



PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL

Your Voice In EMS

**PEHSC Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 16, 2021
Virtual Meeting 10:00 a.m.**

Minutes

CONVENE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Mr. Jones, President, called the meeting to order at 1000 hours

- Welcomed the attendees

* If you do not see your name on the roster, please contact Kelli Kishbaugh (kkishbaugh@pehsc.org)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ambulance Association of PA – Donald DeReamus/Douglas Garretson/Heather Sharar
Burholme EMS – Timothy Hinchcliff
Center for Emergency Medicine of Western PA – Walt Stoy, Ph.D./Ron Roth, M.D.
Centre LifeLink EMS – Kent Knable
Chester County Department of Emergency Services – Harry Moore
City of Allentown EMS – Eric Gratz
Community Life Team – Barry Albertson
Cumberland Goodwill EMS – Nathan Harig
Harrisburg Area Community College – Robert Stakem, Jr.
Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA – Chris Chamberlain, RN
Lower Allen Township EMS – Anthony Deaven
Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County – Steve Bailey
Pennsylvania ACEP – Gregory Hellier, DO/Bryan Wexler, M.D.
Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute – Jerry Ozog
Pennsylvania State University – J. David Jones
Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation – Juliet Altenburg, RN/Rebecca Geyer, RN
Riddle Hospital – Main Line Health System – Keith Laws
Second Alarmers Association & Rescue Squad of Montgomery County, Inc. – Ken Davidson
Southern Alleghenies EMS Council – Carl Moen
Valley Ambulance Authority – J.R. Henry
West Grove Fire Company – Gary Vinnacombe
West York Ambulance – Wayne March/William Niehenke
Williamsport Area Ambulance Service Coop. dba Susquehanna Regional EMS – Gregory Frailey, DO

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

American Trauma Society, Pennsylvania Division – Allyson Fulton
Bucks County Emergency Health Services Council, Inc. – Michele Rymdeika
City of Pittsburgh-Bureau of Emergency Medical Services – Ronald Romano
Eastern PA EMS Council – John Kloss/Jason Smith
EMS West – Brian Shaw
Emergency Health Services Federation, Inc. – Michael Reihart, DO
Good Fellowship Ambulance & EMS Training Institute – Kimberly Holman
LTS EMS Council – William Miller

Myerstown First Aid Unit – David Kirchner
 New Holland Ambulance Association – Darrell Fisher
 Thomas Jefferson University – Jean Bail, RN, Ed.D
 Tower Health – Mervin Wertz/Anthony Martin
 UPMC Susquehanna – Steven Bixby

OTHERS

BUREAU OF EMS

Dylan Ferguson, Director

PEHSC STAFF

Janette Swade, Director
 Donald Potter, Jr., Sr. EMS System Specialist
 Andy Snavely, EMS System Specialist
 Duane Spencer, EMSC Manager
 Kelli Kishbaugh, Administrative Assistant

CONVENE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Mr. Jones, President, called the meeting to order at 1000 hours.
 Welcomed the attendees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Provided by David Jones, President

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
The March 17, 2021, meeting minutes were reviewed by the Board of Directors	It was motioned by J.R. Henry and seconded by Anthony Martin to approve the March 17, 2021, meeting minutes as drafted.	Motion passed

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Provided by David Jones, President

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
911 Commission Seat	Tony Deaven will be representing us.	Meetings will be starting soon
Senate Testimony	We provided written annual testimony for the Senate Veteran’s Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee about statewide EMS concerns. Our biggest concern was system funding.	We were told that there will be another opportunity for us to present testimony again.
Out-Going Board Members	- Kay Bleecher with Emergency Nurses Association, PA - Kim Holman with Good Fellowship Ambulance & emergency Medical Services Training Institute - Scott Buchle with Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center	Thank you for your support.

