

MEETING SUMMARY

January 14, 2025

Suffolk County EMS, Yaphank, NY 11980

NOTE: This summary is a draft summary until approved at the March 11, 2025, meeting.

Members Present: See attendance list, provided as *attachment 1*. Subcommittee Attendance see *attachment 2*.

Meeting opened at 1900hrs with Chairman Boyd presiding. Chairman Boyd led the group in the pledge of allegiance, followed by a moment of silence. Secretary Hannigan verified via the sign in sheet that a quorum was present, and official business could be conducted.

A motion was made by Mr. Franz, seconded by Mr. Miniutti, to accept the November 18, 2024, Meeting Summary, as posted. The motion carried without opposition.

Executive Officer's Report – E. Boyd

- Chairman Boyd stated that a request was made at the special REMSCO meeting in December of 2024. The request was for Mr. Masterton to speak with the state and request the state change the timeframe to review incoming regional course sponsor applications from 45 days to 60 days. This request is so that the REMSCO will have time to review these applications without having to call a special meeting. The motion to do so was made by Mr. Franz and seconded by Mr. Pellicone; it passed without opposition.
- Introductions were made of current REMSCO representatives, as well as the bodies they represent.
- Chairman Boyd thanked the REMAC for putting out a notice that highlighted all the policy changes that went into effect with the last Policy Manual update.
- Chairman Boyd asks that current REMSCO members please sign up for one or more subcommittees. The QR code to do so is at the front of the room, next to the sign in sheet.

Vice Chairman's Report – M. Zender

- Vice Chairman Zender reported that the signatories on the REMSCO bank account have been updated to reflect the current executive board.

Budget – T. Prendergast

- The balance in the account is \$18,460.55, and five accounts payable to get sent out tomorrow. The total of these is \$2,632.14.
- A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Mr. Talmage, seconded by Mr. Franz and passed without opposition.

Correspondence – Distributed

Correspondence for January 14, 2025, Suffolk REMSCO Meeting

Incoming – date; from whom; subject

11/8/2024; via mail; insurance bond bill.
11/8/2024; S. Slovinsky to J. Hannigan; asking for any correspondence relevant to upcoming elections
11/13/2024 to 11/16/2024; M. Zender to J. Hannigan; discussions on venue for upcoming conference.
11/14/2024; J. Hannigan and J. Macdonell; information on ordering new tablecloths and backdrop.
11/18/2024, M. Groper to J. Hannigan; request signature from Chairman Manzi for a mutual aid policy
11/19/2024; E. Boyd to J. Hannigan; approval of updated REMSCO letterhead
11/20/2024, T. Allen to J. Hannigan; confirming REMSCO's contact information and physical address
11/22/2024 to 12/20/2024; Central Suffolk Soccer Shots (J. Sloat), Hometown Insurance Agency (J. LaFemina), YESA Futsal, Inc. (J. Vittorato); Notice of Intent to Provide Public Access Defibrillation and Collaborative Agreement
11/26/2024- ongoing; A. Gray to J. Hannigan; conference preparations (St. Anthony's)
12/4/2024; bill from Language Line for November usage.
12/4/2024; reimbursement check from NYS
12/6/2024; bill from Infrastructure
12/26/2024; M. Miller to J. Hannigan; paperwork for reimbursement for SEMSCO attendance
1/6/2025; bill from Language Line for December usage.
1/9/2025; T. Allen to J. Hannigan; contract information requested, submission through portal

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Outgoing – date; to whom; subject

11/8/2024; via mail; insurance bond bill payment.
 11/8/2024; J. Hannigan to S. Slovinsky to; answering request
 11/13/2024 to 11/16/2024; J. Hannigan to M. Zender; discussions on venue for upcoming conference.
 11/18/2024, J. Hannigan to Mr. Manzi; request signature from Chairman Manzi for a mutual aid policy
 11/18/2024, J. Hannigan to M. Groper; signature from Chairman Manzi for a mutual aid policy
 11/19/2024; from E. Boyd to membership, request for website contact information and organizational links to update the REMSCO website; various members answered back with updates during the November and December.
 11/19/2024; J. Hannigan to E. Boyd; draft version of updated REMSCO letterhead
 11/22/2024 to 12/20/2024; D. Wayrich to Central Suffolk Soccer Shots (J. Sloat), Hometown Insurance Agency (J. LaFemina), YESA Futsal, Inc. (J. Vittorato); confirmation letter of receipt of Notice of Intent to Provide Public Access Defibrillation and Collaborative Agreement
 11/22/2024; D. Wayrich to A. Mediavilla; confirming addition of an AED to existing PAD agreement.
 11/25/2024; E. Boyd to J. Hannigan to phone call; order 3 tablecloths and new backdrop
 11/26/2024- ongoing; J. Hannigan to A. Gray; conference preparations (St. Anthony's)
 11/27/2024; J. Hannigan to All American Awards; order plaques
 12/18/2024; J. Hannigan to E. Boyd; requesting permission to go live with a new online registration platform for in-person CME classes on the website; permission granted and go-live date slated for January 2025.
 12/20/2024; letter to NYS; SCREMSO recommends the application for Bloodborne Pathogens be denied
 1/7/2025; to the county and on website; document outlying changes made to Policy Manual.

End of November 12, 2024, Correspondence

Suffolk County EMS Division Staff Reports –P. Marra/ Dr. Winslow/ D. Wayrich/W.M Masterton

- Mr. Marra reported the following on Operations:
 - Biannual controlled substance reports are due no later than January 30th. Please submit in a timely fashion to the state.
 - Hydroxocobalamin is on back order. Please take expired Hydroxocobalamin off ambulances and place an “Out of service” sticker on them. Please do not discard. SCEMS will provide updates once notified of any, if at all, extensions that are granted. Agencies with caches will be notified if not already contacted.
 - Agencies that are due to renew must check:
 - Operating Certificate
 - Controlled Substance Certificate
 - CLIA Licenses
 - DOH 5136 (the form to use ePCRs) must be completed and scanned to Dina for submission, in turn, Dina will submit to the state and send confirmation to the agency that it has been submitted for record keeping.
 - E-bridge training is coming up in February for Selden and Nesconset
 - Coordinated Response training is available
 - There will be a CISM training session at Centereach tomorrow.
 - Working on Fire Fighter Rehab presentations and MCI trainings are available.
- Dr Winslow reported the following:
 - The most recent meetings of the State Council were held in Troy on December 2nd through 4th. The regional Program Agency contracts are still pending their final award letters from New York State DOH. The next meeting of the State Council was changed from early February to be on February 26 and 27 so please make a note of the change. There have been no new policy statements put forth by the State since the last REMSCO meeting back in November, and there were no major developments at the recent meetings other than to report that the SEMAC did support and authorize the Suffolk County BLS IM Glucagon pilot project that was presented by Chief Jeff Takamine from Flanders; thank you Chief. The program is going to be led by Suffolk County REMAC but will be offered up to the entire State similar to the BLS IGel program. There is planned for implementation on July 1st to give plenty of time for education and training and for other regions to participate.
 - There has been an increase in cases of influenza over the last several weeks in New York State. This is like last winter 2023 – 2024 in terms of the numbers of cases and in the numbers of hospitalized patients with influenza. All EMS providers are advised to be aware and to protect yourself. EMS providers are encouraged to get an influenza vaccine if they have not yet done so.

