

# Southwestern Regional Emergency Medical Services Council

## Summary Record of Meeting

August 3, 2016

Formal minutes of this meeting consist of a verbatim transcript of the proceeding which is accessible at the program agency's website [www.SouthernTierEMS.org](http://www.SouthernTierEMS.org) . This Summary Record of Meeting is provided to assist the members of Council in recollecting the salient aspects of the meeting should such be needed during future activities without having to undertake sorting through the volumes of transcript pages.

### Call To Order of Informational Portion of Meeting:

Chairman Ed Frederickson convened the session to order (16 members and 5 guests present, attendance listing on file at STEMS) at 6:30 P.M. at the Good Times Multi-Purpose Facility in the upper assembly room.

### Correspondence:

Ed reported that a letter had been received from council member Dorothy Button changing her Designated Alternate to be Greg Cain. Ed then requested that all members similarly update their Alternate Attendee filings before the October council meeting.

### Officers Reports:

**Chairman** - Ed distributed a 2016 committee membership assignments listing along with a 2016 budget information reference sheet.

**Treasurer** - M. Forness distributed a Treasurer's Report exhibiting current fund balances and expenses incurred since the previous meeting.

### Committee Reports:

**WREMAC** - Todd Reisner reported that (1) the new protocols rollout will likely be moved back to yearend, and that (2) discussion had occurred about whether or not to continue creating new Critical Care certified personnel. P. Wilson noted that since the protocols include CC level direction that it seemed appropriate to continue with the program and that he certainly endorsed continuing the CC Refresher Program. Dan Marsh reported that Allegany County relies heavily on CC care in lieu of paramedic care since paramedic training is not conveniently available there. The travel time to training is too burdensome. Thus, until such time as training can be provided locally the county wants to have the CC program continue. Allegany County's class had an enrollment of 11 which is encouraging. T. Reisner noted his observation that the MDs think that the AEMT Program will well serve communities while keeping the program in line with national standards. Todd further remarked that from his

vantage point that discontinuing CC training would devastate ALS in Allegany County. E. Mager added that Lee Burns has indicated that the CC program is not going away in NYS. Consensus of those present was that it should be reported to the WREMAC that the council is in support of continuing CC training and care in the region.

**STEMS** - A. Kahm distributed a handout exhibiting agency activity since the prior council meeting. She also reported that the annual skills credentialing review and reporting process had been completed.

**Education** - M. Forness reported that (1) the planning had commenced for next Spring's annual training conference, and that (2) a follow-up had occurred with NYSDOH subsequent to the last meeting concerning the use of council funds for Vital Signs Conference attendance. NYSDOH had approved the use of council funds going forward to support attendance of regional EMTs at the Vital Signs Conference as a component of council's training program. She further reported that a letter had subsequently been sent to NYSDOH confirming the council training policy and noting that the rural nature of the region otherwise has limited non-council training opportunities available to EMTs. M. Forness concluded by reporting that council funding for CISM use had not been approved by NYSDOH.

**SEMAC** - M. Forness noted that no meeting had occurred since council's last meeting.

**Service** - No formal report. E. Frederickson noted that the Hinsdale transfer of ownership packet had been received and that a packet was in the process of being developed for a Bolivar transfer of ownership. Belief is that adding Independence to the agency's territory will be contested.

**SEMSCO** - M. Forness noted that no meeting had occurred since council's last meeting.

**Community Relations** - No report.

**NYS DOH** - E. Mager reported that NYS regulations had been officially updated to require controlled substances to be carried on ambulances providing advanced care requiring such and that the Regional Office would be reaching out to agencies to help them obtain the required licenses.

**Legislative** - T. Reisner reported that a statewide Medicaid study was underway to report on underfunded ambulance details.

**Membership** - D. Imfeld reported that there would be no committee report and noted that council's roster is full.

### **County Reports:**

**Allegany** - Representatives reported that (1) basic and refresher classes would be starting during the following week; (2) the Tough Mudder Event would be returning and has an advance enrollment of 4,000 participants; (3) an Active Shooter Exercise is in the planning stage.

**Cattaraugus** - It was reported that the county was currently deeply involved with County Fair matters which was occupying considerable time and resources.

**Chautauqua** - Representatives reported that the results of the EMS Study that had been performed by MMA Consulting had been rolled out to the EMS Council, county administrators & legislators and to EMS providers. Of the various recommendations the county council had decided to initially concentrate on (1) implementing the EMD Program; (2) improving on the collection of electronic data, and (3) implementing a Fly Car Program throughout the county to supplement Alstar's program.

### **Call To Order of Formal Meeting:**

Chairman Ed Frederickson called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M. noting that a quorum was present.

### **Previous Meeting Minutes:**

E. Koorse moved that the minutes of the June 1, 2016, meeting be approved as presented, second by T. Reisner. All aye.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

M. Forness reviewed the Treasurer's Report handout. She noted that Council currently had a bank account balance of \$17,942.54 and that all bills had been paid. She noted that a reimbursement request for \$1,941.65 had been sent to NYSDOH. D. Marsh moved acceptance of the report, second by T. Sampson. All aye.

### **Enforcement Notifications:**

E. Frederickson read aloud notifications that had been received from NYSDOH regarding disciplinary actions taken with Jean Fontus of Brooklyn and Michael Schwertfeger of Fredonia.

### **Old Business:**

**Budget** - M. Forness reported that all budget issues had been resolved and that matters are moving forward as planned.

**Audit** - D. Kahm reported that the Southern Tier Health Care Services office had reviewed Council's financial records.

### **New Business:**

**AEMT Critical Care Program** - D. Marsh moved and P. Wilson seconded the motion that Council direct its WREMAC representatives to carry the message that Council supports the continuation of the Critical Care Program, both initial and refresher, at least until such time as paramedic training becomes more available throughout the entire region. All aye.

**Vital Signs** - P. Wilson moved and L. Logan seconded the motion that Council approve the adoption of Council's Draft Reimbursement Policy for Vital Signs Conference attendance with the stipulation that reimbursement recipients must be active EMS providers who are current with requirements as necessary to hold on-line medical authorization by their agency Medical Directors. All aye.

**Adjournment:**

At 7:33 P.M. E. Koorse moved that the meeting be adjourned, second by T. Reisner. All aye.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Douglas E. Conroe  
Secretary

**Next Meeting:**

October 5, 2016, at Good Times of Olean.