

MEETING SUMMARY
July 10, 2018
Suffolk County EMS Office, Yaphank, New York 11980

NOTE: This summary is a draft summary until approved at the September 4, 2018 meeting.

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

Meeting opened at 7:03 PM, with webcasting in progress. Chairman Cammann presiding, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for those departed from the military and public safety sector, and especially Rescue Diver Saman Gunan, who perished during the Cave Rescue in Thailand.

CPR Life Saving Awards presented the Central Islip-Hauppauge VAC (2 separate saves); West Babylon FD; Patchogue VAC; and Riverhead VAC.

Motion approved to accept the May 8, 2018 Meeting Summary as posted.

Executive Committee – P. Cammann

- The Chair expressed his thanks and appreciation for all the entities and individuals who participated in planning for, and operating at, the U.S. Open. He spoke to the impact on his own home district, and how over forty (4) agencies came together to create and implement a comprehensive plan.

Budget –

- In Mr. Zender's absence, Vice Chair Pellicone reported that all finances in order, with all bills paid, and that REMSCO is in the 1st quarter of the new contract with an approved budget to spend up to \$25,000.00 on related contract deliverables.
- While he had the floor, Mr. Pellicone offered congratulations to Mr. Cammann on his recent marriage, and led the REMSCO in a round of applause.

Correspondence – Distributed

Incoming – date; from whom; subject

5/10/18; SCCC Course Sponsor three (3) EMT-B Original Course Applications for 9/15-12/20/18; one (1) EMT-B Original Course Application for 9/4-1/17/19; and one (1) EMT-P Original Course Application for 9/5-6/20/19.
5/16/18; Infrastructure Solutions; Invoice 17986; for e-learning services rendered.
5/16/18; Five Star Reporting; Invoice 119493; for May Public Hearing services rendered.
5/24/18; Five Star Reporting; Invoice 11962; for May Meeting services rendered.
6/1/18; SCPD Course Sponsor; EMT-B Refresher Course Announcement; 8/6/18 – 9/20/18.
6/2/18; Language Line Services; Invoice 4330194; May services rendered (no payment due).
6/4/18; Infrastructure Solutions; Invoice 18013; June services rendered.
6/20/16; Hunter EMS; Course Sponsor Short Form Renewal Package.
6/25/18; Suffolk County Ambulance Chiefs Association; donation check 1087 for the 1st Annual Tom Lateulere Critical Care Conference.
6/25/18; NYSDOH (Aponte); Notice of Enforcement Action against Bayside Community Ambulance Corps.
7/1/18; Infrastructure Solutions; invoice 18050; for July services rendered.
7/5/18; Language Line; invoice 4350701; for June services rendered.
7/6/18; NYSVARA; Pulse Check 2018 Conference and Trade Show Brochure.
7/9/18; Hunter EMS Course Sponsor; EMT-B Original Course Application; 9/17/18-12/20/18
7/10/18; E. Komosinski; voucher and BJs receipt for July meeting expenses.

Continued.

MEETING SUMMARY – Page 2.
May 8, 2018
Suffolk County EMS Office, Yaphank, New York 11980

Correspondence –continued.

Outgoing – date; from whom; subject

5/10/18; email copy of Suffolk County EMS Course Sponsor Renewal Long Form Application.
5/10/18; NYSDOH (Jonas, Clayton, Sherwood); Letter indicating REMSCO Approval of the North Shore Ambulance and Oxygen Service Expansion of Operating Territory.
5/17/18; North Shore Ambulance (Millock); email transmitting Public Hearing Officer Report.
5/17/18; J. Reisner & K. Taddeo; email transmitting Public Hearing Officer Report.
5/19/18; NYSDOH (Shaw); PAD Information.
5/21/18; North Shore Ambulance (Millock); email transmitting stenographic record of the May Public Hearing.
5/24/18; J. Reisner & K. Taddeo; email transmitting stenographic record of the May Public Hearing.
5/24/18; North Shore Ambulance (Millock); email transmitting stenographic record of the May REMSCO Meeting.
5/24/18; J. Reisner & K. Taddeo; email transmitting stenographic record of the May REMSCO Meeting.
5/29/18; Infrastructure Solutions; Check 972; for e-learning services rendered.
5/29/18; Five Star Reporting; check 971; for May Meeting services rendered.
5/29/18; Five Star Reporting; Check 970; for May Public Hearing services rendered.
6/29/18; AFCO AvPOrts Mgt; PAD Information.
6/30/18; NYSDOH (Shaw); various PAD Correspondence.
7/1/18; Infrastructure Solutions; check 973 for invoice 18013; payment for services rendered.
7/1/18; Infrastructure Solutions; check 974 for invoice 18050; payment for services rendered.
7/8/18; REMSCO members; July meeting reminder.

