-funded and under-recognized as an essential service. There is a trickle down affect that negatively impacts State both EMS Operating and Aid to Localities funding streams, decreased by 25% over the last ten (10) years, of which this steadily decreasing funding stream for EMS initiatives does indeed impact work at the regional levels. The financial position does not look good, with many wondering where we are headed as a profession here in NY State.

At the Bureau's request, SEMSCO passed a motion to change regulation to lower the minimum age for State Certification as an EMT-B from age 18 to age 17. There was much discussion about the legal impact of an EMT-B initiating RMA and obtaining informed consent when they are not of "legal age" to do so themselves, and the emotional capacity/stability of a 17 year old exposed to illness, injury and death. At the foundation of the request was the need to provide high school graduates with a career or volunteer path to grow the EMS profession. While there are many college bound high school graduates, it cannot be ignored there that there many who stay in the community, or are looking for a career path to sustain the profession, and in the face of an aging workforce. Also discussed was the need for a policy change to allow Course Sponsors to seek reimbursement for training individuals not associated with an agency code. State DOH stated that no Course Sponsor is expected to train individuals for free, so a policy change is forthcoming. This must complete the regulatory change process before it becomes operational.

Discussions underway throughout the State DOH regarding the future designation select hospitals as Comprehensive Stroke Centers and / or Endovascular Capable Centers (ECC), which may ultimately result in transport guidance that stratifies stroke patients to either a primary stroke center or comprehensive/ECC stroke center.

There will be a new survey forthcoming from the CDC, facilitated through the EMS for Children (EMSC) Grant Manager, seeking information in EMS Providers' ability to use pediatric equipment. Readers will recall previous surveys to collect information about presence / absence of specific equipment sized for pediatric patients.

A combined SEMAC / SEMSCO Technical Advisory Group (TAG) has been convened to revise the NY State BLS Protocols. First draft was presented, was well received, with some comments for modification. Goal is to present a final document at the January 2018 meeting, after receiving feedback from EMSC and STAC. Once approved, much work needs to be done to align PSE and written exam testing to the new protocols before the protocols are released.

There is no new information to report on the EMT-CC to EMT-P bridge. State DOH has been working on the cognitive portion of the transition, therefore there is no new information on the psychomotor portions that include clinical time or skills verification. There is no new information to report on costs to upgrade or reimbursement to Course Sponsors. This remains a work-in-progress. State DOH hopes to have a descriptive time line ready for release at the January 2018 meeting.

State DOH is reviewing and revising the entire CME Program for all levels. We are likely to see a change in required hours, and are expecting an easier process for providers, agencies, and CME Coordinators. The initial rollout of the new format will occur at the Vital Signs Conference in Rochester, October, 2017.

Continued.

Several members of the SEMAC and SEMSCO met with the State Health Commissioner and senior leadership of the DOH to begin addressing a variety of issues that affect sustainment of EMS in NY State. Among them are: workforce concerns; reimbursement for ambulance care; increasing costs to manage EMS; linkages between EMS and the rest of the health care system; and the appointment of a NY State EMS Medical Director. The foundation of the discussion resides in an initiative called EMS 3.0, which is an EMS industry initiative to help EMS agencies and practitioners understand the changes that are needed in EMS to fully support the transformation of our nation's healthcare system, and to provide tools and resources to help implement these changes. This is a long-term work-in-progress.

Transition of EMS Educators to the National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) continues with CIC level first pass rates climbing to 69% and CLI first pass rates remaining consistent at about 85%.

State DOH announced a plan to increase the number of Specialty Course Sponsors across the state. This action based on a thirteen (13) year review of CLI, CIC, and Instructor Update courses being held by existing sponsors. The goal is to increase the number of course offerings, opportunities and education.

Survey results soliciting feedback from providers across the state regarding their feelings on computer-based written certification exams is ongoing.

Statewide trauma system improvements continue to be made, as several more hospitals have achieved American College of Surgeons-Committee on Trauma (ACS-COT) verification. These standards are much more rigorous to achieve and maintain, which translates into improvements in patient care and recovery. To date, 39 of the 44 trauma centers recognized under the older system have transitioned to the ACS-COT standards. Plan going forward is to repeal trauma centers from the current 708 Regulations, moving them to the 405 regulations, with a 45 day comment period in the federal register announced at the appropriate time.

Medical Standards and SEMAC held lively discussion occurred with the NY State DOH Opioid Overdose Prevention Program's transition for layperson naloxone from the traditional 2 mg / 2 ml to the newer 4 mg / 0.1 ml single unit dose Narcan™ device. Discussion included the growing trend of requiring more naloxone to reverse contemporary overdoses as a result of combinations of heroin that is much purer than in the past, mixed with powerful fentanyl or its analogs. Consensus was to administer as much medication as necessary to reverse the overdose (stimulate breathing) without worrying about potential adverse effects or a maximum individual dose.

Safety Committee continues working on Regulation 800.22 focusing on safety features and new ambulance construction and Policy Statement 00-13, safe emergency vehicle operations.

Safety Committee completed its research of twenty eight (28) studies done between 1997 and 2017 demonstrating that fatigue caused by working multiple shifts / multiple hours does indeed lead to cognitive impairment equivalent to DUI / DWI. This, in turn, has emerged as a significant safety concern in our profession as EMS providers are often forced to work multiple shifts for multiple agencies to make a living.

Continued.

EMS Systems Committee addressed two (2) appeals of proceedings occurring in Niagara County and NY City, concluding for each to uphold the decision of the respective Regional EMS Council, and the findings and recommendations of the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ).

State EMS Awards Process is complete, and award winners announced. Presentations will be made at the opening general session of the Vital Signs Conference on Saturday, October 28, 2017. Congratulations to all the award winners and nominees recognized by their peers, and especially to Dr. James Vosswinkel from the Suffolk Region, who will receive the Physician of Excellence Award.

Nominations Committee for the 2018 SEMSCO Officers has been convened, with the following slate: Chair – Patty Bashaw; 1st Vice Chair – Mark Philippy; and 2nd Vice Chair – Steve Cady.

Vital Signs Educational Conference and Trade Show will be held October 25-29, 2017 in Rochester NY. Registration well underway.

Next SEMAC / SEMSCO meetings will be held January 8-10, 2018

End of Delegate's Report