



**PEHSC ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Hampton Inn Harrisburg-West**  
**Wednesday, March 16, 2016**

**Minutes**

**CONVENE BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**

Mr. Jones, President, began the meeting at 10:05 am by welcoming everyone to the PESHSC Annual Council meeting. Mr. Jones asked for all in attendance to introduce themselves.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Allegheny County EMS Council – Douglas Garretson  
Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania (AAP) – Donald DeReamus  
Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania (AAP) – Heather Sharar  
Center for Emergency Medicine of Western Pennsylvania, Inc. – Walt Stoy, PhD.  
Cetronia Ambulance Corps. – Chris Peischl  
City of Allentown EMS – Bryan Fritz  
City of Allentown EMS – Matthew Brett  
Columbia Quick Response Service, Inc. - Frank Splain, Jr.  
Columbia Quick Response Service, Inc. – Tyler Seibert  
Emergency Medical Services Institute – Bryan Smith  
Emergency Nurses Association – Kay Ella Bleecher, RN  
First Aid and Safety Patrol of Lebanon – Anthony Deaven  
Lehigh Valley Health Network – Joel Calarco  
Northwest EMS, Inc. – Scott Kingsboro  
Pennsylvania Committee on Trauma ACS – Susan Baro, DO  
Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute (PFESI) – Donald Konkle  
Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute (PFESI) – Robert Timko  
Pennsylvania State University – J. David Jones  
Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation – Juliet Altenburg, RN, MSN  
Philadelphia University – Jean Bail, RN, Ed.D.  
Philadelphia University – Jesse Coale  
Reading Health System – Anthony Martin  
Seven Mountains EMS Council – Patrick Shoop  
Susquehanna Health System – Charles Stutzman  
Susquehanna Health System - Timothy Shumbat  
Tioga County EMS Council – John Getty  
UPMC Presbyterian – Myron Rickens  
UPMC Presbyterian – Ronald Roth, MD  
Valley Ambulance Authority – J.R. Henry  
Valley Ambulance Authority – Melvin Musulin  
VFIS/Education and Training Services –David Bradley  
VFIS/Education and Training Services –William Niehenke  
Wellspan York Hospital – Steven Schirk, MD  
Wellspan York Hospital – Thomas Yeich, MD  
Williamsport Area Ambulance Service Cooperative – Gregory Frailey, DO

Williamsport Area Ambulance Service Cooperative - Steven Bixby

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

American Trauma Society PA Division – Judy May-Bennett  
American Trauma Society PA Division – Krista Brands  
Burholme EMS – Tim Hinchcliff  
Burholme EMS – Blake Bradley  
Chester Co. Department of Emergency Services – Harry Moore  
Chester Co. EMS Council, Inc. – Leo Scaccia  
Cumberland Goodwill EMS – Nathan Harig  
Delaware County EHS Council – Robert Reeder  
Eastern Lebanon County School District – David Kirchner  
Eastern PA EMS Council – Jason Smith  
Emergency Health Services Federation, Inc. – Michael Reihart, DO  
EMMCO West, Inc. – Christopher Heile  
Good Fellowship Ambulance & EMS Training Institute – William Wells  
Harrisburg Area Community College – Michael Tonkay  
Horsham Fire Company No 1 – Duane Spencer  
Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA – Thomas Grace, RN  
Myerstown First Aid Unit – David Kirchner  
Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County – Steve Bailey  
Pennsylvania ACEP – Bryan Wexler  
Pennsylvania Athletic Trainer’s Society – Robert Shank, Ed.D  
Second Alarmers Assn. & Rescue Squad of Montgomery County, Inc. – Renee Bates  
Second Alarmers Assn. & Rescue Squad of Montgomery County, Inc. – David Tepper  
St. Luke’s University Health Network – Kermit Gorr  
Temple Health System Transport Team, Inc. – Carl Homa  
Uwchlan Ambulance Corps. – John Applegate  
Uwchlan Ambulance Corps. – Emily McCarthy

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, BUREAU OF EMS STAFF**

Richard Gibbons, Director  
John Englert

**PEHSC STAFF**

Janette Swade, Director  
Patti Morrison  
Donald Potter  
Tom Winkler  
Travis Woodyard