End of July , 2018 Correspondence

Resource Needs – E. Boyd

- Mr. Boyd acknowledged the number of CPR Save presentation that REMSCO has done over the course of the life of the award, and questioned the need to place an order for CPR Save Lapel Pins, as we have done in the past. After brief discussion, motion seconded and passed to repeat the most recent order.

Education & Training – Dr. Pigott

- Dr. Pigott yielded the floor to Mr. Masterton, who reported that since the last meeting, all Course Sponsor Renewal Applications have been forwarded to the NYSDOH with the REMSCO's endorsement.

Communications & Technology –

- In Mr. Levine's absence, there was no report.

Nominations Committee – H. Rosenblum

- Ms. Rosenblum reported that there was no business before the Nominations Committee.

Continued.

MEETING SUMMARY – Page 3.
July 10, 2018
Suffolk County EMS Office, Yaphank, New York 11980

State Council Delegate’s Report – R. Delagi

- Mr. Delagi reported that since the last meeting, he attended the SEMSCO / SEMAC meetings on May 14-16, 2018. He summarized salient points from the Delegate’s Report, provided as **attachment 2**. Mr. Delagi continued by announcing that this was his last SEMSCO / SEAMC meeting. He continued by acknowledging that even though the REMSCO voted to nominate Mr. Masterton as the Delegate at the May meeting, NY State Executive Order requires that REMSCOs submit the names of two (2) individuals for consideration, this in order to meet the requirements for diversity at the state policy making level. He stated that in keeping with the historical policy of having dedicated full time EMS Division staff represent the REMSCO, Ms. Dina Wayrich was eager to take on the responsibility of serving as the alternate to Mr. Masterton. Motion seconded and passed.
- Mr. Delagi informed the REMSCO that the CON and TOA fees established by the REMSCO have not been increased since 2009, and based on the expenses incurred during the recent CON proceeding, and to bring our fees in line with other regions, he motioned to increase the CON fee to \$3,000 and keep the TOA fee at \$1,500, seconded and approved. Mr. Delagi then complimented Mr. Boyd on his recent service as the Public Hearing Officer, thanking him for his expert pro bono service, thereby saving the applicant significant usual and customary cost of an Attorney performing the same task.

Performance Improvement – A. Pellicone / B. Talmage

- Mr. Talmage deferred to Mr. Delagi to report on the progress of agencies in Suffolk enrolling in the ePCR Program. Mr. Delagi stated that as of this date there were fifty three (53) ambulance services that have either been approved by NY State EMS and are using ePCR, or in the process of training providers, or awaiting NY State approval. This represents one-half of the ambulance services in the region. He announced that the NY State EMS Data Coordinator Mr. Peter Brodie will be in Suffolk County on Wednesday July 25 for two (2) separate two (2) hour sessions, to accommodate those with daytime or nighttime availability; attendance at only one (1) session is required. The agenda will include discussion on ePCR Data Definitions and Values, Regional Activities with ePCR data, NYS Activities with ePCR data, and NEMSIS 3.4.0 Transition Progress. He continued by stating that this seminar will be equally valuable for those using ePCR and those not, with the hopes of fostering the momentum of migration towards ePCR by grass roots advocacy at the agency level. Mr. Masterton added that he had information from other agencies that have purchased, or are budgeting to purchase, ePCR platforms that have not yet applied to the state, and thus, there may be more committed agencies than accounted for in Mr. Delagi’s numbers. Mr. Masterton also stated that as the fire services continues to support legislation to bill for ambulance services, billing requires that agencies use ePCR.