	- Anthony Martin with Tower Health	
EMSC Chair Position	Ted Fessides took another position and will be unable to continue in his role as EMSC chairperson.	- Duane Spencer is soliciting for an interested person for us to consider. - Many thanks to Ted for his years of service and best wishes in his new position.
Retiring Executive Committee Members	- We will be losing two Executive Committee members. We will have the pending election coming up during today's meeting. - Anthony Martin's organization is at term limit and Bob McCaughan has retired.	- Thank you, Anthony Martin, for your service. - Thanks to Bob McCaughan for his years of service to Pennsylvania's EMS System.
Membership Committee Members that review membership applications for Council and Affiliate Council.	- Kent Knable with Centre LifeLink EMS - Anthony Martin with Tower Health - William Niehenke with West York Ambulance	Thank you for your support and service.
Nominating Committee Members that review nominations that are submitted.	- Kimberly Holman with Good Fellowship Ambulance & EMS Training Institute - Kent Knable with Centre LifeLink EMS - Anthony Martin with Tower Health - Steve Bailey with Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County - Bryan Kircher with Southwest Ambulance Alliance	Thank you for your hard work.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Provided by Tony Deaven

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
The Treasurer's report was reviewed by the Board of Directors	It was motioned by Anthony Martin and seconded by Nathan Harig to accept the treasurer's report as presented.	Motion Passed

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Provided by Janette Swade, Director

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Contracts/Financial Situation	- Our contracts and agreements for the upcoming FY 21/22 have been signed. EMSC is \$128,000 from April 21 – March 22. PEHSC contract is \$280,000 from July 21 – June 22. We do have a	Executive Committee has approved us to use funds from other accounts if needed.

	<p>PPP loan, so our total income for the upcoming FY is \$347,000. We are estimating that we will be short about \$20,000, but have an available Line of Credit for \$130,000 until December if needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 990 has been submitted to the IRS. A copy is posted in the link for today's meeting. 	
Operational Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meetings will continue to be virtual. - No staff travel. - EMS Conference will be virtual again this year because we did not know how COVID would impact an in-person event. - Rent reduction from our landlord has been extended until December 2021. - Reminder that staff took pay cuts. 	PEHSC will continue to look at other measurers to save money.
Key Pieces of Legislation	<p>Replica – status is still under consideration. The issue continues to be the cost to the system and any cost to the services.</p> <p>Senate Bill 698 Authority Legislation – has been introduced. PEHSC continues to support the concept. This is a good tool for some areas of the Commonwealth.</p> <p>House Bill 1445 – requesting \$5.5 million to come from the Federal Government disaster relief money to help the EMS operating fund.</p> <p>Senate Bill 740 – will amend Act 93 to set aside the 30/10 split of the EMSOF fund.</p>	Copies are in the meeting materials for today. Please take a few minutes to help educate your Senator on these important pieces of legislation.
PA EMS Operations Committee	<p>PEHSC staff discussed and submitted a proposal to the Executive Committee for the creation of this committee. This group should be representative of agency-level operations managers and/or supervisors, as well as field-level personnel. PEHSC Executive Committee supports this initiative and work will start in the calendar year of 2022.</p>	Document in today's materials. Board members can send jswade@pehsc.org an email if interested in joining this committee.

CISM Team Project Assistance	PEHSC is in the process of updating the CISM team contact lists.	Please send contact information to kkishbaugh@pehsc.org
PA EMS Awards	Awards will be virtual this year. Duane Spencer is coordinating the awards again this year. As always, the PEHSC Executive Committee will be selecting the winners with department and regional verification.	Deadline for nominations is July 16, 2021 (info in meeting materials) Staff Note – Virtual event date is October 26, 2021, at 7:00 pm
Items to look at in your materials today	- 2020 CARES Annual Report. - NAEMT survey that was done about the impact of COVID.	

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REPORT

Provided by Dylan Ferguson, Director

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Revenue for EMSOF for May 2021	This encompasses fine activity from March 2021. March was the first month to show the increased fee amounts. May was up 19.12% compared from last year at that time.	Concerns still remain as revenue increased about 20% off the baseline when the fee itself increased by 100% from baseline.
Declaration of Disaster Emergency	The Declaration of Disaster Emergency Resolutions were passed last week. The election was certified by the Department of State yesterday. All of the regulatory and statutory regulations will continue until September 30, 2021, unless revoked.	The Department has no plans to remove the EMS staffing waiver until September 30, 2021. Refer to EMS Bulletin 2021-07 for further explanation.
COVID-19 Cases	- COVID numbers continue to decline. - Concerns of the Delta variant. Vaccines seem to help with this variant but does seem more infectious with more severe symptoms in the unvaccinated population.	The Department continues to require EMS to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
Protocols	Final comment period has been completed, and Dr. Reihart will give more information during his report.	Thank you to everyone who provided additional information. Once everything is finalized for training programs, we will send that information out. The original time frame of September 1st for distribution but may shift to a later date.
Bulletin Updates	- EMSIB 2021-03 Updated Transfer of Care Form. This has a minor update to add a spot for contact information for next of kin.	These are provided in today's materials.