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- It has also been noted that there has been a significant increase in cases of Pertussis. Pertussis is from a bacteria, *Bordetella pertussis* and it is spread through respiratory droplets like influenza. Pertussis is treated with antibiotics. Household contacts and those who are immune compromised who are exposed to cases of pertussis should receive prophylactic antibiotic treatment. Pertussis is mostly a concern for newborns and infants who have yet to finish the vaccination series. In infants it may cause pneumonia or severe respiratory distress and even apnea. Pertussis is also a concern for the elderly in whom their vaccine effectiveness may have worn off. EMS providers are advised to consider appropriate PPE when caring for a newborn or infant with influenza-like illness and severe coughing spells. Pertussis vaccination is part of the tetanus diphtheria and pertussis vaccine and is readily available for anyone out there who needs a booster - which is effective for 10 years.
- A Cold Weather Advisory was put out to address EMS patient care protocols specific to cold weather such as frostbite and hypothermia. All EMS providers are encouraged to review the advisory which is posted on the Suffolk REMSCO website under *Headlines* and under the *Advisories* section.
- Also, please see the Suffolk County REMAC advisory on the updates to the regional REMAC policy manual that went into effect on November 1st. A post-call notification to Medical Control is only required for patients who had placement of an advanced airway or who were in cardiac arrest. There were also updates to the RMA policy. Please note that now a patient being over the age of 70 alone is not a requirement to contact Medical Control to secure an RMA. The manual is posted on the Suffolk REMSCO website.
- Last, Dr. Winslow congratulated Dr. Trevor Marshall as the new REMAC Chair and Dr. Jack Geffken as the new Vice Chair. Both physicians are very experienced leaders in the EMS system and represent multiple EMS agencies in Suffolk County. Congratulations Trevor and congratulations Jack. He also thanks Dr. Juan Acosta for his service as the past Chair of the REMAC over the last 2 years. Thank you, Juan.
- An update was given on the upcoming Lateulere Conference by A. Gurne and Secretary Hannigan
 - The conference is set for April 26th, 2025, at St. Anthony's High School in South Huntington
 - Catholic Health Services EMS are the title sponsor for the event, and are contributing \$5000 to this year's conference. Thank you to Catholic Health Services EMS.
 - Stryker has committed to be a Goldsponsor, and has contributed \$750.
 - There are more and other varying levels of sponsors. Gold (\$750), silver (\$300), and bronze (\$200). Sponsors are still needed.
 - After analyzing feedback from last year's conference, classes will be one-hour blocks and contain core content. In the future, there may be more "tracts" to offer different classes.
 - There will be an official "Call for Speakers" sent shortly. Abstracts will be reviewed, and a committee will choose who will be the speakers for each session.
- Mr. Masterton gave an extensive report, can be seen here as *attachment 3*.
 - Mr. Boyd asked a question about the upcoming AEMT program for the county, and Mr. Masterton hopes to have more information at the next meeting.

Education and Training- W.M. Masterton

- The report on workforce shortages can be found on the Suffolk REMSCO website.
- Mr. Masterton summarized his state report, the entire report can be found here as *attachment 4*.

Resource Needs- E. Boyd

- No applications, nothing to report.

Communications and Technology- G. Miniutti

- No report.

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Nominations Committee – S. Slovensky

- Mr. Slovensky reported that the confusion with Jamie Atkinson's appointment to REMSCO has been clarified, and everything is in order. Mr. Slovensky made a motion to approve Mr. Atkinson's seat, seconded by Mr. Marra, and passed without opposition. Mr. Atkinson remains the representative to the REMSCO from the Islip Town Ambulance Chiefs Association.
- Mr. Pellicone reported that the Commercial Ambulance Service does not have an alternate on file. Mr. Pellicone made a motion to appoint Mr. Joseph Cutrone from AMR as the alternate. The appointment of alternate representatives was briefly discussed, and the motion was rescinded. Instead, a motion was made by Dr. Winslow and seconded by Mr. Manzi to appoint Mr. Joseph Cutrone as the representative for the Commercial Ambulance Service as the current representatives have not met their attendance requirements. There was discussion, and it was called by Chairman Boyd. The motion passed without any opposition.

Performance Improvement – B. Talmage

- No report.

REMAC – Dr. Acosta (excused, given by Dr. Winslow)

- Nothing additional to report.

Bylaws- A. Pellicone

- Mr. Pellicone reported that the proposed bylaw changes have been distributed as required. Mr. Pellicone made a motion to approve them, which was seconded by Dr. Winslow. There was discussion, and the motion was tabled to the next REMSCO meeting to allow for more membership review of the final formatted version.

Public Information- J. Manzi

- Mr. Manzi reported the next CPR Save Award will be on May 10, 2025. Mr. Marra asked for a cutoff on this ceremony's submissions to allow division staff to properly prepare. The cutoff for the May 10, 2025, ceremony was set for April 20, 2025. The Trauma Save Awards will occur on the same day, and with the same submission cutoff.

Legislative – R. Franz (given after old and new business)

- Mr. Franz reported that there is not much to update since the NYS 2025 legislative session just began a couple weeks ago. He is reviewing NYSVARA, FASNY and SEMSCO legislative agenda or items and obtaining the 2025 bill numbers for the 2024 legislative session bills since those bills will have to be reintroduced in 2025. New bills, and in some cases, new sponsors will be needed for some of the bills.
- Mr. Franz thanks Mr. Masterton, for passing on legislative information ; it is very much appreciated.
- Suffolk County Legislation – Affordable Housing Programs: Mr. Franz attended and spoke at the SC Legislature meeting on Tuesday 12/16/24 in support of a Proposed Local Law Resolution 2024-1997 sponsored by Legislator Rebecca Sanin. The law would improve the County's Affordable Housing Programs for volunteer firefighters and Emergency Medical Services personnel. The legislature decided that the proposed law needs more work and sent it back to the committee with the intent that it will be reintroduced in February 2025. The Towns of Huntington and Babylon recently passed resolutions for Affordable Housing for FF and EMS personnel in their towns.
- Mr. Boyd asked Commissioner Sunderman to say a few words to the group. He reported that FRES is working closely on the merger, if anyone has any requests or needs, please send them along.

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- Awards were given to Former Chair Manzi and Former Chair and Member Cammann for their service to the REMSCO. Mr. Manzi continues to serve as a member; Mr. Cammann is retired. Both were thanks for their hard work and exceptional service.

Old Business

- De-escalation techniques were discussed, and training will be offered in the future.

New Business

- The dates for the 2025 meetings were set: January 14 (this meeting), March 11, May 20, July 8 (offering this meeting in conjunction with REMAC), September 16, and November 18, 2025.
- Mr. Pellicone referenced policy 5.02, the “Home Rule” question. There are no updates, Mr. Marra will provide an update at the next meeting.
- Mr. Manzi thanked everyone for their service and assistance during his tenure as REMSCO Chair.
- Mr. Presta reported that the Rescue Task Force will have their next meeting on January 30, 2025, at 2 PM. The TAG is currently working on a manual.
- Legislature Thorne spoke on changes in dispatching that is coming down from the state. The region may need to submit letters to the state as the policy may negatively impact the region.

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Marra, seconded by Mr. Cutrone, at 2022 hrs.