**OTHERS**

John Logan  
Josh Stuart – EMSC Chair  
Centre Life Link EMS – Kent Knable  
Pinnacle Health – R. Daniel Bledsoe, MD

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A Motion was made by Mr. Henry and seconded by Dr. Bail to approve the previous board meeting minutes of December 9, 2015. (Motion passed.)**

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Jones, President, provided the following report:

- Testimony regarding the EMSOF was provided to a joint session of the Pennsylvania House and Senate Veterans Affairs and Preparedness Committees on March 10<sup>th</sup>. A new task force has been established for volunteers and letters have been sent to both house and senate leadership for participants.
- Thank to Mr. Henry for the Act 84 information document as sent to members. The document is available online.
- We are in the process of building a database of agency medical directors and a second email request is being distributed. Please respond so we can use this group to identify clinical concerns etc.
- Dr. Frailey has been appointed to a Department of Health working group about the EMSOF in response to the auditor general’s report. The report is in the meeting materials.
- Dr. John McCarthy has been appointed to the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF) Board of Directors representing PEHSC. Due to term limits Dr. Frailey has come off the Board; thank you for your service.
- The PEHSC Executive Committee continues to meet monthly.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Ms. Swade, Director, provided the following financial update:

- The line of credit has been paid back in full.
- Fund borrowed from the conference fund, continue to be paid back as funds are available.
- An audit will be done for FY 15-16.

Dr. Roth, Treasurer, provided the following financial report:

		CASH BALANCE AS OF:						
ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	7/31/15	8/31/15	9/30/15	10/31/15	11/30/15	12/31/15	1/31/16
Contract Fund	2015-2016 Contract Amount \$561,139.00	97,671.05	77,246.53	20,395.17	22,873.13	16,079.60	5,161.85	77,379.01
Payroll Account	Transfer Account	31,250.30	31,404.35	31,554.39	3,708.37	5,854.86	6,426.34	3,650.36
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA	19,028.45	19,080.07	18,607.23	18,535.33	18,589.98	2,785.65	6,292.52
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income	65,445.39	43,440.01	57,074.99	37,662.83	41,399.25	3,539.19	56,247.48
Investment Funds transferred to PAEMSA 8/2015	Monthly Dividends into Balance	216,438.78	210,412.40	207,627.40	213,333.91	213,078.60	210,561.07	206,219.77
		CASH BALANCE AS OF:						
ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	2/28/2016	3/31/2016	4/30/2016	5/31/2016	6/30/2016		
Contract Fund	2015-2016 Contract Amount \$561,139.00							
Payroll Account	Transfer Account							
Investment Income Fund	Income from Previous Investments HRA							
Secondary Income	Conference & Secondary Income							
Investments	Monthly Dividends into Balance							

**DRAFT**

**A Motion was made by Dr. Bail and seconded by Mr. Bradley to accept the Treasurers Report.** (Motion passed.)

The Treasurer's Report is on file for members to review.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Swade, Executive Director, gave the following report:

- Welcome to our new meeting space. The space is smaller than we were accustomed to but allows us to save money on the cost.
- We will not be moving the PEHSC offices. The landlord has renewed our lease for another year at no increase in cost.
- Budget revision due to the Department by 4/14/16.
- We lost \$9100.00 in federal carry over funds.
- Not able to apply for Targeted Grant due to deadline issues with the Department of Health.
- Overview of legislative issues provided to include:
  - A bill to increase the EMSOF by \$10.
  - Fireworks legislation; an expansion in PA.
  - Balance billing.
  - Grant project.

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REPORT**

**Administrative**

**VTRs -- Outstanding**

1. Tranexamic Acid
2. Post intubation management
3. Data on naloxone – BLS agencies

**EMSOF Distribution Workgroup**

1. Work has begun. Draft is due to BEMS by March 31, 2016.

**Staff Updates BEMS**

1. Kevan Williams – EMS Program Specialist
2. Paul Hoffman – EMS Program Specialist
3. Mike Siget -- resigned

**Licensure**

**Clinical Care / QI**

**Community Paramedicine**

1. Continue to have meetings with rural work groups and others associated with DOH Innovation Deputate.
2. Need to move forward with drafting regulations recognizing and establishing the program.