	<p>- EMSIB 2021-04 Spotted Lanternfly Webinar. The Department did conduct a webinar to hear from the Department of Agriculture regarding quarantine requirements with traveling in and out of the quarantine zone. EMS is required to check your trucks when traveling but this should not have any delays in transporting the patients. Please make sure if you see a Spotted Lanternfly, kill it.</p> <p>- EMSIB 2021-05 First Responder Mental Health Toolkit. This will provide a single location for resources needed such as, training courses, hotlines, text messages, etc.</p>	
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TASK FORCE/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Medical Advisory Committee (MAC)

Provided by Dr. Mike Reihart and Dr. Alvin Wang

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Completion of 2021 Statewide Protocol		Director Ferguson noted that the Department is still has a target date of September 1, 2021, for mandatory implementation. The Department is currently working through their internal review process and development of a mandatory online educational program for providers.
	For ALS and BLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New protocol related to the management of emergencies for patient with a ventricular assist device. This protocol provides important information when assessing these patients and managing issues related to the device's operation - Updates to the head injury protocol consistent with the EPIC study
	For ALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addition of ketamine as a pain management option - Addition of ketamine as a sedative agent option for those agencies performing sedation assisted airway control - Clarifying language on the use of mechanical CPR devices

	For BLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nausea control via smelling or sniffing an open alcohol prep pad - New protocol related to managing a dental avulsion - Addition of CO detection devices that use exhaled breath analyzation as an option to rule out CO toxicity - Addition of intranasal glucagon powder spray as an option for hypoglycemic patients - Clarification on the use of physical restraint on agitated patients, especially in cases involving law enforcement - Guidelines for EMS operations during civil disturbance – which is still being reviewed
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RSI TASK FORCE

Provided by Dr. Gregory Frailey

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Report out of Workgroups (from the May 19 th task force meeting)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provider Education, chaired by Dr. Jonathan Trager from St. Lukes University Hospital in Bethlehem. Focus on didactic and psychomotor skill verification - Medical Direction, chaired by Dr. Duane Siberski, Associate Regional Medical Director, Eastern PA Regional EMS Council. Focus on – medical director expectations and provider credentialing. - Protocol Development, chaired by Dr. Alvin Wang, Regional Medical Director, Montgomery County EMS. Focus on creating an evidence-based protocol using the current Ketamine SAI project as a template. - Data/Performance Improvement, Dr. Frank Guyette, Medical Director, Center for Emergency Medicine/STAT MedEvac. Focus on key data elements to track, reporting and feedback from receiving facilities.
Draft surveys to determine interest in initiating an RSI program.	Target Groups: - Agency Medical Directors - ALS Agencies	Both draft surveys are currently with Director Ferguson for DOH review and approval.

Anticipate a pilot program to evaluate program efficacy		
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EMS FOR CHILDREN PROJECT REPORT

Provided by Duane Spencer

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
EMSC	The 2021 EMS for Children survey has wrapped up with Pennsylvania doubling its 2020 response rate to 47.2%, slightly above the 44.6% national average.	A summary report representing information as of the survey closing in March is included in the documents folder.
National Readiness Surveys	The National Pediatric Readiness Survey for emergency departments is presently underway having been delayed from 2020 due to COVID	Currently we are at 29.6% response rate with survey completion due by July 31 st . Additional reminder emails and phone calls will be going out later this month. A preliminary report is included in the documents folder.
COVID-19 Impact on Children	The EMS for Children Advisory Committee continues to discuss the impact COVID-19 has had on children, specifically around three main issues; Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C), Return to School, and Mental Health.	Private philanthropic support of mental health programs in one region appears to be a solution but will take time to roll out.
Hospital Readiness Program	A Steering Committee is beginning to discuss the development of a statewide hospital pediatric readiness program as part of meeting the federal EMSC performance measures. Discussion will focus on developing a framework that models after guidelines established by the federal EMS	The goal of this committee is to have a draft program outlined by the end of the year with several hospitals participating in a pilot program at that time. EMSC is currently in the progress of applying for one of five supplemental federal EMSC grants that would support this initiative across rural and remote areas of the state along with supporting the expansion of EMS and hospital Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators in those same regions.