**Next meeting of the Suffolk Regional EMS Council will be on
Tuesday, March 11, 2025
7:00 PM
Suffolk County EMS, 360 Yaphank Ave., Yaphank, NY 11980**

ATTACHMENTS TO FOLLOW

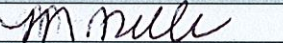
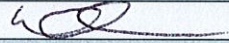
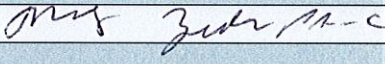
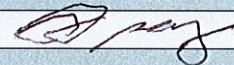
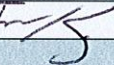
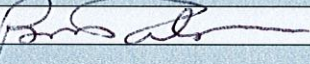
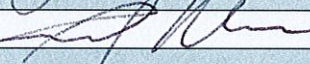
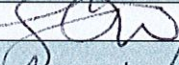
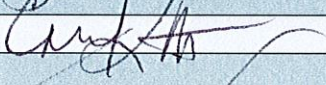
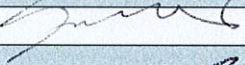
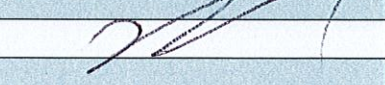
Prepared for the Suffolk Regional EMS Council by Jennifer Hannigan, Executive Secretary.

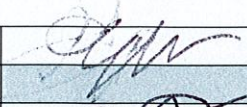
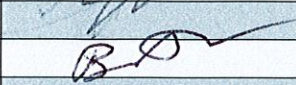
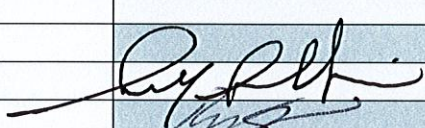
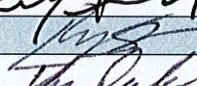
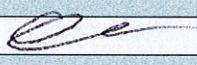
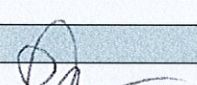
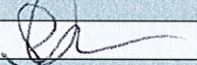
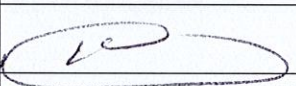
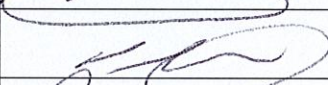
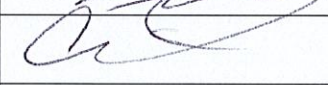
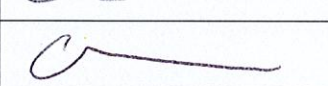
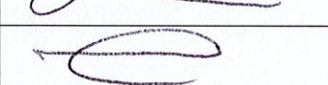
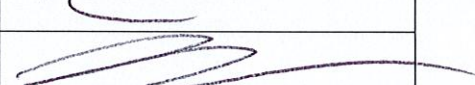
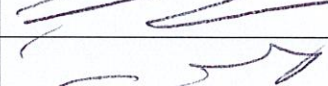
SUFFOLK REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL

MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST

Date: January 14, 2025

Location: Suffolk County EMS, Yaphank

Constituency	Representative/ Alternate	Signature
UCP of Greater Suffolk	Robin Lane	
	Patricia Caso	
Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council	Michele Miller	 
	Frank Milza	
Commercial Transport Sector	George Pansy	
	David Hrist	
East End Ambulance Coalition	Katie Hand	
Fire Island Law Enforcement and Safety Coalition	Ian Levine	
	Martin Leiseman	
North Fork Volunteer Rescue Association	Jerry Diffley	
	Peggy Killian	
NYS Society of Physician Assistants	Mark Zender, PA-C	
NYSVARA, District 7	Robert Franz	
	Edward Merchant	
Sun River Health	Angelo Viera	
	Carlos Ortiz	
Southampton Town EMS Advisory Committee	Ian King	
Suffolk County Ambulance Chiefs Association	Bruce Talmage	
	Amanda Zinicki-Ceckowski	
Suffolk County Department of Health Services Commissioner	W. Michael Masterton	
	Dina Wayrich	
Suffolk County Community College	Matt Zukosky	
	Jena Canavan, RN	
Suffolk County EMS Coordinator	Paul Marra	
Suffolk County EMS Medical Director	Dr. Jason Winslow	
Suffolk County Emergency Nurses Association	Connie Kraft, RN	
	Donna Rivera, RN	
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. Tom Donnelly	
	Bill Shilling	
Suffolk County Medical Control	Christopher Gallway	Excused
	Stephen Slovensky	
Suffolk County Police Department	Dr. James Vosswinkel	
	Peter DiPrima	
Islip Town Ambulance Chiefs Association	Jamie Atkinson	
	Scott Crosby	
Northwell Health / South Shore University Hospital	Anthony Pellicone	
	Raymond Smith	
Suffolk County Volunteer Fireman's Association	Thomas Prendergast	
Suffolk REMAC	Dr. R. Trevor Marshall	Excused
	Dr. Jack Geffken	
Catholic Health Services of Long Island	Dr. Eric Decena	
	Winston Lee	
Suffolk RTAC	Susan Henderson	
	Dr. Rich Scriven	
University Hospital EMS	Stephen Slovensky	
	Shawn Edouard	
GUEST NAME	AFFILIATION	SIGNATURE
RJ Renna	Representing PO McCaffrey	
Philp Commoner	East End Ambulance	
Cono Cimino	Northwell	
Christopher Klen	Northwell	
Mike Presta	PSEMS	
Rich Tushie	MBAC	
Anthony Guerne	Northwell	

SUFFOLK* REMSCO

OFFICERS:

John Mnazi
Chairperson
Edward Boyn, Esq.
Vice-Chairperson
Mark Zender
Treasurer/Secretary

Member Organizations:

UCP of Greater Suffolk
Nassau-Suffolk Hospital
Council
Commercial Transport
Sector
East End Ambulance
Coalition
Fire Island Law
Enforcement and Safety
Coalition
North Fork Volunteer
Rescue Association
NYS Society of
Physician Assistants
NYSVARA, District 7
Sun River Health
Southampton Town
EMS Advisory
Committee
Suffolk County
Ambulance Chiefs
Association
Suffolk County
Department of Health
Services Commissioner
Suffolk County
Community College
Suffolk County EMS
Coordinator
Suffolk County EMS
Medical Director
Suffolk County
Emergency Nurses
Association
Suffolk County Fire
Chiefs Council
Suffolk County Fire
District Association
Suffolk County FRES
Suffolk County FRES
Commission
Suffolk County
Legislature
Suffolk County
Medical Control
Suffolk County Police
Department
Islip Town Ambulance
Chiefs Association
Northwell Health /
South Shore University
Hospital
Suffolk County
Volunteer Fireman's
Association
Suffolk REMAC
Catholic Health
Services of Long Island
Suffolk RTAC
University Hospital
EMS

Subcommittee: Training + ED

Date: 11 / 19 / 24

Location: SL EMS + Van webex

Chair/Acting Chair: Ed Boyd Quorum reached? Y/N

Present at location:

Rob Stessard

Ed Boyd

Wm Masterton

Katie Hand

Rich Tuelan

Denise Gurdolfo

Clayton DeCastard

Continue on back if necessary.

PSBMS Online!

John Marini

Ian King

Phil Cannann

Robin Lane

Anthony Guerne

Matt Zukowski

Michele Miller

Gregory Minutti

Paul Marra

Mike Presta

Ian Hannigan

George Pinsky

Dina Vayrich

Suffolk REMSCO Meeting 1/14/25
Training, Education Report –
William Michael Masterton

Education – EMS Courses – The Suffolk County EMS Divisions has completed the EMTB Refresher Course held at the “New” Islip’s Exchange Ambulance Building. Most of the Students have completed their NYS Certification and Credentialing and are joining the ranks of our EMS System. We have just started an EMT Original there at their new building as well.

