



Monroe-Livingston Regional EMS Council
Meeting Agenda
March 17, 2025
Livingston County EMS Base
5582 Lake Road Avon, NY
4PM

Welcome by Chair Sam Tinelli -

- Pledge of Allegiance

Calling of the Roll; 19 Members Present

Officer / Committee Reports:

- Chairperson Report: Sam Tinelli
 - SEMSCO Representative Report the state meetings were held on February 26 & 27, 2025 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Troy, NY.
 - Status of Program Agency Contract – there is still no contracts for any Program Agency in NYS. We are 9 months into the 2024/2025 contract year and no answer in sight. Without a contract, Program Agencies cannot get reimbursed for services already performed.
 - UBMD the Program agency for Big Lakes and Wyoming-Erie REMSCO has ceased to operate due not being able to get reimbursement from NYS. They laid off the two full time employees.
 - Jim Cassin contacted Bryan Brauner Chair of Wyoming-Erie REMSCO and was informed of the following:
 - UBMD has incurred approximately \$120,000 on costs with no contract;
 - Even if the situation was recertified quickly, not sure if UBMD would be the Program Agency again;
 - UBMD was told verbally by Director Greenberg they are “at risk” without a contract;
 - What is Wyoming-Erie contingency plan/ That Council members will have to handle the “priority tasks” and the remainder will be set aside;
 - Based on this and Dr. Cushman comments in the Medical Director report, not sure if URMC will continue to be a Program Agency.

The Chair and Vice-Chair will draft a letter regarding the issues and to be sent to Commissioner McDonald NYS Department of Health, Director Greenberg NYS BEMS and sent to all agencies in the MLREMS region ask for their support also.

Motion: J. Cassin

Second: T. Frost

All Ayes

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- Vice Chair : Jon Smith
 - Systems Operations Committee Report
 - Monroe County Mutual Aid Plan is currently under review by Monroe County Legal Department;
 - The development of an Operating Plan is on hold awaiting feedback from Monroe County Legal.

- NEG Committee Report:

- In response to direction from the MLREMS Council at the January, 2025 meeting, NEG recognizes Bylaws Article IV, Section 1 (D) as currently defined:

"No Officer shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms in the same office."

NEG proposes the following amendment to this language, building on existing verbiage, and addressing members' concerns for extenuating circumstances and not repeatedly extending term limits:

"No Officer shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms in the same office, unless the membership identifies specific extenuating circumstances and votes by special majority (2/3 voting members present) to approve a temporary extension of defined duration, accompanied by a defined plan to address the extenuating circumstance(s)."

- Motion: W. Arnold Second: A. Cook All Ayes

- Treasurer / Finance Committee Alex Cook: -

- Review and motion for approval January, 2025 Finance Report;
Motion: A. Cook Second: W. Arnold All Ayes
- Review and motion for approval February, 2025 Finance Report;
Motion: A. Cook Second: W. Arnold All Ayes
- 2024/2025 REMSCO Contract with NYS, worked through some issues with NYS new system (FSFS) that due to a lack of training and guidance, Ben and I had to make corrections.
- 2021/2022 4th quarter payment to URMC has been sent for Program Agency services. This will leave the 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 still to be processed.

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- Secretary / Membership Committee James Cassin:
 - Motion to approve January 27, 2025 Council minutes;
Motion: A. Cook Second: J. Merdak All Ayes
 - On March 11, 2025, met with Michael Witowski and Ben Sensenbach at DPM, to go over the 2nd Quarter REMSCO deliverable reports and amend to be ready for NYS when the contract is implemented for vouchering.
 - We discuss with Mike some the Secretary responsibilities and processes for the transition.
 - Sent out new Council members with the MLREMS emails accounts, so they will receive today's minutes to be up to speed in May.
 - Updates on the MLREMS website for changes in Council seats and terms, also REMAC has been updated also.