**Naloxone program / donations**

1. All current donations have been sent out with information about how to request additional supplies from the vendor.

**Education**

1. Rescue curriculum updates nearly completed. Approximately 250 rescue instructors have been updated. Final program will be held this weekend at the PA State Fire Academy.

**Preparedness**

**Ebola and other emerging diseases**

1. Recent meeting with all treatment centers and transportation teams held to review Conops plan and identify needs.
2. Regional tabletop exercise to be held in Maryland in early April.

**Other**

1. National EMS Memorial Bicycle Ride May 14-21. Will be in the Philadelphia area on May 17<sup>th</sup> for a brief ceremony.

Mr. Jones asked about the EMSOF being decreased from 9.6 to 9.5 million.

Discussion followed about the change to the pass rate of the National Register exam. Mr. Jones said that the Education Task Force would work with Mr. Englert on this issue.

**COMMITTEE/TASK FORCE REPORTS**

*Medical Advisory Committee* – Dr. Reihart, Chair, provided the following report:

The MAC met by webinar on January 20<sup>th</sup>, today we offer this report, which includes a recommendation for the board’s consideration.

1. It was reported that some confusion exists with regard to the transport of patients with chest tubes. Based on the current description in the scope of practice, some providers and facilities are unsure of the level of care required during transport.
  - a. Dr. Kupas said he would work on drafting an EMS information bulletin to clarify the issue.
  - b. In brief, a critical care level transport crew or sending facility RN is only required if the chest tube:
    - i. Has been acutely placed and patient is being transferred to a tertiary care facility or;
    - ii. The tube is connected to suction or a closed circuit seal or;
    - iii. Requires monitoring for any reason
  - c. If a patient is being discharged to home where a chest tube will be cared for by the patient or trained family member, such a patient could even be transported by BLS
2. Dr. Kim Roth, on behalf of the EMS for Children Committee, briefed MAC on a project EMSC is working on to advise the Department continuing education “core” hours should be required during a provider’s registration period and if so, how many. EMSC believes that some core education hours should be required, although input on the number of hours varies widely. While the MAC didn’t offer a suggestion on the number of hours, the members did suggest several program topics including trauma, child abuse and managing a pediatric field death.
3. Drs. Usatch and Wang from the Montgomery County EMS Office reported on the results of a pilot program where ketamine is used to manage patients exhibiting signs and symptoms of excited delirium. The pilot results were very positive and consistent with previously published literature on managing excited delirium.

Today, the MAC presents VTR# 0316-01, which recommends:

- a. Ketamine be added to the list of approved medications for EMS providers for use at or above the paramedic level.
- b. Development of a statewide ALS treatment protocol for the management of excited delirium or, as an alternative, amend ALS protocol #8001 Agitated Behavior/Psychiatric Disorders to include the use of ketamine.
- c. Authorizing the current ALS agencies involved in the pilot project to continue use of ketamine for excited delirium based on the pilot project

protocol until such a time when the state drug list and ALS protocols are amended.

**A motion was made by Dr. Frailey and seconded by Mr. Calarco to approve VTR#0316-01 which recommends: The Department of Health should amend the current “Approved Medications List for EMS Agencies, EMS Provider and Required Medications Based on License Type” to include Ketamine as an optional medication for providers above the AEMT level.** (Motion passed.)

4. On February 29<sup>th</sup>, PEHSC received correspondence from the Department regarding VTR# 1215-01, which recommended that BLS agencies be permitted to perform optional blood glucose testing. The Department accepted the MAC’s recommendation and requested their assistance in developing an educational program for both the LMS and live presentation; a copy of this letter is contained in today’s meeting materials.  
On a related note, the Department also accepted VTR#1215-02, which recommended that Glucagon not be added to the approve list of medications for the EMT.
5. The committee’s next meeting scheduled for April 13<sup>th</sup> here at the Hampton Inn.

Discussion was had on the use Narcan; 4 mil nasal spray (used by some non-EMS responders) vs. the 2 mil nasal spray used by EMS providers.

Discussion about ketamine use for intubation.