	for Children program in collaboration with the ENA, AAP and ACEP.	
PECC Workforce Collaborative	The EMSC Innovation and Improvement Center is looking for participants in their PECC Workforce Collaborative which begins September 1 st and runs through June 30, 2022.	The Collaborative is looking for interested parties to sign up, the link is also located in the meeting chat. https://emscimprovement.center/collaboratives/pwdc/
Targeted Education Projects	The Advisory Committee is working towards improving pediatric education statewide through several targeted education initiatives and building on the existing education presently accessible in the TRAIN platform.	EMSC has purchased the software to create TRAIN supported education and is presently focusing on two topics, Family Centered Care and Pediatric Skills. We are soliciting educators interested in supporting these programs and in developing training around these topics.
EMSC Grant Funding		The Pennsylvania EMS for Children program was notified in February that we have received continued grant funding for the period April 1, 2021, through March 31, 2022. Additionally, we were notified in June that our current four-year grant has been extended for an additional fifth year through March 2023.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Provided by Anthony Martin

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Shaler Hampton EMS submitted a Council Membership Application, which has been reviewed by the Membership Committee.	It was motioned by Doug Garretson and seconded by Tony Deaven to accept Shaler Hampton EMS as a council member.	Motion Passed

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Provided by Anthony Martin

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
A Slate of Candidates for the 2021-2022 Executive Committee was provided	President – J. David Jones (Representing: Pennsylvania State University) Vice President – Anthony Deaven (Representing: Lower Allen Township EMS) Secretary – Douglas Garretson (Representing: Ambulance Association of PA) Treasurer – Ronald Roth, MD (Representing: Center for Emergency Medicine of Western Pennsylvania, Inc.) Member-at-Large – Christopher Chamberlain, RN (Representing: Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA) Member-at-Large – Bryan Wexler, MD (Representing: PA Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP))	
	It was motioned by J.R. Henry and seconded by Dr. Walt Stoy to accept the nominating committee report.	Report Accepted

OTHER BUSINESS:

CONFERENCE UPDATE

Provided by Andy Snavelly

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
44 th Annual EMS Conference	The conference is being held virtually again this year due to the unknown status of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is planned for August 31 to September 3, 2021	
	The conference will be free of charge.	We are in need of Sponsors and Vendors
	We have 22 sessions scheduled for a total of 24.5 con-ed hours.	Recordings will be provided for 90 days after the “live” version.
	There will be a virtual job fair this year also. This is an opportunity for individual organizations to recruit to a large audience. The cost will be \$50.00	Contact Andy Snavelly for more information.

TELEHEALTH GRANT UPDATE

Provided by Andy Snavelly

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Background	PEHSC is participating in a grant project, sponsored by the EMSC Innovation & Improvement Center. The purpose of this grant is to examine the potential uses of telehealth technology for the care of CYSHCN. This is a short-term project which is	

	scheduled to end on June 30, 2021.	
Partnerships	Geisinger EMS	Pilot program expanding on Geisinger's existing MIH program, EMS facilitating in-home specialty care visits.
	Centre Lifelink EMS	Supporting purchase of equipment for future telehealth program.

FROM THE FLOOR

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Doug Garretson mentioned	Dr. Walt Stoy was recognized as an EMS pioneer in the EMS Hall of Fame by the EMS World Magazine.	Walt has had an impact locally in Pittsburgh and across the Commonwealth, along with being a national leader in EMS education. Please congratulate him on this well deserved recognition.
Donald DeReamus Mentioned	Support House Bill 1293, which is a fix to Act 103 of 2018.	Strikes the entire language of Act 103 of 2018 and simply states that we get paid directly. The bill is currently in the Insurance Committee.