- Regional Medical Director – Jeremy Cushman – written report submitted
 - Funding and Reimbursement- We continue to work down the MLREMS balance to the U of R for Program Agency services previously performed. My thanks to Alex for working diligently to turn these around. As the Council has/will discuss, I remain deeply concerned with the complete inaction by the Bureau to fulfill its obligation in providing Program Agency Contracts. Our colleagues to the west have closed, and my office has continued to, in good faith, provide services to our community. I continue to evaluate this on a month-to-month basis, but as you can imagine, we cannot continue this path indefinitely. I urge the Council's immediate action to communicate this to elected officials and other leaders. The ability for regions to perform their tasks as required by law are being undermined and although we continue to do what is right, we will not be able to do this much longer.
 - Quality Initiatives - As Dr Farney may expand upon, the region has been active in both patient safety referrals and quality improvement initiatives - from pediatrics to airway confirmation to the RSI program. Update policy on airway confirmation and monitoring was issued recently, and Dr Dorsett continues to lead the team on updating the RSI program given our quality findings and matching them with best practices.
 - Dr Dorsett has also uncovered significant data disparities with the state bridge and our regional ability to pull amalgamated accurate data out of the bridge. This should have been recognized by the state, but its only her work that has identified the major data gaps and she has put in dozens of hours examining causes with little assistance from the state, and no funding through the program agency to support her work.

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- Protocols - This past week I issued an advisory regarding the protocol updates. As another example of unfunded work, I reviewed the protocols on behalf of the bureau and facilitated the change logs and edits along with Mindy Cannuli prior to her leave. We continue to do the important work our clinicians need, because the state lacks the expertise but does not wish to fund us. This is becoming increasingly difficult to justify.
 - Office and Priorities - Given all the above and Mindy's continued maternity leave, we are doing our best to maintain the level of service expected. If there are other areas of focus or anything we have been delayed or forgotten, please let me know. Particular thanks to Geordie and PIER for their work on the awards.
 - As we enter a period where the future of Program Agencies is in question, I am prioritizing those responsibilities that are statutory in nature: developing policies, protocols, and procedures to maintain programs; registering AEDs through the PAD program, supporting the Council and REMAC to include its responsibility for quality improvement and variance investigation, maintaining a website, etc. Please reach out if we can better serve your needs, but understand that we are doing this with the knowledge we may never be funded, and our days as program Agency (whether MLREMS or the UR) are numbered without action.
- SEMAC Representative - Maia Dorset:
 - REMAC Representative - Aaron Farney:
 - REMAC motion to rescind the MLREMS Regional Performance Measures (Espoused in Advisory 10-18 and superseded by Advisory 18-01)
 - Dr. Farney the basis of this change was due to a position paper by several national EMS related organizations and the data complied.
 - The MLREMS Council accepts the REMAC decision to rescind Advisory 18-01. A TAG will be formed to look at some Regional Performance Metrics based on data.

Motion: J. Smith

Second: T. Frost

18 Ayes 1 Nay

- Training & Ed Chair Tim Hutchings:
 - Thru a collaborative effort of PSTF, MCSO and Monroe County Peer Support will be hosting a Train the Trainer program for responder wellness. This will be through Responder Strong. See attached info with these minutes. This training will be held on Wednesday June 4th from 8AM to 4PM at the PSTF. There is no cost for this program.

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- PIER Chair Geordie Klueber :
 - Through the work of Amanda, Ben and Tim, we have 23 nominations for nine EMS award categories.
 - An email was sent out to all Council members this morning with the nomination applications and the link for voting.
 - Please take the time to read each nomination prior to making your decision, as each of these individuals and agencies took the time to thoughtfully document these nominations and each candidate deserves all due consideration.
 - The voting will conclude on Sunday March 23rd at 11:59PM.
- Livingston County EMS Coordinator Karen Dewar :
 - Nothing new to report since last meeting.
- Monroe County EMS Coordinator Tim Czapranski: Written report submitted:
 - Monroe County Public Safety Team, Steve Tschiderer as the new County Fire Coordinator. Steve will officially begin his role on March 31, 2025
 - Working with Western Wayne EMS to take advantage of their resources as MA into Monroe County when they are closest most appropriate
 - Will be implementing PulsePoint in the next few months. We still have some CAD issues from the upgrade that need resolution prior to PulsePoint.
 - Monroe County MA Plan is currently with the county law department.
- E-PCR Committee – Ben Sensenbach & Jim Cassin
 - Acceptance of TAG Report – the final report was emailed to all Council members on March 6, 2025. There are a few recommendations for consideration by the Council, but due to the many other items addressed at today's meeting; this should be an item for the May Council meeting.

Motion: J. Cassin Second: J. Lindskoog All Ayes
 - Recognition Letters are being emailed on Tuesday morning to the TAG Committee members and the leaders of their organizations. Letter is attached to these minutes.
 - Final TAG Report is attached to these minutes.
- Program Agency Ben Sensenbach:
 - State Actions;
 - James Kozak - For violations of 10 NYCRR § 800.3(am), 800.3(ao) and 800.15(a).