Our new Eastern Suffolk BOCES EMTB Original Courses are going well and they will be starting their field time hopefully soon. Thank you to the EMS Agencies who are assisting us with Junior Membership. Again, this program will be a great opportunity for EMS Agency Junior Members in High School to become EMT’s during school hours. The Students will need to turn 17 y/o by June 30th of the school year. They must also be a “Junior Member” of an EMS Agency in the Eastern Suffolk BOCES school districts. The school districts included in the ES BOCES Program are Islip, Brookhaven, Riverhead, Southold, Southampton, East Hampton and the Southern part of Smithtown. Registration will be through their home school district like the other BOCES Programs.

The SCEMS Division is also currently running an evening Juniors EMT Original Course at the Community Ambulance and one at St. Anthony’s High School. EMS/Fire Agencies that are looking to put together a Regular EMTB Class or a Junior Members EMTB class or any other EMS Courses, please feel free to contact me at 631-852-4836 or William-Michael.Masterton@suffolkcountyny.gov

The EMS Division still has several other EMTB Originals courses that running throughout Suffolk County (West Babylon FD, Ronkonkoma FD, Brentwood Ambulance, Riverhead Ambulance and Southampton Town Ambulance. We just started our first “synchronous” course with course with locations at both the Fishers Island F.D. and SCEMS in Yaphank. We will have EMT Originals Courses starting at North Babylon on 2/18/24 and a “Rapid” Daytime EMT Original (M,W,F) 9am-3:30pm at the SCEMS Academy on 1/22/25. We also have a CFR Original/Refresher posted at Copiague F.D. starting 2/2/25 and an EMT Refresher Course at the Miller Place F.D. starting on 1/22/25. Please note that all of the EMS Courses that are being offered in Suffolk County by our Six (6) EMS Course Sponsors are posted on the Suffolk REMSCO website under the “Training Courses” tab. <https://www.suffolkremSCO.com/main/training-education/> You can also sign up for course announcement on the bottom of the REMSCO homepage. Just click the “Email Signup” tab.

The Division is currently working on a “New” AEMT Original Course Program and schedule for 2025. We hope to have an outline, requirements and a schedule out soon. We have also been recently approved by NYS BEMS to offer AEMT Core CME at our monthly “ALS” CME sessions. AEMT’s in Agencies in the SCEMS Division CME Program can contact me directly for questions.

ABC Courses – The SCEMS Division has resumed our Hybrid ACLS and Hybrid PALS classes. Currently we have a Hybrid PALS Refresher posted for 1/22/25 or 1/30/25. Students must pick up a book, complete the online course work and attend one of the skills dates. Cost is \$135.00. The Division will be posting more Hybrid ACLS and PALS Courses for early 2025 shortly. We are also holding a BCLS Instructor Course on Saturday March 1st 2025 from (9am-3:30pm) Please check the “Headlines” page for listings and registration information. For information on future CPR Instructor Courses please contact EMS Officer, Patty Manfredonia patty.manfredonia@suffolkcountyny.gov 2024 Highlight: The SCEMS Division has certified 4446 Students in AHA Courses. Up 103 from 2023. Thank you Patty Manfredonia and all of our AHA Instructors for the work that you do!

CME – Reminder: The FASNY 2025 EMS Conference Selden. The Pre-Conference Workshop is on Friday, January 24, 2025 Pre-Conference Registration at 7:30 a.m. Pre-Conference starts at 8:00 a.m. The SCEMS Division to present the Core and Non-Core Content. Core Hours (All Levels): Cardiology =1 Hour, Trauma = 1hour OB, Neonate, Pediatrics = 2 hours. Non-Core Hours (All Levels): Trauma = 1 hour, OB, Neonate, Pediatrics = 2 hours We are pleased that this is our 18th year participating with FASNY on this annually conference. SATURDAY SESSIONS Saturday, January 25, 2025 Conference Registration at 7:30 a.m. Conference starts at 8:00 a.m. Topics: State of the State of EMS- Discussing Issues of EMS in NYS. Question & Answer Portion- Prehospital Emergency Childbirth- Drowning and Management of Submersion Injuries- Croup!! There it is!! And - Shots Fired: Characteristic Injuries Associated with Gun Violence Please check the “Headlines” page or the FASNY website.

Update on the ALS Online Core CME courses, we currently have 99 Students registered in the ALS online course (84 Medics & 15 EMT-CCs.) Ten (10) students have already completed all 35 hours. Students in our CME Program can complete all or some of the online courses as needed. The division held a CME Coordinator Update Teams Meetings in late November with a day and evening session for our CME Coordinators and Agency Leaders. Topics discussed: ALS Online Core Courses, BLS and ALS Online Course Registration, Monthly CME Update, Mandatory Non-Core CME, Review of Submission Timelines, New BLS Core Course lessons for the BLS Providers that have completed the online BLS CME Course and questions from participants. A copy of the presentation was sent to all CME Coordinators and Leaders in the SCEMS Division CME Program.

Just a reminder that Providers in the Suffolk County EMS Division CME Program are required to meet with their Agency CME Coordinator to review the paperwork and then make an appointment with the EMS Division to submit their packet CME Packet. We suggest a timeline at least ninety (90) days prior their certification expiration. Forty-Five Day Late Form, you will not be allowed to schedule an appointment with the Suffolk County EMS Division under sixty (60) days of certification expiration without a 45 day form signed by the Authorized EMS Agency Officer. Question on CME should first be directed to your Agency CME Coordinator.

As discussed at our last meeting, the Suffolk County EMS Division is working on a “New” two-three (2-3) hour Non-Core CME (De Escalation technics with a skills demo review on restraints for Behavioral Emergencies.) We will be holding a beta class in early February and we plan on offering these trainings in each of the Ten (10) Towns later this winter and spring. Please look for postings for this new class.

Update on Bridge Program –The SCEMS Division currently has no students registered for Cohort # 11 that tests out December/January. We currently do have seven (7) students registered in Cohort #12 that finish in May/June 2025. Cohort #13 started in October of 2024 and it will run through January of 2026. Registration will open up on January 2nd 2025 with applications due by March 28th 2025 for the next course running April 17th 2025 through July 16th 2026. Please check the bottom of the “Training Courses” page for a link to the Northwell EMT-CC to Medic Bridge Course. The final EMT-CC to Paramedic Bridge shall commence in April of 2026. We continue to advise our current EMT-CCs to strongly pursue the Bridge Program while it exists. Also funding is available to EMS Agencies to offset the cost to the provider. Information on the Bridge Course can be found on the Suffolk REMSCO website on the bottom of the "Training Courses" page. https://www.learnemt.org/cc_to_Medic_bridge.php

NYS Education Regulations:

New Policy (24-08) 10 NYCRR Part 800.3 - 800.20; Education Change Log Effective 06.05.2024 V 1.1

This document serves as a comprehensive overview of recent regulatory changes within the Article 30 Part 800 education regulations. Providers will start to see transition in processes to reflect the new regulations. Specific policy guidance documents will detail revised processes, eligibility criteria, administrative procedures for course sponsors, reciprocity measures, and changes in provider certifications. For any inquiries or concerns prior to the release of additional guidance, please contact the Bureau of EMS through the 'Contact Us' link on the EMS forms page.