REMAC – Dr. Minnerop

- Dr. Minnerop reported that he and the REMAC were pleased with the momentum underway regarding migration to ePCR across the system. He reiterated that there was no hard deadline for compliance, except for those agencies in the RSI Program, and acknowledged that as more agencies exploring billing opportunities, especially as Fire Districts lobby to get authorizing legislation passed, more agencies will transition. He continued by suggesting that the REMAC, REMSCO and EMS Division host a vendor seminar to target grass roots movements across the system. Mr. Masterton added that the number of agencies transitioning to ePCR will likely grow soon as he had knowledge of several districts in exploratory phase, but not yet filing paperwork for approval. Mr. Slovensky stated that the remaining percentage of agencies will likely need additional support in assisting them, and joined in with the sentiment that a mandated deadline will not work.

Continued.

MEETING SUMMARY – Page 4.
July 10, 2018
Suffolk County EMS Office, Yaphank, New York 11980

Legislative – R. Franz

- Mr. Franz reported that there has been no movement on bills as the State Legislature is in summer recess.

PIO – E. Komosinski

- Mrs. Komosinski reported that she is coordinating a meeting between herself, Jane McCormack and Meryl Montrose and the Chief of the Greenlawn FD (EMS Agency of the year) to begin the planning for the annual awards ceremony and dinner.

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

- Mr. Delagi reported that the NY State QI Manual, a product of the SEMAC and SEMSCO, originally developed and distributed in 2007, was re-distributed to the EMS System by the Division this week. The goal was to provide this still-valuable resource to a new group of EMS leadership, Service Medical Directors, QI Coordinators and EMS Providers to remind all about the need to maintain QI Programs, and to offer assistance as needed.
- He continued by referencing the recent U.S. Open, held in Southampton in June, acknowledging the extraordinary efforts of all involved in planning and execution of a robust multidisciplinary emergency response plan. He also specifically recognized Mr. Slovensky, Dr. Marshall and Stony Brook Medicine for a job very well done with covering event medicine with multiple health care aid stations, ambulances, bike teams, golf cart teams, paramedics, EMTs, physicians, and nurses, as this agency covered 846 encounters, 110 of which were considered major illness or injury, 28 of which required hospital transport.
- Mr. Masterton spoke of the recent office re-assignments, particularly related to the CME Program, and the popularity of that program resulting in the number of EMS Provider packages reviewed by staff doubled as compared to this time last year. He acknowledged the work of Dina Wayrich, who assumed responsibilities for this task, with the retirement of Peter Bergmann. The Division recently hosted a series of CME Coordinators meetings, attracting about 80% of agency representation. This was an opportunity to review CME Coordinator roles, responsibilities and requirements at the agency level. Bringing a proactive approach to the management of CME at the agency level, he advised the REMSCO that an on-line resource was under development, to be available soon. Also under development at the Division is an on-line ALS Credentialing class, where providers can access e-learning and a protocol pre-test, limiting in-person attendance to a proctored exam, or remediation to success as needed.
- In response to a question posed by Mr. Pellicone, Mr. Masterton advises all that there is now 100% compliance with required QI reporting system wide. This in reference to the low frequency / high risk and high frequency / high risk skills and medication administrations. In the last month, he and Dr. Pigott reviewed thirty seven (37) cases, ten (10) of which were initiated at the agency level. Dr. Pigott reminded all that documenting waste of a controlled substance should be done in the appropriate field when using ePCR, not in the narrative.

Continued.

MEETING SUMMARY – Page 5.
July 10, 2018
Suffolk County EMS Office, Yaphank, New York 11980

Old Business

- Mrs. McCormack then reported on the significant progress made since the last meeting with the planning of the 1st Annual Tom Lateulere Critical Care Educational Conference, scheduled for Saturday September 29, 2018 at Sayville Community Ambulance Headquarters. The agenda is near finalized, save for one (1) speaker still to confirm, and a safe-the-date announcement to be distributed shortly. Mr. Pellicone and Mrs. Montrose coordinating vendors and donors, merchandising opportunities, Breakfast & Lunch. Help is still needed, and a committee sign-up sheet was left for members to volunteer.

