

Monroe Livingston Regional EMS Meeting
March 19, 2012
Meeting Minutes

Call to order – Mark Tornstrom

Chair Report – Mark Tornstrom

- Any changes or additions to the January meeting minutes?
- They have been posted to the website
- Motion to accept the minutes? Second? All in favor? Ayes
- EMS Week – there has been correspondence between Mark Tornstrom and Drs. Santiago & Cushman re: coordinating efforts
- Perhaps a group could be formed to work on coordinating how we could contribute regionally
- If everyone thinks it appropriate, we could ask the PIER Committee to reach out to the various institutions
- Dates: May 20th – 25th
- George and Donna have volunteered; others interested in assisting, please reach out to Dick
- news at the State Level
- MLREMS has been taking the proposed changes in the Governor's budget to Article 30 very seriously
- If the changes occur, MLREMS has some additional monies that will be set aside to support the activities – educational and credentialing
- Depending on the outcome, the intent of MLREMS is to maintain communication, ongoing support of REMAC, education, etc. with those monies
- To update everyone: the Governor's Executive Budget included language that would significantly change Article 30, which is the statute that grants us the authority to function as MLREMS
- MLREMS, which is currently a Council, would change to an Advisory Board in the proposal
- It would lose a fair amount of its statutory authority
- At the State level, your voice with SEMAC would change
- You would become an Advisory Group to the Commissioner of Health directly
- The number of regions is proposed to change from 18 to 6
- The Regional Council would become an Advisory Committee at the State level, the staff would be gone, and it would roll into one complete body
- A lot of responsibilities still remain and funding for those responsibilities remains in the budget

Tim Czapranski:

- The Senate responded to the Governor's executive budget with their own budget
- They rejected the proposed changes to Article 30 in their completeness
- The Assembly submitted their budget to the Governor – they didn't totally reject the changes to Article 30, but chose to modify the Governor's proposed changes to Article 30
- We are not against change, but it needs to be discussed and thoroughly vetted before change goes forward
- There were questions about where the changes for Article 30 came from
- Suggest that the Chair or the Vice Chair write a letter to our local Assembly stating that the Council prefers the Senate version of the proposed changes to Article 30
- Motion on the table for a letter to be written by our Secretary – Seconded
- The State senators should be cc'd as well
- We are simply stating our position – this is not lobbying
- Any other discussion? All in favor? Ayes. Opposed? Abstentions?

Mark Tornstrom:

- If the proposed changes are included in the Governor's budget, the date for that could be the first week of April
- The initial language suggested it would take place immediately
- Lots of questions with very few answers

- The Executive Committee discussed things that are most important to us in this region: Education and Training
- CONs, applications for AEDs and/or Epi pens will have to be filed with the regional advisory board
- Put together a document outlining our responsibilities – this is a working document; changes can be made
- Communication will be vital
- Maintenance of our website and/or our weekly emails, so providers would be up to date on what things are transpiring and how things are progressing
- Our support of REMAC will remain
- Maintenance of the protocols, continuity of provision of care is something we may want to support
- Any educational processes or programs; maybe QA/QI processes
- If we are no longer statutory, we will need to change some of our funding/expenditures
- Do we continue to pay for the website? It costs \$500/month
- This includes \$160 a month for hosting the weekly emails
- There's nothing to say we can't get other figures; this is just what we have in place now
- Do we continue to purchase credits with Class Marker?
- If we no longer exist under Article 30 protection, do we change our responsibilities and our liabilities?
- Do we continue with education programs we have paid for in the past?
- We need to have a discussion with the University in terms of what we pay for re: support services and whether we maintain any of that
- Are there any requirements from MLREMS re: the use of vacation, severance, etc.?
- Do we set money aside for legal counsel?
- The other option is to sit back and wait to see what the State tells us and then act
- We have a well-organized region
- Fortunate to have great direct leadership and organization through our contracts with OPC through our contract with the University
- Any thoughts?
 - Budget is not approved – we can't make decisions until we know what has been decided
 - Yes but there is about \$2,100 in the Council budget that needs to get spent before the end of the month – you all can decide how we spend it
 - The audit has been done and is paid for; we're up to date on minutes; insurance is paid until the first of January 2013
 - The rest of the money is unencumbered
 - Dr. Murray has asked if the Council is interested in sponsoring regional specific pediatric code cards that include dosages for medications – would cost about \$1,200. Perhaps the Council could fund all or some of the amount?
 - We could modify the cards to say, "Courtesy of the Monroe-Livingston Regional Council"
 - No other requests for funding at this time
 - We invested in Class Marker and the cards, it would take us to about \$1,900 – would leave about \$500
 - We could pay for a few more months of the website contract; it will be up on April 10th
 - \$500 a month is a lot for a website - \$160 for 15 GB of storage is a lot of money
 - Perhaps we should authorize three months of the web page – this will give us breathing room
 - Motion that the remaining unencumbered 2011-2012 MLREMS budget be appropriated to the MLREMS website; Second
 - There may be some Program Agency money left over to put toward Dr. Murray's project
 - Motion from Dr. Cushman, Second. Any discussion? All in favor? Ayes. Opposed? Abstentions? – OK, the document with proposed ways to spend will be circulated

Correspondence:

- Letter from North Greece FD stating they will no longer continue as a Basic Life Support Response Service

- Article 30 will be discussed as New Business
- Please use the microphones and state your names when speaking so the transcription can be accurately recorded