ADJOURN 2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
	It was motioned by Dr. Walt Stoy and seconded by Tony Deaven to adjourn the meeting.	Motion Passed

CONVENE 2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Jones, President

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Call to Order	The 2021-2022 meeting of the PEHSC Board of Directors was called to order by the President David Jones.	
President Jones thanked the outgoing Board of Directors for their service.		
The following organizations have been either nominated or re-nominated for a second term on the board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania - Burholme Emergency Medical Services - Centre Lifelink Emergency Medical Services - Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania - Main Line Health - PA Fire & Emergency Services Institute - Southern Alleghenies Emergency Medical Services Council - Valley Ambulance Authority - West Grove Fire Company - Williamsport Area Ambulance Services Cooperative dba Susquehanna Regional EMS 	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION FY 2021-2022

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
President Jones asked if there are any nominations from the floor?		No nominations from the floor
	It was motioned by Dr. Walt Stoy and seconded by Tony Deaven to close the nominations and accept the nominating committee's slate of candidates.	Motion Passed
<p>Slate of Candidates for the 2021-2022 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</p> <p>J. David Jones, President - Representing: Pennsylvania State University</p> <p>Anthony Deaven, Vice President - Representing: Lower Allen Township EMS</p> <p>Douglas Garretson, Secretary - Representing: Ambulance Association of PA</p> <p>Ronald Roth, MD, Treasurer - Representing: Center for Emergency Medicine of Western Pennsylvania, Inc.</p> <p>Christopher Chamberlain, RN, Member-at-Large - Representing: Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA</p> <p>Bryan Wexler, M.D., Member-at-Large - Representing: PA Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)</p> <p>J.R. Henry, Immediate Past President Representing: Valley Ambulance Authority</p> <p>Note - the Immediate Past President is not an elected position, however per the bylaws is a member of the Executive Committee</p>		

ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS:

American Trauma Society

Provided by Allyson Fulton

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
ATSPA is requesting PEHSC support to share a survey on their behalf for trauma prevention. The survey is estimated to take 2-3 minutes to complete.	PEHSC will support ATSPA's survey effort.	ATS that provides many resources for both our hospital and EMS partners. Examples include where we offered a micro grant every year, bike helmets for bike safety, and stop the bleed training kits. Currently our EMS membership is small and this survey will enable us to see what unmet needs exist. Staff Note – the survey link was sent to the members.

PTSF

Provided by Juliet Altenburg, RN, MSN

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Trauma Center Accreditation	Provided a map showing hospitals pursuing trauma center accreditation. The process normally started in March, but it was delayed until June because of the pandemic. There are board meetings scheduled for July 15-16 for accreditation deliberations and again in September and December.	Provided in today's materials.
Conference	PTSF will again conduct its annual Fall Conference	The event will be virtual again this year.

Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute

Provided by Jerry Ozog

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Fire and EMS Loan Program	The referendum to extend the program was passed on May 18 th . Act 91 permits the addition of municipal career departments to participate in the loan program. This was a collaborative effort with the four fire service organizations: the Fireman's Association of the State of Pennsylvania; the Career Fire Chief's Association, Pennsylvania Professional Firefighters Association, and PFESI.	There were concerns that came from a variety of areas across PA, specifically the ones that do not deal with career fire departments, but we were able to get the support needed to pass the referendum.

Ambulance Association of PA

Provided by Don DeReamus

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
House Bills 742 and 743	HB 742 is written in an appropriations fashion and deals with Covid relief money. It is a \$500 million-dollar allocation for fire and EMS relief fund which is for loss fundraising and revenue loss. HB 743 outlines how that money is to be allocated.	It is likely that these bills will not be acted upon by the end of 2021.
Another Bill Introduced	This would be a \$30 million-dollar COVID grant that was introduced \$22 million for fire and \$8 million for EMS.	

ADJOURN BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
	It was motioned by Gregory Frailey and seconded by Bill Niehenke to adjourn the meeting.	Motion Passed

The next scheduled meeting of the PEHSC Board of Directors will be on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, at 10:00 am via Zoom