New Policy (24-07) Advanced EMS Practitioner Courses Practical Skills Evaluation: Any CAAHEP accredited paramedic program, or programs with a Letter of Review, will have the option to substitute evaluation of students that are conducted on a recurrent basis and with sufficient frequency to provide both the students and program faculty with valid and timely indications of the students' progress toward and achievement of the curriculum competencies in the required learning domains in place of a formal one- or two-day practical skills exam for Paramedic-Original students.

Course administrators conducting any AEMT course, or a Paramedic recertification course will be required to incorporate a BLS competency session to verify the candidate's proficiency with BLS skills. Verification of documentation of BLS competency may be requested by the State EMS representative at the time of the Paramedic PSE.

Paramedic refresher programs should continue to follow the formal one-day practical skills evaluation program for all students until such time as additional guidance is provided. Refresher programs must contact the bureau and inform them of the date the PSE will occur, and the bureau will provide additional guidance on the administration of the refresher PSE at that time.

New Policy (24-06) Requirements for the Possession and Production of NYS DOH Issued EMS Certification:

This policy statement is intended to provide clear direction to EMS providers, EMS agencies and the emergency service community regarding the requirements for the possession and production of NYS Department of Health issued EMS certification. (Agencies also may verify provider certification using the Health Commerce System (HCS).

Regional Certified ALS and BLS Credentialing –

(Number Compared to numbers 1 year ago)

CFR – 35 **(+2)**

BLS – 5,568 **(+413)**

CC – 133 **(-8)**

P – 1018 **(+87)**

Total Providers = 6,754

Total ALS Provider = 1,151

End of report...

NY State EMS Council SEMSCO Delegate's Report

December 3rd – 4th, 2024

By: William Michael Masterton

SEMSCO –

SEMSCO Chair Report – This is my last meeting as Chair. I could not be more honored to be the Chair three (3) terms in total. Thank you for supporting and working with me over the last few years. Council, Mike - for our leadership and vision!

1st Vice Chair – He thanked the Chair for the work that he has done and he is an inspiration to us all. Currently working on an “Introduction-Welcome to State Council” document and it is nearing completion and should be out soon. Any last minute issues please feel free to let me know.

2nd Vice Chair – I would like add to the 1st Vice Chairs comments, “thank you Mike.” Nominating Committee Report – No one has submitted or expressed interest in the positions and there has been no other nominations received. The Committee recommended slate: Chair - David Violante, 1st Vice Chair - Teresa Hamilton, 2nd Vice Chair - Donald Hudson. Seeing there have been no other nominations received, Chair asked for nominations from floor, three (3) times, closed nominations, and asked Secretary to cast ballot to elect those nominated. Council voted and all passed.

NYS BEMS&TS Staff Report –

Ryan Greenberg – On administration side the 2024 to 2029 program agency contracts are still pending but hopefully will be out shortly. Fiscal year spending is higher than last year. Aid to Localities is already north of \$6 million out of \$10 million available.

PROTOCOL CHANGES ALIGNMENT WITH EDUCATION STANDARDS – While we’re making some great changes in medicine we’re losing some process somewhere. Nuchal cord removal for CFRs was not vetted through Education & Training Committee, national scope of practice and was not aligned with educational standards. We’re changing medicine but invalidating some state exams. Educators will have to change the delivery to students. We made a concerted effort to move from our own state education guidelines to align with national education standards and now it seems we’re going in a different direction. We could be teaching one thing; standards say something else and we’re testing something different. Local concerns can be accommodated but fiscal concerns and costs may also need to be factored in.

CRITICAL CARE PARAMEDICINE – from previous discussions about critical care and putting a group together to evaluate what we want it to look like in the future. Any progress? It is an opportunity to watch for funding opportunities to provide training for critical care paramedics.

Michael Dailey, MD advised Steven Walsh, Clausson Raught Community Rescue Squad, Copake passed away November 16, 2024 while working a 24-hour EMT shift. A moment of silence was held. Dr. Dailey advised Walsh was a student in REMO’s AEMT class and with the assistance of BEMS&TS was awarded his AEMT certification posthumously. Walsh was also a firefighter with the A.B. Shaw Fire Company.

BUREAU OF EMS & TRAUMA SYSTEMS (BEMS&TS) UPDATE –

Surveillance and Operations continue. Back to inspections about every two (2) years. Also doing spot inspections and dealing with different complaints that come in. Some reminders: Make sure lose items are secured in the back of ambulances, ambulances are temperature controlled especially if they are going to be left outside with medications for an extended period of time. Make sure you are evaluating agency compliance related to call responses and ePCR submissions. Secure vehicles and take the keys with you – we have several stolen ambulances a year from ambulance garages to ED bays.

We did identify in the last two (2) days some things we need to address to make sure that all ePCRs are flowing through. There has actually been a gap we'll be looking into it.

Surge Operations Center is fully operational twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. We have seen an increase in calls particularly related to hospitals looking for bed matching as well as transportation particularly in the North Country area and this has been a challenge. The center is open to any facility or agency to use should they need assistance with patient transfers or contact information.

Looking at processes for agency licensure. This is getting a big over-hall. Medical Directors will be seeing different forms changing in different ways that they are submitting. Agencies will be asking different things from their Medical Directors. Processes will be reworked to streamline them. All agencies should receive their renewal packages by e-mail ninety (90) days before expiration. Submissions are e-mailed back to BEMS&TS and processing time is normally seven (7) to ten (10) days for renewals.

Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement (BNE) renewals for controlled substances are separate so watch for your narcotics inspection and expiration date as well as agency licensure expiration date.

BLS-FRs who have been registering and have not heard from BEMS&TS are asked to bear with us as there have been delays on our side. Determinations of Public Need applications are submitted to REMSCOs and also forwarded to BEMS&TS for fitness and competency determinations.

Policy Statement updates are coming and should be out by the next meeting. If an agency is closing and/or merging follow Policy Statement 13-09 Closure Planning for Ambulance or Advanced Life Support First Response Service Operating Certificate. There have been several overnight closures and we know that sometimes that is unavoidable. If you think your agency is in a weak spot contact BEMS&TS early as we may be able to help with a smooth transition rather than scramble to make sure there is coverage in an area.

Workshop for paramedic program directors will be held in February for development and networking and growing the number of paramedics (500) we train on a regular basis. ▪ NEMSIS 3.5 implementation is moving ahead with only a few agencies left to transition. Submission failure rates are significantly lower than 3.4. Working on NEMSQA measures that are in the system and getting reports out to get you visualization. Hopefully in 2025 we will be able to get Biospatial software out to not only the program agencies but to the larger EMS agencies. American College of Surgeons (ACS)

verification visits to trauma centers are ongoing. There have been some challenges and seeing trauma centers must fix certain things.

American College of Surgeons is currently working on a whole blood survey that is showing pretty good participation.

Rural Ambulance Task Force paper is in final layers of approval. Hope to see it out in the next four (4) to eight (8) weeks.

Regulations: Education - comment period and regularity process completed. Vehicle build specs – 1st public comment period closed. Will be sent out again in January. Equipment – 1st public comment period closed. Will be sent out again in January. Performance standards – Systems & QI – proposals pretty much completed. Working on regulations for blood process for ground ambulances as well as application process formerly for an ambulance transfusion service that will go through the BEMS&TS as opposed to the Wadsworth Center. New regulations will cover carrying and storing blood and not just for inter-facility transports.

Community Paramedicine Advisory Panel is in the vetting process. Hope to have it start the beginning part of 2025. Will be working on framework for regulations, policies, and guidelines.