*EMS for Children Advisory Committee* – Mr. Stuart, Chair, provided the following report:  
Pediatric Symposium Webinar Series

- Most recent presentation February 11 on the Choking Game
- 161 attendees
- Next webinar is April 7 – more info will be sent when available
- \*\*\*We are greatly in need of speakers – please talk to Tom today or email him

Pediatric Voluntary Recognition Program

- 138 agencies recognized under the Program
- Annual review will occur in December
- Significant number of new applications

STABLE for the EMS Provider

- Next course is March 24, 2016 at EMMCO West
- Seats are still available – see the flyer given out today for more info or talk to Tom
- Special thanks to EMMCO West for allowing us to use their classroom at no cost and for coordinating our catering
- Will be looking to schedule additional courses this year in the Federation’s area, Eastern or Northeastern, and in Southern Alleghenies region

CPS Technician Course

- EMSC and Pennsylvania Traffic Injury Prevention Project have partnered to offer a first-ever CPS Technician course for EMS providers, taught (mostly) by EMS providers. This pilot course will be held at Cranberry Township EMS April 6-9, 2016. There are still 2 seats open for this course. Should this pilot course prove successful, we plan to roll this EMSC-sponsored CPS course out statewide so more EMS agencies are able to access the course.

Pediatric Trauma Life Support

- The EMSC Program was approached by Dr. Russ Bieniek (bee-nick), who is the Project Director for ITLS in Pennsylvania. Dr. Bieniek proposed bringing back

the Pediatric Trauma Life Support course to PA as the number of courses offered has dwindled significantly.

- The EMSC Advisory Committee voted to support the PTLs project and provide funding for a train-the-trainer course to be held later this year. It is our hope that this is not a one-time partnership and that EMSC and ITLS as a whole can work together on future projects.
- Once the training course occurs, we hope to provide contact information for instructors statewide so more of these courses can be offered. In addition, we expect to offer PTLs at our conference in September.

*Air Medical Task Force* – Mr. Spencer, Chair, gave the following report:

The Air Medical Task Force is scheduled to meet on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in conjunction with the 2016 EMS Update Conference. During this meeting task force members will be considering:

- Concepts to restructure and rebrand the current task force to formally include critical care transport issues important to both air and ground critical care agencies
- An educational pathway for PHRNs practicing on air and ground critical care transport ambulances to comply with the PA EMS Regulations
- Required data elements and draft form for use by air and ground critical care agencies when transferring care of an interfacility transport patient to the receiving facility.
- Review of the current required equipment and supplies carried on board an air ambulance.

*EMS Education Task Force* – Mr. Deaven, Co-Chair, gave the following report:

- At the December Board of Directors meeting Director Gibbons expressed interest in a recommendation for Core Continuing Education as identified in the Rules and Regulations.
- The EMS Education Task Force supports core continuing education requirements as an effort to ensure that providers receive balanced continuing education
- The Task force offers VTR 0316-02 Minimum Core Content Requirements
  - The Department of Health should require a minimum of two (2) hours of core continuing education in each of the following five categories during a provider's registration cycle:
    - Airway, Breathing, and Cardiology
    - Pediatrics/Obstetrics
    - Medical Emergencies
    - Trauma
    - Operational
- These categories are consistent with recommendations in previous Education Task Force VTRs
- The EMS for Children Advisory Committee was also asked to provide input related to pediatric content, and they voted unanimously to support this VTR and the 2 hours of pediatric education included in the recommendation.

**A motion was made by Ms. Bleecher and seconded by Mr. Peischl to approve VTR#0316-02 which recommends: The Department of Health should require a minimum of two (2) hours of core continuing education in each of the following five categories during a provider's registration cycle:**

- Airway, Breathing, and Cardiology
- Pediatrics/Obstetrics
- Medical Emergencies
- Trauma
- Operational

*Communications Committee*- Mr. Musulin, Chair, provided the following report:

- Communications Task Force is conducting a review of the EMS Communications System
- The Task Force has held 2 conference calls and is preparing a survey for EMS Agencies
- The task force is focusing on communications and equipment issues, but will also include educational issues

*Membership Committee* – In Mr. Bernini’s absence, Mr. Deaven provided the following report:

- One new application, Chippewa Township Volunteer Fire Department, was presented for Affiliate membership

**A Motion was made by Mr. Bradley and seconded by Mr. Getty to approve the membership application of Chippewa Township Volunteer Fire Department.**

(Motion passed.)

