

Mountain Lakes REMAC Meeting

Monday July 26th 2010

Morrisonville EMS Station, Morrisonville NY

Meeting called to order at 12:08pm by John Broderick MD.

Roll Call: John Broderick MD, Scott Harwood, Bruce Sawyer, Guy Goodell (Staff), Travis Howe (Staff), Howard Davis MD, Pat Johnson PA, Mary Ramo, William Viscardo MD, Kevin White, Russ Hartung MD, Charles Gibbs MD, Vernon James (Guest), Mary Jane Connors, Patty Bashaw

Previous Minutes: Motion to accept the minutes as distributed by Dr Russ Hartung. Second by Dr William Viscardo. None opposed. Carried.

REMSCO Report: Report given by Patty Bashaw.

- Currently struggling financially. Waiting on money from the State. Three vouchers are currently in and have been approved. It may be 4-6 weeks before money comes. REMSCO needs to develop slush fund for future. Ed Corp owes Mountain Lakes money and they are working on getting it to us to help cover payroll.
- Deliverables are going well. A new QA/QI project is needed. This needs to be decided on earlier next year. The State says that we should study certain things and if we want to deviate from those things then we need permission to do so.

Dr John Broderick- We did not know this. It was always presented as “do what you want...”

Patty Bashaw- We should pick one that is in the deliverables to get it going. Squads should submit the information in paper form to make it easier.

(Open discussion about studying Public Access Defib)

Motion by Dr Russ Hartung to have this year’s study be “EMS Interaction with a Public Access Defibrillation site after a patient defibrillation.” Second by Dr William Viscardo. None Opposed. Carried.

SEMAC Report: Report given by Dr John Broderick.

- Pediatric equipment may need to be looked at. There are National, State and Regional recommendations or mandates.

(Discussion about the Mountain Lakes Pediatric requirements versus the State and National standards)

Dr John Broderick- We need to look into what the National standards are and see how much it would cost each agency if that was mandated in our Region.

Mary Ramo – Talk to Martha Golke from Department. She will be able to help with this.

It was decided that the Mountain Lakes staff would investigate and report back to the REMAC.

Agency ALS Certification Renewals: Conducted by Dr John Broderick.

Thurman EMS – Thurman was extended for three months at the last meeting in April. At that meeting, Doug Girling, their medical director, wanted to see some changes and talk to Thurman about response issues.

(Discussion about dropped calls and staffing and response plans)

Travis Howe – Thurman is on Automatic Mutual Aid 24/7 in Warren County.

Motion by Bruce Sawyer to extend Thurman’s ALS certification to September 1st 2010. If they have not provided an adequate Staffing and Response plan to Doctors Broderick and Girling by September 1st the REMAC will revoke their ALS certification. Second by William Viscardo. None opposed. Carried.

Moriah EMS – Moriah was extended for three months at the last meeting in April. At the April meeting there were concerns about their ability to staff and respond.

Patty Bashaw – They are working on obtaining 503C so they can bill for services which will help to hire staff eventually. The squad has been dealing with many internal issues. The Captain Lou Paris has submitted supporting documents including a schedule in response to the REMAC’s concerns.

Dr John Broderick – They need to notify dispatch when they have a hole in the schedule. If we renew them, we should “you need to notify dispatch when you have a hole”.

Motion to renew Moriah’s ALS certification by Dr Russ Hartung. Second by Dr William Viscardo. None opposed. Carried.

Long Lake Rescue –

Dr John Broderick – I am Long Lake’s Medical Director. They use a combination of volunteers and paid EMT’s to fill their schedule. There are no current issues with them.

Motion by Kevin white to renew Long Lake’s ALS Certification. Second by Dr Russ Hartung. None opposed. Carried.

Saranac Lake Fire – Saranac was extended for three months at the last meeting in April due to them being in the process of transferring their CON to Saranac Lake Rescue Squad.

Mary Jane Connors – We are waiting to hear back from the State on the Fitness and Competency of Saranac Lake Rescue.

Motion to extend another three months by William Viscardo. Second by Dr Russ Hartung. None opposed. Carried.

Old Business :

- Dispatch Centers - Dr John Broderick stated that he visited four of the five county dispatch centers in our region. They are all impressive with a lot going on. All seem willing to share information with us. All dispatch mutual aid for EMS calls after 6-10 minutes.
- Annual CME and Skills form – Dr John Broderick stated that we are thinking about only requiring yearly skills instead of six month skills. Guy Goodell explained that the staff at Mountain Lakes is unable to enforce things that were suppose to be done six months in the past. It was agreed that the form and policy should be changed.
- Russ Hartung’s resignation – Dr Russ Hartung stated that he has been on the REMAC for fifteen years and is proud of the REMAC has grown. CVPH will be teaming with “Team Health” and they will be providing medical direction. Russ also stated that he will work with any new medical directors for a smooth transition. Russ will also be at the next REMAC meeting on October and will have more information at that point.

Saranac Lake’s CON came back up for discussion. There were concerns that the process was taking too long and that the staff did not act quick enough after the application was deemed complete by the CON committee. The staff and Mary Jane Connors assured that this was not true. Travis stated that he was working to contact the State all of last week to get the F and C review started.

- Pharmaceutical Shortages – Dr John Broderick stated that there are nationwide shortages. Received a letter from Lee Burns asking REMAC to try and determine how our region has been affected. A contingency plan is needed for future shortages.
- Credentialing for Medical Directors – Dr John Broderick handed out a draft of his proposed policy. Policy will be used when a doctor would like to provide medical control for an agency and join the REMAC. Concerns were minor and included some re-wording of certain parts.
Motion by Dr William Viscardo to implement this policy. Second by Dr Russ Hartung. None opposed. Carried.
- Adrenal Considerations- Dr John Broderick brought up Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAH) as well as a recommended protocol to deal with the issue. It was suggested that the REMAC add Solumedrol to the formulary and use it as a physician’s option for CAH. It was pointed out that Solumedrol could also be added to the protocols for Asthma and COPD. **There was a motion by Dr Russ Hartung to submit the proposed protocol and formulary changes to the SEMAC for approval. Second was by Kevin White. None opposed. Carried.**
- Reciprocal Agreement with REMO and North Country- It was pointed out by Guy Goodell that these agreements that allow technicians to always follow their “home” region’s protocols (even if in a neighboring region) are required by the State. After a brief discussion

Dr William Viscardo made a motion to sign the agreements. Second by Bruce Sawyer. None opposed. Carried.

- Bruce Sawyer brought Zofran up for discussion and expressed that he would like to see the standing order dose be raised from 4mg IV to 8mg IV. Dr John Broderick agrees and discussed the pros of such a change. **A motion was made by Dr William Viscardo accept the change and send it to the SEMAC for approval. Second by Bruce Sawyer. None opposed. Carried.**
- Dr John Broderick pointed out two State advisories in an attempt to show everyone what the meaning of "mutual aid" is.
- MOLST update was brought up by Dr John Broderick. There was a discussion on what it all means. Most changes were to accommodate gay marriages and such.
- It was mentioned that two counties are currently thinking about having all of their EMS agencies apply for a County wide CON. The thought behind it is that it will take care of the Medicare/Medicaid issues.
- Intranasal Narcan was discussed by Dr John Broderick who said that the State is working in the study phase and eventually this will be a new protocol. Dr. Broderick will stay up to date with the study.
- It was mentioned that the next meeting will be on October 25, 2010 and will take place in Queensbury.

Motion to adjourn by Bruce Sawyer at 4:05pm. Second by Dr William Viscardo. None opposed. Carried.

Minutes submitted by Travis Howe