Vital Signs Conference in 2025 will be in Syracuse from November 11, 2025 to November 15, 2025. Based on feedback the primary education days will be Friday and Saturday with pre-cons Wednesday & Thursday. Call for speakers is open. Hotel and exhibitor information will be up in January. EMS Memorial service will be Tuesday May 20, 2025 on the Empire State Plaza, Albany.

SEMAC – Medical Standards/Protocol – seconded motions: To approve the collaborative protocol changes and change log as presented. Motion to recommend to the Commissioner to accept the BLS IM Glucagon Pilot Program statewide for adults and pediatric patients greater than 20KG. Comment made about expensive medications that are not reimbursed. This led into comments from Steven Kroll about more and more ALS modalities being done in BLS scenarios and if the % is high enough we should look to upping the BLS reimbursement rate. Donald Hudson commented with a question about the federal definitions of BLS and ALS. Has anyone asked Medicare or Medicaid what their definitions mean as they don't seem to be tied to the level of provider - but to the care provided. Both seconded motions passed.

Education and Training and Finance – Donald Hudson/Steve Kroll

Joint meeting of Finance with Education and Training Subcommittee. First ever joint meeting to collectively work on overlapping agenda items. Provocative questions and discussion points to BEGIN the conversations for sustainment and improvement - is what we are doing working? If not, what should we be doing instead? EMS agencies are not divorced from education. Discussion with a number of comments about retention of EMS providers: Question was raised that where did our education policy come from? Is it time to change? Tuition vs. reimbursement vs. service obligation programs. How many people who come into an EMS agency actually end up serving on an ambulance? Should we mandate EMS agency leadership have formal training or certifications? Field Training Officer (FTO) position was mentioned. A question was raised if it would be best to require those with a paramedic certification have an associate degree? In colleges sixty (60) contact hours equates to requirement for an associate degree. EMT-P course goes up to equivalent of seventy (70) hours.

Students should have an investment in their course, in other words “skin in the game.” They should pay some of the tuition?

Should there be a means for tuition forgiveness/reimbursement after some period of service? Should EMS agencies be charged for vouchered students who do not successfully complete courses? Course Sponsors are burdened by students who do not take and pass the NYS Certifying Exam resulting in no DOH reimbursement for costs.

2023 EMS Course Enrollment Statistics							
Course Level	Enrolled	Took Practical	Took Exam	Certified	Passed Practical	Failed Practical	Retested Exam
First Responder	1,071	929	837	778	924	5	193
Basic	9,888	7,663	6,869	6,278	7,524	139	3,613
AEMT	256	160	175	144	155	5	72
Paramedic	843	570	537	528	561	9	260
Grand Total	12,058	9,322	8,418	7,728	9,164	158	4,138

Course Level	% of Students Enrolled That Took Practical	% of Students Enrolled That Took Exam	% of Students Enrolled That Certified	% of Students That Took Practical and Failed	% of Student That Took Exam and Retested	% of Students That Passed PSE and Took Exam	% of Students That Passed PSE and Became Certified
First Responder	87%	78%	73%	1%	23%	91%	84%
Basic	77%	69%	63%	2%	53%	91%	83%
AEMT	63%	68%	56%	3%	41%	113%	93%
Paramedic	68%	64%	63%	2%	48%	96%	94%
Grand Total	77%	70%	64%	2%	49%	92%	84%

Current as of:	5/8/2024
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Summary of 2023 EMS Course Enrollment Statics –

EMT 7,663 took practical – 7,524 passed practical – 139 failed the practical – 2% of students not able to pass practical.

6,869 took state exam – 6,278 became certified – 591 failed the exam – 9% of students not able to pass certification exam.

730 completed the course and did not pass the certification exams – 11% of students who completed the class and taking exams were not certified.

7,524 passed practical – 6,869 took state exam - 655 never took the state exam – 9% of students completed the class and never took the certification exam.

The State financial systems cannot accommodate a pilot program of payment on class completion. Reimbursement will continue to be based on students passing State exam and gaining NYS certification card.

Division of EMS not likely to increase the \$950 EMT/AEMT reimbursement in the next year. They would like to assess the impact of \$700 to \$950 before making further increases.

PARAMEDIC TRAINING – DOH to provide \$20,000 to each Program Agency for EMT-P training to offset paramedics being hired for the State Task Force. The next round of Program Agency contracts contain the funding for each REMSCO to train 2 EMT-Ps at \$10,000 each for the next 5 years.

PARAMEDICS ACROSS NEW YORK PROGRAM- Discussed the possibility of a PARAMEDICS ACROSS NEW YORK program that would be like the existing programs that provide student loans based on a service obligation. State DOH should be in contact with State Dept. of Labor and State Dept. of Education to facility parallel EMS Programs that are similar to other professions:

DOCTORS ACROSS NEW YORK and NURSES ACROSS NEW YORK;

https://health.ny.gov/professionals/doctors/graduate_medical_education/doctors_across_ny/

<https://www.health.ny.gov/funding/soi/20526/docs/soi.pdf>

Education and Training – Donald Hudson

Paramedic “Original” PSE elimination – NYS EMS Policy 24-07 released allowing for Paramedic Original classes to use a “portfolio” of skills to replace the PSE. This is policy, not a pilot program.

PSE TAG report – Discussions continue to see what PSE changes may “trickle down” to other levels (CFR-AEMT). PSE elimination should be phased in to all other EMS levels statewide. Motion was made and seconded for “pilot to have no more than ten (10) Course Sponsors change the PSE for original EMT courses to PSE portfolio throughout the course – similar to the paramedic PSE.” Motion passed unanimously. The Suffolk County EMS Division Course Sponsor requested to participate.

There was discussion about eliminating the “PSE requirement” from the CME recertification program. Answer was that it is being considered. Discussion if required CME recertification program hours would be changing with the change from a three (3) year certification period to four (4) year certification period. Answer was yes.

COMBINING COURSE AND PSE REIMBURSEMENTS – Presently, EMT original course reimbursement is \$950.00 and for the PSE it is \$100.00. A motion was made to combine the separate payments and pay \$1,050.00 to simplify things. Education Unit Chief, Drew Chesney advised the course payment is subject to student successfully passing the NYS Certifying Exam while the PSE is not. Motion was withdrawn as more info about impact is needed.

Certified Provider numbers – How many and by what mechanism are providers recertifying: See Next chart(s).

Certified Providers by Level

Count of providers by certification level held within a calendar year.

Certification Level	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
First Responder	12,428	12,617	12,395	12,085	11,952	12,042	12,252	12,671
Basic	53,254	54,476	55,379	56,194	57,035	61,157	63,812	67,910
AEMT	326	399	488	597	624	771	880	1,016
Critical Care	2,099	1,978	1,942	1,770	1,662	1,602	1,504	1,379
Paramedic	8,540	8,632	8,822	9,009	9,395	9,949	10,606	11,087
Total*	73,370	74,982	75,312	75,918	77,151	81,384	84,835	89,299

Current as of: 1/3/2024

* Totals are NOT the sum of the rows. Providers may hold multiple certifications within a given year and are counted as certified in each level as applicable. However, for the grand total, each provider is counted only once regardless of number of certifications.

Provider certification extensions and provisional certifications issued during the COVID-19 pandemic have delayed provider recertification and/or expiration dates up to two years. Refer to Bureau of EMS Policy Statements 22-05 and 20-07 for details.