Vice Chair Report – Tim Frost

- No Report

Secretary Report – Mark Philippy

- David Leven, Darrin Batty, & Laurie Thiele have submitted letters of resignation
- Motion to accept Laurie's resignation; Moved, Seconded by Ross. All in favor? Ayes
- Motion to accept Dave's resignation; Moved, Seconded by Manish. All in favor? Ayes
- Motion to accept Darrin Batty's resignation; Moved by Manish, Seconded by Tim C. All in favor? Ayes
- Our by-laws state that attendance issues are allowed to come before the Council to plea their reasons for not meeting the attendance requirements and/or resignation
- All three of these individuals declined to do so
- David Leven is taking a political position which makes him ineligible to participate in anything that receives NYS funding at this time
- Laurie has some significant in her work and personal life that makes it difficult for her to attend
- Darrin has requested to resign due to personal reasons
- Attendance issue re: Dr. Shmigel who has missed 6 meetings
- According to our by-laws re: attendance, I would like to entertain a motion to contact the EMS Advisory Board re: his absences
- They will need to appoint a new person to this seat – official notification should be sent to Darrin Batty

Treasurer's Report – Reg Allen

- We received payment from NYS
- Finances are in order – we have \$51,000 in the MLREMS account vs. the State funds

Medical Director Report – Jeremy Cushman, MD

- No report

Strategic Planning – Mark Tornstrom

- No report given

Program Agency Report – Tracy DeMarse

- October – December payment received from NYS for Program Agency
- Still waiting for the Council payment
- Next round of quarterly reports will begin in the next few weeks
- The BLS Protocol Exam was temporarily suspended due to a high rate of test credits being used
- Please tell your providers to review the exam material prior to taking the exam
- Also, please do not allow your new ALS providers to take the exam until they are registered with our office and interning
- The priority is to get ALS providers through the protocol test since it is required for them to have it completed by April 30th
- Currently, there is no regional requirement for BLS providers to take the test
- State Actions: Anthony Helferty – White Haven, PA; William Efinger – Hicksville, NY; Albert Morelli – Troy, NY

NEG Report – Reg Allen

- No report

PIER Committee – Dick Tripp (Chair)

- Thanks to Mark & Nicoletta for making posters for the award winners
- They will be placed around in various areas at the STEP Conference all day Friday & Saturday
- Banquet Attendance – there should be 120-150 people there
- If you're interested in sitting at the Council tables, please let Nicoletta or Tracy know
- We received an itemized request re: how monies given to STEP were spent
- \$2,000 was set aside for STEP: \$900 went toward the purchase of tables, \$600-700 went toward awards – leaves about \$550 for STEP
- Lots of discussion re: STEP advertising the banquet as a MLREMS event
- Had a long discussion with Jackie re: this issue
- We are not organizing it, therefore it's the STPE Banquet, not the MLREMS Banquet
- A press release was sent out re: the Banquet and the MLREMS Annual Awards were mentioned

REMAC – Mark Tornstrom for Manish Shah, MD

- No report

Systems Operations Committee – Tim Frost

- Change in leadership due to Darrin's resignation
- Point Pleasant BLSFR – Systems met before this meeting re: this
- Our recommendation is that we do not forward the application to NYS as it is deficient
- To clarify, Point Pleasant was two parts. Council voted on the transfer CON in January (Point Pleasant Ambulance to Irondequoit)
- In order for BEMS to finish that, they needed the approval for Point Pleasant's BLSFR application and it got lost in the mix
- In regards to Clifton – they still require some documentation; a letter will be sent to them stating what they are missing
- Looking to get some numbers based on their actual previous responses
- The application should be complete – that would come as a seconded motion
- Any discussion? All in favor? Ayes. Any opposed? Abstentions?
- A letter will be sent to Clifton asking for clarification re: their response numbers
- Point Pleasant – this application is holding up the transfer for Irondequoit
- Three issues with application – they need a letter from their municipality, their EMS Services description needs to be updated, and their equipment/apparatus list needs to be updated
- We recommend approving the application – a letter will be written to Dave re: these issues
- Lee Collier – Motion; Karen Dewar – Second
- Any discussion? All in favor? Ayes. Opposed? Abstentions?

Training & Education Committee – Paul Bishop

- We met this afternoon
- Monroe-Livingston Region will be the site of the beta test for the NYS CLI Course
- Dates will be announced at the end of the month, but we're looking at the first part of May
- We will no longer prescreen for CLIs and additional time has been added to teach skills
- MCC has informed the Training Committee that will only be offering a single paramedic refresher course every year; no spring course will be offered
- The paramedic refresher will be offered in the Fall (September – December)
- A few instructors were brought forth from course sponsors to have their names shared with the State
- Decision made at the committee level – all paperwork must be complete before we forward any names
- We have been lax with this for too long – a policy will be developed re: this and it will be sent to all course sponsors

Livingston County Report – Karen Dewar

- No report

Monroe County Report – Tim Czapranski

- Triage system for Monroe County Fire Departments – a few stragglers remain
- Any fire department who wants triage training should contact the battalion coordinator or me
- About to do a county-wide comprehensive EMS study
- Stated for release on the RFQ for Friday, March 30th, with response deadline on May 4th
- Additional RFQs going out re: Special Ops Training – will be released on March 30th
- EMS Memorial May 23rd at 11:00 am – please contact Donna Johnson should you wish to attend (518) 402-0996 ext. 3
- Russ Hogue, the paramedic who died last year, has been accepted at the National EMS Memorial; however, the State denied a place on the NYS EMS Memorial in Albany. Hope to get this fixed in 2013.
- EMS Accountability tags have been ordered for Monroe County – working on training re: this

State EMS Council – Tim Czapranski

- State Council is waiting to see what happens with Article 30 changes
- The next meeting will be in May

Other News

- Next scheduled meeting will be Monday, May 19th in Livingston County
- If we cease to exist, we may meet in April to discuss our nonexistence
- Decon Training at Strong Hospital on Tuesday, March 30th – just a drill
- Motion to adjourn