### **OTHER PROJECTS**

*EMS Week*-Ms. Swade provided the following update:

- EMS Week is May 15-21, This year’s theme is “EMS Strong: Called to Care”
- We are working with a marketing firm, Chatterbox Communications, to promote EMS Week, PEHSC, and the conference.
- Chatterbox is currently in negotiations with CBS21 in Harrisburg to create a “Heroes” month.
- Heroes’ month will be a month long promotion in May with Al Gnoza honoring EMS Providers via human interest stories.
- Staff will work with CBS21 and Chatterbox to find EMS Stories to feature
- More details to come on that, including how it may be worked in to the conference

*Conference 2016*- Mr. Woodyard provided the following update:

- Sept 21-23, 2016
- Double Tree Resort by Hilton, Lancaster
- State EMS Awards are returning to the Conference – Luncheon on Thursday
- Currently in the process of selecting and confirming speakers
- Vendor Registration is expected to open April 1
- Attendee Registration is expected to open in May

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Pennsylvania State University is hosting a Public Safety Day on September 17, 2016. We are looking for sponsors for the tail gate meal. More information to come....Temple vs PSU.



### **ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING**

**Following the business of the day, Mr. Henry Motioned and Mr. Deaven seconded to adjourn the Board of Director's meeting.** (Motion passed).

### **CONVENE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING**

Mr. Jones, President, convened the Annual Council meeting.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ms. Altenburg, Chair, provided the following report:

- The Slate of Nominees for the 2017-2019 Board of Directors is as follows:
  - Allegheny County EMS Council
  - Harrisburg Area Community College
  - Highmark, Inc.
  - Lehigh Valley Health Network
  - Northwest EMS, Inc.
  - Pennsylvania ACEP
  - Second Alarmers Association & Rescue Squad of Montgomery County, Inc.
  - Susquehanna Health System
  - VFIS Education/Training Services
  - Wellspan York Hospital

### **ELECT BOARD OF DIRECTOR SEATS (JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2019 TERM)**

Mr. Jones, President opened nominations for the 2017-2019 Board of Directors and asked if there were any nominations from the floor.

**With no further nominations from the floor, Mr. Henry Motioned and Mr. Rickens seconded to close nominations and cast the ballot in the affirmative.** (Motion passed).

### **Mr. Wells Motioned and Mr. Bradley seconded to cast the ballot in the affirmative.**

(Motion passed).

- Mr. Jones, in acknowledging our term limit policy, thanked the following organizations for their participation on the Board of Directors: Center for Emergency Medicine, Pennsylvania Committee on Trauma (ACS and Tioga County).
- Ms Swade reminded the committee that their work was not done, as they would be asked to serve again to nominate the PEHSC Executive Committee at the June meeting.
- Mr. Konkle was asked for a report. He outlined efforts to secure funding using foreign fire homeowners insurance increase to bring in an estimated \$34 million for incentives and disaster funding as gap coverage prior to to release of federal money.

### **ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS**

*Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation* – Ms. Altenburg provided the following update.

- A map was presented showing hospitals currently pursuing trauma center accreditation and the basic process was explained.

*Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute* – Mr. Konkle provided the following update.

- The grant bill is due out of committee.

*Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania (AAP)* – Mr. DeReamus gave the following update:

- Meeting with Pa Insurance Department regarding balance billing.

*American Trauma Systems- Ms. May-Bennett* provided the following update:

- Please join us for our conference at the Hershey Lodge on April 19-21<sup>st</sup>.

*Pennsylvania ACEP* – Ms. Elliott provided the following update:

- Ms. Elliott has filled David Blunk’s position as he has retired.
- She provided an update on their position regarding balance billing legislation.

### **ADJOURNMENT OF COUNCIL MEETING**

**Being no further business, Mr. Bradley Motioned and Mr. Rickens seconded to adjourn the Council meeting.** (Motion passed).

Respectfully Submitted,

J. David Jones  
*President*

JDJ/JS/pm

**Please Note: Recommendations voted upon at meetings are reflective of the consensus of the group present at that meeting, and does not guarantee a policy or procedural change by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the regional EMS councils.**