Provider Expiration Timeline											
Count of providers with an expiration date during a given year. NOT a count of providers that expired per year.											
Certification Level	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
First Responder	3,122	3,991	3,343	2,419	1,346	2,217	1,257	3,534	3,758	4,302	3,258
Basic	14,384	14,999	15,039	11,571	5,746	10,908	5,115	16,074	20,481	23,961	15,023
AEMT	41	125	93	78	15	142	30	186	255	410	251
Critical Care	675	603	615	337	234	266	282	598	461	322	262
Paramedic	2,819	2,435	2,607	1,725	1,320	1,353	1,294	2,803	3,952	3,597	2,845
Total*	20,645	21,886	21,421	16,010	8,620	14,797	7,932	22,916	28,410	31,930	21,387

Current as of: 1/3/2024

* Totals are NOT the sum of the rows. Providers may hold multiple certifications within a given year and are counted as certified in each level as applicable. However, for the grand total, each provider is counted only once regardless of number of certifications.

Provider certification extensions and provisional certifications issued during the COVID-19 pandemic have delayed provider recertification and/or expiration dates up to two years. Refer to Bureau of EMS Policy Statements 22-05 and 20-07 for details.

Newly Certified Providers											
Count of providers certified via an original course, academy course, bridge course, national registry exam, or reciprocity											
Certification Level	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
First Responder	631	1,074	1,223	1,284	1,115	1,161	709	782	584	820	708
Basic	6,433	6,723	6,950	7,064	7,380	7,672	7,548	6,415	7,030	7,898	6,482
AEMT	34	121	97	71	89	139	143	61	149	170	143
Critical Care	181	125	172	134	149	139	8				
Paramedic	608	541	536	514	538	577	604	586	735	911	732
Total*	7,845	8,508	8,892	9,018	9,207	9,619	8,969	7,822	8,455	9,748	8,016

Current as of: 1/3/2024

* Grand Totals are NOT the sum of the rows. Providers may hold multiple certifications within a given year and are counted as certified in each level as applicable. However, for the grand total, each provider is counted only once regardless of number of certifications.

Provider certification extensions and provisional certifications issued during the COVID-19 pandemic have delayed provider recertification and/or expiration dates up to two years. Refer to Bureau of EMS Policy Statements 22-05 and 20-07 for details.

Legislative – Allen Louis

REVIEW OF 2023-2024 EMS LEGISLATION NOT ACTED UPON, BUT EXPECTED TO BE RENEWED IN 2025-2026 SESSION Note: New bill numbers would be assigned if reintroduced in the next legislative session.

S4020C (Mayer) - A3392C (Otis): Relates to emergency medical services; establishes a special district for the financing and operation of general ambulance services; provides for a statewide comprehensive emergency medical system plan. Passed the Senate. Assembly has bill recommitted to Local Government Committee.

S7286A (Martinez): This Legislation would increase the volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers personal income tax credit from \$200 to \$800 for eligible individuals and from \$400 to \$1600 for eligible married joint filers. Bill passed the Senate May 29, 2024. There does not appear to be a companion bill in the Assembly

S6645B (Comrie) - A6136 (Eachus): Provides that the NYS Thruway Authority shall issue permits for ambulances and fire vehicles exempting such vehicles from paying tolls on the thruway when engaged in an emergency operation. Passed the Assembly May 16, 2024 and is currently in the Senate Transportation Committee.

S3223 (Sanders) - A9237 (Hevesi): This would create a methodology for ambulance reimbursement under Medicaid that more closely approximates the cost of providing the service. Ambulances are required by law to pick everyone up, including Medicaid patients. It is unfair to require these ambulance companies to accept Medicaid patients and not fairly reimburse them for the cost of providing these services. Senate has bill in Finance Committee since May 21, 2024 and last Assembly action on May 14, 2024 reported to Ways and Means Committee.

Direct Payment of insurance reimbursement (A250A & S1466) kicks in January 1, 2025.

Motion made and seconded “The Legislative Committee recommends that SEMSCO send a letter to the Commissioner of Health requesting that any Healthcare Stability Fund resulting from the Managed Care Organization Tax approved in the SFY 2024-2025 state budget (Public Health Law § 2807-FF) include funding for EMS sustainability initiatives.” Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE – Current NYS legislation in Article 30 Section 3018 covering mobile integrated health and community paramedicine activities such as certain vaccinations, transport to alternative destinations, telemedicine with fifty-five (55) EMS approved programs sunsets in May 2025. An extension may be included in the governor’s Executive Budget.

Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously “To support a two-year extension of the NYS Community Paramedicine Demonstration Program and request new programs be allowed to be substituted for currently approved programs that are no longer active and request that modifications be allowed to current program design for existing participants.”

S9926 (Hinchey) - A9882A (McDonald): Carl Gandolfo indicated the legislation would overcome a restriction in law and would allow advanced emergency medical technicians to order certain controlled substances for use by a person with a substance use disorder to relieve acute withdrawal symptoms. Buprenorphine is one such drug. Ryan Greenberg noted that “Advanced Emergency Medical Technician” which covers AEMT, EMT-CC and EMT-P is mentioned in NYS law but “paramedic” is not. Jason Winslow, MD indicated there is a pilot program approved but current law wording is an issue in holding up its implementation. Another doctor added that there is \$200,000 in funding available. Motion was made by Carl Gandolfo, seconded, “To support S9926 to amend Public Health Law 3551 Subdivision 2 to allow advanced EMT to order certain controlled substances for use by a person with a substance abuse disorder to relieve acute withdrawal symptoms.” Motion passed unanimously.

Finance – Steve Kroll

“Where Are the Emergency Medical Responders: 2024 Update on the EMS Workforce Shortage”- released today and posted to the State website. [2024-NYS-EMS-Workforce-Report-Release-Date-2024.09.16-V.001.pdf](https://www.state.ny.us/recordeddocs/2024/2024.09.16-V.001.pdf)

Related 2019 report on subject will also be posted. <https://ubmdems.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Download-2019-NYS-EMS-Workforce-Report.pdf>

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION – There was a discussion of the opportunities to maximize the use of NYS Division of EMS recruitment and retention funding. Each Regional Program Agency is to receive \$15,000 over the next five (5) years for a total of \$75,000 each.

SOUTH CAROLINA EMS ASSOCIATION – previous on-line presentation by Henry Lewis, Executive Director, South Carolina EMS Association (SCEMSA). From 2022 through 2024 there has been a 30% increase in EMS personnel in the state and they do not consider themselves to have an EMS personnel shortage. They have average age of paramedic at forty-two (42). Partnered with Area Health Education Centers and Economic Development groups to get EMS as careers. By doing this, they got EMS into all of the places where younger people are looking for careers. Developed student loan program, scholarships and built a website for only people looking at EMS as career. Once someone signs up on the website, the site will then send information to EMS agencies and participant will receive a response in forty-eight (48) hours.

Training starts virtually and then the person is assigned to an agency for practical skills and protocols.

System – Mark Deavers

No seconded motions. 06-06 TAG- REWRITE OF POLICY STATEMENT 06-06- EMS OPERATING CERTIFICATE APPLICATION PROCESS (CON) Process continues.

Have solid definition of public need, but waiting for Division of Legal Affairs to answer a number of questions including, Need for a public hearing? Notices by USPS mail or electronic means? And Need for Public Notices published in a newspaper?

