



Westchester Regional EMS Council

General Meeting Minutes

Date: May 28, 2009
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Location: Westchester County Department of Emergency Services

OFFICERS
Daniel J. Blum, Chair
James O'Connor, Vice Chair
Jeff Meade, Treasurer
Dr. Tim Haydock, Secretary

MEMBERS

NAME	AFFILIATION	
Barca	Joseph	Yonkers Police Department Present
Blum	Daniel	Chappaqua VAC Excused
Burke	Alison	Greater New York Hospital Assoc Excused
DeRobertis	Nicholas	St. Joseph's Medical Center Excused
Faucher	Roland	Mohegan Vol. Fire Assoc. VAC Present
Haydock	Timothy	White Plains Hospital Center Present
Jackson	John	Westchester County Dept of Emergency Services Present
Kalish	Chris	Tarrytown VAC (Greg Wilson) Alternate - Present
Kelly	Eugene	Yonkers Fire Department Present
Labriola	Luci	Armonk Independent Fire Company Present
Lazar	Elliot	General Public Absent
Liverzani	Michael	Town of Mamaroneck Amb District Present
Malone III	Eugene	Fairview Fire Department Absent
McGurty	John A.	Hudson Valley Hospital Center Present
Meade	Jeffrey	Phelps Memorial Hospital (ELSP) Excused
Minerva	Daniel	Empress EMS (Ray Cordi) Alternate - Present
Nechis	Alex	Eastchester VAC Present
Nechis	Barry	New Rochelle Fire Department Present
O'Connor	Charles	Croton Fire Patrol Present
O'Connor	James	TransCare Present
Parsons	David	Harrison VAC Absent
Perez	Cesar	Katonah-Bedford VAC Present
Simpkins	Gilbert	Vista FD Present
Straub	Frank	White Plains Department of Public Safety Present
Varlese	Doris	General Public Present
Volk	Michael	Westchester County Dept of Emergency Services Present

GUESTS

Smalley	Phyllis	WC Dept. of Emergency Services / Program Agency
Peifer	Guy	Yonkers FD
Olmoz	Daniel	WC Dept. of Emergency Services / Program Agency
Robinson	Rich	NYS DOH MARO
Sutton	Anthony	WC Dept. of Emergency Services

Chair Daniel Blum was excused, Vice-Chair Jim O'Connor called the meeting of the Westchester Regional EMS Council to order at 6:10 P.M.

DES Deputy Commissioner John Jackson was asked to lead the meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary, Dr. Tim Haydock, conducted the roll call and determined that the attendance (19) did meet the quorum requirement of sixteen (16) delegates.

The minutes of the March 26, 2009, general meeting were previously disseminated to the members. The minutes were approved without change.

CHAIR'S REPORT – Vice Chair, Jim O'Connor reported on the following on behalf of Chair, Daniel Blum.

EMS Week – There were a lot of different agencies hosting a lot of interesting things going on for their membership and it was culminated by our annual awards dinner. Dan Olmoz was asked to give a brief report on the awards dinner.

It was reported that although attendance was in question leading up to the event, there was a better turnout than originally expected. As a result, the council will likely recoup all expenses. There 221 attendees from 21 agencies and 10 hospitals. 3 vendors participated.

Phyllis Smalley was thanked for all of her efforts to make the event a success.

There was a brief discussion regarding soliciting comments regarding the event to evaluate how to make it even better. It was mentioned that Dr. Conti's wife was extremely touched to find such an outpouring of love and support for her and her husband. Dr. Conti's dedication and contribution to EMS was recognized.

There was a brief discussion regarding this year's EMS recognition ceremony and how changes to Playland Park's admission process will effect it. Plans are underway to obtain park passes.

VICE CHAIR'S REPORT - None

TREASURER'S REPORT – None

SECRETARY – None

STANDING COMMITTEES

Communication –

Trunked Radio System – Chief Volk reported that the trunked portable radios that were distributed to the Fire and EMS agencies will be going through a swap. Motorola found an issue with the portables, so they're going to be taking the portables back, providing temporary portables, and having them repaired and returning them. That will include reprogramming of the radios, not specific to the talk groups, but some additional inter op capabilities on the radio. New cases were purchased as the old ones would not accommodate the key on the front of the radio. It is estimated that it will take 8 to 9 months to complete.

Disaster TAG –

Chair Barry Nechis reported on the following:

The group has been reconfigured. With the help of DES, the Mutual Aid plan is being reviewed for NIMS compliance. A meeting is being planned and is expected to occur in a couple of weeks.

Finance –

Jeff Meade has decided to step down as Treasurer. Cesar Perez was asked to finish out Jeff's term and has agreed. A meeting will be planned to ensure a smooth transition. A financial report will be made available as soon as possible. Jeff was thanked for his service.

Legislation and By-Laws – None.

Nominating – It was mentioned that the next meeting scheduled for June is the annual meeting. There will be a slate of candidates coming forward. .

Policy & Procedures – Chair Roland Faucher reported that plans are being made to review all policies for any needed changes.

Public Information & Education – Phyllis Smalley commented on the Double Tree Hotel's excellent accommodations during the awards dinner.

REMAC - Chair Dr. DeRobertis was excused. Dr. Haydock reported that the REMAC had met on May 18, 2009. Among the items that are being discussed are:

Protocols – paramedic agencies are being updated with the new materials. Agencies officials and training officers will be provided an update so they can in-service all affiliated paramedics. A few mistakes were identified in the presentation materials and are being corrected for subsequent updates. All materials have been posted on the REMSCO website. An implementation date of July 1, 2009 has been selected.

STEMI TAG – discussion continues on developing a process to divert appropriate patients to STEMI centers. At issue is lack of centralized dispatch, EKG interpretation processes, and a dearth of available STEMI centers in the county as compared to other areas around the state.

Membership Approval – An application from Mr. Ray Cordi for REMAC membership was approved for the non-voting EMS Proprietary constituency. The motion requires the councils approval. A vote was conducted and the motion was passed.

Training and Education –Chair, Alex Nechis reported on the following:

Course Sponsor Renewals – renewals will be brought to the next council meeting for a vote.

Transportation - Chair, Joe Barca reported on the following:

CON – A letter was sent to NYS DOH, BEMS Director, Ed Wronski asking for additional information in regard to the process and policy that the Transportation Committee is attempting to put together to resolve EMS agency CON issues in the region. It is hoped that a reply will be received prior to the June council meeting so the process can be voted on. It is believed that out of those agencies believed to have potential CON issues, most will be resolved without contention. However, there are some issues with the Pocantico Hills area. Contested CON corrections will need to be handled according to the full expansion policy in place.

NEW BUSINESS –

An announcement was made that Sister Mary Lenahan who was previously the CEO of St. Joseph's Hospital, recently passed away. Sister Lenahan was recognized for her being a tremendous advocate for EMS and for all of her contributions to Yonkers and Westchester County. A moment of silence was observed in her memory.

This year's award recipients and nominees were congratulated and the members were asked to begin considering nominations for next year. It was noted that award winners are eligible to receive the NYS EMS awards.

Next Meeting – The next REMSCO meeting will be on June 25, 2009, at 6:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by D. Olmoz for Dr. T. Haydock.