New Business

- Mrs. McCormack announced that Stony Brook Medicine is hosting a Pediatric Trauma Seminar on September 14, 2018 from 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM, with CME credits available. The seminar will be posted on the REMSCO website and sent to all providers enrolled in the blast email system.
- Mr. Cammann advised the council that there was a small number of NYSVARA’s annual “Pulse Check” Educational Conference and Trade Show advertisements, scheduled for September 20-23, 2018, available tonight, with additional information available on their website at <http://www.nysvara.org/pulseCheck/>. Mr. Franz added that this year there are special awards, early bird registration and scholarship opportunities.

There being no further business to come before the council, the Chair called for a motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM.

Next meeting of the Suffolk Regional EMS Council will be on
Tuesday, September 4, 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: July 10, 2018

Location: GMS OFFICE

Constituency	Representative / Alternate	Signature
UCP of Greater Suffolk	Robin Lane	
	Patricia Caso	
Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council	Linda Wenzel, PhD.	
	Wendy Darwell	
Commercial Transport Sector	Joe Micheels	
East End Ambulance Coalition	Phillip Cammann	
Fire Island Law Enforcement and Safety Coalition	Ian Levine	ABSENT
North Fork Volunteer Rescue Association	Helen Rosenblum, Esq	
NYS Society of Physician Assistants	Mark Zender, PA-C	EXCUSED
NYSVARA, District 7	Robert Franz	
Hudson River Healthcare	Carlos Ortiz	ABSENT
	Angelo Viera	
Southampton Town EMS Advisory Committee	Bruce Hoffman	
	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	ABSENT
	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	ABSENT
Suffolk County Fire Chiefs Council	Edward Boyd, Esq	
Suffolk County Fire District Association	John Manzi	
	Raymond Reilly	
Suffolk County FRES	Gregory Miniutti	
	Steve Januszkewicz	
Suffolk County FRES Commission	Bryan Prosek	
	Frank Boneventre	
Suffolk County Legislature	Hon. Robert Calarco	ABSENT
	Bill Shilling	
Suffolk County Medical Control	Kevin Pesce	
	Steve Slovensky	
Suffolk County Police Department	Scott Coyne, MD	
	Angela Ferrara	

Ryan P. Greenberg was introduced as the new Director of the Bureau of EMS and Trauma Systems. Cathy Burns was introduced as the new Trauma Program Coordinator.

As part of an ongoing project established by the SEMSCO in response to widespread reports that career and volunteer EMS agencies across NY State are coping with shortages of certified EMS Providers, a survey has been developed to gather information and gauge the impact. Survey responses will include aggregate data only, no personal and / or agency identifiers, or individual responses will be released. The survey can be accessed at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NYSEMSWorkforce>

Ongoing discussion occurred regarding the Governor's recent State-of-the-State address included encouraging word about strengthening rural EMS systems, creating employment opportunities in EMS, allowing community paramedicine, increasing availability of EMS Training Programs and enhancing EMS Supervisory Training; all aimed at ensuring a growth platform for the EMS profession in NY State. Unfortunately, this year's EMS budget and cash ceiling both remain flat, with no provision for growth and expansion. Enabling legislation recognizing Community Paramedicine / Mobile Integrated Health Care as an essential extension of emergency medical services' links to the health care system was again defeated due to intense lobbying by the NY State Nurses Association.

The BLS Protocol TAG completed its work on the NY State BLS Protocol document revision. The final draft was presented and a protocol by protocol review held. The Final Comment Period will end mid-July 2018, and final document will be presented at the September 2018 meeting for a vote to accept, with the anticipated start date of January 2019. It is projected that a statewide update will occur in the on-line environment.

The Bureau of EMS EMT Certification Computerized Testing Pilot Program has ended. This pilot was designed to test the efficacy of on-line computer based testing for the NY State Written certification exam. The end-user satisfaction scores thus far indicate a high degree of acceptance.

NY City's proposed Stroke Protocol was approved. This protocol is designed to modify prehospital screening using the Los Angeles Motor Scale plus speech (LAMS plus speech) and preferentially diverting patients to a stroke center capable of mechanical thrombectomy with emergency neurological surgery backup. The issues include the fact that the postulated sensitivity and specificity of LAMs plus speech has not yet been validated.