REGULATION CHANGES – STATUS UPDATE: EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES – The proposed revision of current regulations went out for a ninety (90) day comment period. Based on the number and content of the comments there will be further revisions to the proposals and after review by the Division of Legal Affairs they will have to go out for a shorter forty-five (45) day public comment period. VEHICLES – Proposed revision of current ambulance construction regulations went out for a 90-day comment period. Based on the number and content of the comments there will be further revisions to the proposals and after review by the Division of Legal Affairs they will have to go out for a shorter 45-day public comment period. Regulation revisions would be effective twelve (12) months after enactment date to allow for new vehicle lead times. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS – Have regulations drafted that are ready for public comment. ▪ There will be data reporting requirements that may be a little shocking for a lot of the EMS agencies, especially the smaller ones. We'll start with some monthly reporting of staffing levels and dropped calls with the intent of adding additional standards in the future.

DANIEL'S LAW TASK FORCE – There is a meeting scheduled for Monday, December 9, 2024. Response model involves an EMT and an experienced mental health provider- limited police involvement except in cases of danger ▪ Discussion of standard dispatch policies involving 988 and 911 calls.

Safety – Andrew Knoell

No seconded motions. A report on Mental Health TAG report “Saving Those Who Save Others” is complete and the guidance document is out and on Boardable. Plan to start looking at counties and agencies to see if there is peer support for providers and see what we can do to put together a recommendations for agencies.

UPDATE OF POLICY STATEMENT 00-13: THE OPERATION OF EMS VEHICLES

Renewed working on the project and we would like to have this completed by May-June of next year. ALL HAZARDS RESPONSE PLANS & GUIDELINES – Project is to develop guidelines and best practices for agency responses during flood, high wind, hurricane, ice storms and other events creating hazards. Will be sending out survey in a week to two (2) weeks asking about existing agency and county plans. Looking at providing guidance on how to complete a proper risk assessment. During a major snow event the previous week there was little communications from county.

Restraint TAG – There must be interaction with law enforcement. Drafting and expanding on that. Education component will accompany anything. Draft(s) should be ready by next meeting. EMS is not getting funding from the Office of Health Emergency Preparedness (OHEP) for participation in hospital exercises. OHEP replied they follow federal guidelines which is why only hospitals receive money for exercises. More effort should be done for funding pass along for participation. Need for patient tracking applications and resources to aid coordination of mass evacuations and MCIs.

Had a discussion on stretcher height with patients on board. It is unsafe height due to high center of gravity during patient movement can result in injuries to patients and providers. Suggested more educational guidance and ergonomic changes to stretchers should be explored. Noted United Kingdom [England, Scotland, and Northern Ireland] stretcher models have supplemental handles but US models do not. Suggested exploring NFPA, CASS and FDA guidelines on subject. Comment about addressing stretcher manufactures about a possible ergonomic “design flaw.”

Quality Metrics – David Violante

No seconded motions. Prehospital Quality Improvement web page has been updated for proper links, verbiage, and clarity. https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/quality_improvement/index.htm

Committee is still working on regulation updates for Policy Statements 12-02, 12-03 and 21-04. QI Regulations – Now that the committee has established a framework, the proposals need an intensive review by BEMS&TS and Division of Legal Affairs before they go out for a public comment period sometime next year. Discussion of problems that have been encountered with getting complete data on equipment and procedures used by pre-hospital providers.

The BLS iGel demonstration project highlighted issues such as missing or incomplete PCRs in the data bridge. There are things that need to be fixed in the State data bridge. Benchmarking across regions is problematic. Sharing data with providers results in improvement. With implementation of NEMSIS 3.5 there has been improvement in data handling. There are fewer required fields in the new schematron. Some PCR fails are never exported out of vendor software and the DOH is unaware of these transmission failures. Sometimes it is obvious if a large agency has a significant drop in daily transmissions. For a small agency it could be a lack of calls. Is there something we can put together from field providers’ standpoint? Regions document things differently and there is no standard way for data to be entered into PCR. Issues exist with CPAP airway vs. ventilator, recording two (2) sets of vital signs vs. proximity to a hospital and recording patient refusals and dispositions several times when

there are multiple agencies (CFR-BLS-ALS) on scene. We need some type of official guidance from DOH regarding how things are documented. (Policy 03-03 for PCR version 5, 12-02).

Mentioned creating a TAG to figure out how to get data from NYS, for example, when charts do not go to NYS or fail at the State Bridge. Donald Hudson commented about the needs of hospital trauma and stroke registrars for timely receipt and incorporation of PCR information into their records. Review bodies such as ACS require hospitals to obtain this information.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT EDUCATION – It was suggested that the state go around to the regions putting on a four (4) hour QI course (the one offered at Vital Signs) and a longer six (6) or eight (8) hour 2-day course as a secondary course. ▪ Need to remind agencies that they still must do their own QI. Help may need to be provided to smaller agencies with limited technical and other resources.

EMS Innovations and Research – Dr. Michael Redlener

“Integrating Crisis Stabilization Centers Into EMS Systems”

https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/bho/docs/crisis_stabilization_center_program_guidance.pdf

Working to set up proposal for transportation to these centers. The committee is developing a document for transportation to the different types (intensive and supportive CSCs). These would be just guidelines rather than protocols as it would be up to the regions to develop procedures for transportation to CSCs with the intent this is an alternate destination. Regions would be able to know their local conditions.

MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH & COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE – Discussion on the coming sunset of the demonstration project. Recommend to put forward at motion at Legislative Committee and SEMSCO extending the expiration date, update current scope and replace the inactive agencies with agencies that can perform Community Paramedicine. Most agencies were authorized only for vaccinations. Committee asking for data and a list of active and inactive programs around the state.

TAG ON EMS AS ESSENTIAL SERVICE – Developed a 2-page document and shared it with SEMSCO through Boardable. Asked that it be sent to the Commissioner of Health.

BUILDING OUT LAB SERVICES FOR EMS – Need to start conversation with DOH’s Wadsworth Center to see what is standing in the way of establishing lab services in the field to support community paramedicine. There are some regulatory issues, both with NYS and the federal government, but Director of Wadsworth Center appears to be in favor of the concept. Issue should be brought to Medical Standards for discussion including a list of tests that will be involved. Request information from agencies on their needs.

STAC – No report.

Old Business – **BY-LAWS** – New By-laws were passed at the last meeting. Division of Legal Affairs advised some items need to be addressed: More appropriately define a quorum. Address the conflicts of interest policy so it aligns with the Public Officers Law. Clearly define absences and what those mean and what the consequences of those are. Clarify that when SEMAC picks a Chair that chair has to **be** approved by the Commissioner. Revisions have been distributed and posted on Boardable. Roll call vote on the By-Laws as revised was taken and passed. YES=24, NO=0 and ABSTAIN=2 (Gandolfo and Masterton).

SUNSET OF EMT-CC LEVEL – John Manzi, Chair EMS Committee, Association of Fire Districts of the State of NY had requested to speak to SEMSCO regarding the sunset of the EMT-CC level. He was unable to attend last meeting and is not at this meeting.

New Business – RURAL AMBULANCE SERVICES TASK FORCE – Report will be coming out once all reviews are complete. 2025 schedule of State Council Meetings:

Wednesday, February 26, 2025 and Thursday, February 27, 2025 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Troy, NY
Tuesday, May 6, 2025 and Wednesday, May 7, 2025 in Saratoga Springs, NY (Gideon Putnam)
Tuesday, September 9, 2025 and Wednesday, September 10, 2025 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Troy, NY
Tuesday, December 9, 2025 and Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Troy, NY

The preceding information was compiled from the attendance at, and the collaboration of, other individuals present at these meetings.

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