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Certification is revoked. The revocation shall be stayed contingent upon completion of one (1) year suspension and no further violations of PHL Article 30 or 10 NYCRR Part 800 for a period of three (3) years. Assessed a civil penalty of \$2000.

- Ryan Morgan - For Violations of 10 NYCRR 800.3(al), 800.3(am), 800.15(a)(1), 800.15(a)(2), 800.16(a)(1), 800.16(a)(2) and 800.16(a)(3). Suspended for one (1) year effective 2/21/2025. Suspension is stayed pending no violations of PHL 30, 10 NYCRR Part 800 for three (3) years. \$1000 Civil Penalty.
- Ronald Jocko Jr. - For violations of 10 NYCRR 800.3(al), 800.3(am) and 800.15(a). Suspended for 1 year effective 2/27/2025 and until such time as the respondent completes a Paramedic full refresher without challenge and passes the New York State Advanced Emergency Medical Technician recertification test, whichever is later. Three-year probationary period. Assessed a civil penalty of \$2000.
- Bureau of EMS – Brian Wiedman – Not present
- Old Business – None
- New Business – Lauren Pierson - Strong Pediatric Trauma Triage has had a decrease for notifications to be in guidance with American College of Suregons.
- NYS DOH and Other Important Dates –
 - SEMAC and SEMSCO May 6 and 7, at the Gideon Putnam Hotel, Saratoga Spring, NY.
 - Vital Signs Conference November 11-15, 2025 OnCenter Syracuse NY.
- Next Council Meeting – Monday May 19, 2025 16:00 Hours at Public Safety Training Center 1190 Scottsville Road Rochester, NY. Prior to the meeting will be the Annual EMS Awards ceremony.

Adjournment at 17:23 Hours

Motion: J. Cassin

Second: W. Arnold

All Ayes

Link to meeting video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YjTtakXSLTo>

Submitted by:

James Cassin
Secretary

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2025 MLREMS Meeting Attendance Record

Category	Name	Term Expires	2025-01	2025-03	2025-05	2025-07	2025-09	2025-11
Monroe County At Large - Seat 1	Arnold, William	3/31/25	P	P				
At Large EMS Agency - Seat 4	Cassin, James	3/31/25	P	P				
Livingston County At Large - Seat 2	Cook, Alex	3/31/26	P	P				
Monroe County CON - Seat 1	Coyle Thomas	3/31/25	P	E				
Regional Medical Director	Cushman, Jeremy	Ex-Officio	E	E				
Monroe County EMS Coordinator	Czapranski, Timothy	Ex-Officio	P	E				
Livingston County EMS Coordinator	Dewar, Karen	Ex-Officio	P	P				
REMAC Representative	Farney, Aaron	3/31/25	E	P				
At Large EMS Agency - Seat 3	Frost, Timothy	3/31/26	P	P				
Monroe County At Large - Seat 2	Hutchings, Timothy	3/31/25	P	P				
Monroe County At Large - Seat 3	Kirchoff, Thomas	3/31/25	E	P				
Livingston County - BLSFR	Klueber, Geordie	3/31/26	P	P				
Livingston County At Large - Seat 1	Lindskoog, Jonathan	3/31/25	P	P				
EMS Training / Education	Martin, Amanda	3/31/28	P	P				
Monroe County At Large - Seat 4	Merdak, Jessee	3/34/28	P	P				
Healthcare Representative - Seat 3	Nugent, Brandon	3/31/25	P	E				
Monroe County CON - Seat 2	Perez, Andrew	3/31/28	P	P				
Healthcare Representative - Seat 1	Pierson, Lauren	3/31/26	A	P				
Law Enforcement	Rathfelder, Eric	3/31/26	E	P				
Livingston County At Large - Seat 3	Rose, Meghann	3/31/25	P	P				
At Large EMS Agency - Seat 2`	Smith, Jonathan	3/31/26	P	P				
Livingston County CON -	Tinelli, Samuel	3/31/26	P	P				
At Large EMS Agency - Seat 1	Witkowski, Michael	3/31/25	E	P				
Healthcare Representative - Seat 2	Vacant	3/31/28	V	V				
Community Representative	Vacant	3/31/28	V	V				
Monroe County - BLSFR	Vacant	3/31/28	V	V				

Attendance Legend : **Present = P** **Absent = A** **Excused = E** **Vacant = V**

Attendance for Quorum: **Quorum = 14 Members** **Super Majority = 19 Members**