The Bureau of EMS anticipates resurrecting the Regional Faculty program over the summer. The lack of qualified instructors across the state is evident, largely due to the inability to recruit, credential, retain, and update instructors due to the lack of Regional Faculty.

The Upstate Collaborative AEMT Protocols, adding several medications and one procedure, each within the scope of practice, were approved.

Continued.

Discussion was held regarding the EMT-CC to EMT-P Bridge, with a significant amount of progress on the backbone of the program, which is the didactic on-line platform. While EMS Providers and Course Sponsors are extremely anxious to hear the requirements and are looking forward to bridge start-up, the Bureau has appropriately maintained the approach that there is still process work to be done, the process has not yet been finalized, and it would be irresponsible to release information piecemeal, thereby causing more confusion. The Bureau understands and appreciates the issue and is hoping the release information this summer.

At the January meeting, the draft changes to the CME Program were released. The changes include a revision to the total amount of hours required to recertify at all levels, along with a redistribution of hours by category.

The new format is expected streamline the CME recertification. Due to the impact of staffing shortages and the resultant re-directed work flow, the Bureau of EMS was unable to meet their predicted release date of May, 2018, but do expect release within the next two (2) months. Reminder that despite this draft being initially released at the Vital Signs Conference in October, 2017, this remains a draft and is not yet in effect.

The proposed change in minimum age needed for EMS certification from age eighteen (18) to age seventeen (17) is progressing through the rule-making regulatory process. The comment period has closed, and the bureau of EMS has responded to the comments received. The next step is the draft regulation review by the Division of Legal Affairs (DLA) relative to the comments received which will either result in a new draft, or the forwarding of the current draft for legislative approval.

Transition to the National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) standards continues to progress as expected. The Bureau of EMS reports ongoing steady progress and success with upgrading CICs and CLIs, with the highest percentages of passing on the 1st or 2nd attempt, citing about 80% of the instructors completing the process. The Bureau continues working with instructors through a very successful remedial process as needed, to promote success.

EMSC reported that the recent annual federal survey, sent to select ambulance services across NY State has been completed, stating that more than 98% of the agencies surveyed statewide responded. Preliminary results yield while most ambulances have pediatric patient equipment, the vast majorities don't have a pediatric emergency care champion or a method to ensure competency in pediatric equipment. Future emphasis needs to be placed in this area through ongoing certification, continuing medical education and credentialing.

SEMAC received an appeal from ALS Services, Inc., requesting that their suspension be overturned. SEMAC voted to uphold its decision to uphold the Nassau REMSCO's suspension of ALS Services, Inc., due to the service's ongoing failure to comply with the required stipulations.

SEMSCO's 2018 Officers have been duly elected: Patty Bashaw as Chair; Mark Phillippy as 1st Vice Chair; and Steve Cady as 2nd Vice Chair.

Continued.

SEMSCO's Legislative Committee brought forth motions as follows: support A908 requiring insurance carriers to pay ambulance services directly, instead of through patient pay/reimbursement; support A2733A related to the passage of changes to Article 30 to allow Community paramedicine / Mobile Integrated Health Care; and to oppose A7505A, related to amending the Public Health Law to have the Commissioners of Health and Dept. of Transportation to establish ambulance driver safety standards. Please note that the vote to oppose is not a vote against safe ambulance operations, but rather, it's a vote to oppose the inclusion of the DOT in an EMS related law, a law impossible to enforce, and because it's a topic already addressed in other policy areas.

The PIER Committee is in receipt of 2017 EMS Awards submissions by the regions, reviews are underway, and State Award Winners will be announced in the near future.

An EMT-centric recruitment & Retention Tool has been developed and will be available on the Bureau's website.

The EMS Memorial will be held on May 23, 2018, commencing at 11:00 AM in Albany. This year, eight (8) EMS providers who died in the Line of Duty in 2017 will be enshrined.

NY State EMS Vital Signs Conference will be held in Syracuse, October 10-14, 2018.

END OF REPORT