

REMAC Meeting Minutes  
October 25, 2010  
Mountain Lakes Office, Queensbury NY

**Meeting Called to order by Dr. John Broderick at 12 Noon**

*Presentation was given by REMO Paramedic Robbie MaCue, owner of computer software that may be useful for our region's agencies and medical directors in tracking / QA / QI.*

**Roll Call:**

Members present (includes conference call) were Patty Bashaw, Dr. John Broderick, Kevin White, Bruce Mason, Storm Treanor, Dr. Douglas Girling, Dr. Robert Desiderio, Dr. Michael Pond, Bruce Barry, Mary Jane Connors, Dr. Harry Davis, Gary Scidmore, Chris Norton.

New York State DOH representatives present were Mary Ramo and Joe Farrell.

Mountain Lakes Staff present were Travis Howe and JP Jones.

Guests present were Dave Lavergne, Vernon James, Patty Wolff and Dr. Ventre.

Dr. John Broderick presented Dr. Giuseppe Ventre's CV and request to become a REMAC approved Medical Director. Dr. Broderick explained that Dr. Ventre was approached by CVPH and it appears that he meets the necessary criteria outlined in the new REMAC doctor credentialing policy. Dr. Ventre expressed his desire to become involved and agreed to take a course in medical direction within one year.

*Motion to accept Dr. Ventre as a REMAC Medical Director by Storm Treanor. Second to the motion by Dr. Doug Girling. None opposed. Motion carried.*

Dr. John Broderick presented Dr. John Southwick's CV and request to become a REMAC approved Medical Director. He explained that Dr. Southwick no longer practices medicine and that according to the credentialing policy he does not meet the proper criteria. Members present were in agreement.

**Previous meeting minutes:**

The previous meeting minutes were presented and Dr. Robert Desiderio requested that he be added to the July 2010 meeting roll call.

*Motion to approve the minutes by Kevin White. Second to the motion by Dr. Harry Davis. None opposed. Motion carried.*

**REMSCO Report:**

REMSCO report was given by REMSCO Chair Patty Bashaw. Patty reported the following:

- EMS Conference was a success. Looking at sites in Lake Placid for next year.

- On Thursday October 21<sup>st</sup> Guy Goodell resigned from his position of Executive Director.
- The Education Corporation may be moving out of the office. They are having financial troubles as they wait for the State to pay outstanding vouchers. On December 1, 2010 they will begin to pre-bill for all courses.
- Michelle Signorelli has resigned from the Ed Corp. and it will take effect by January 1, 2011.
- The Council needs to become less dependent on State funds.

#### **SEMAC Report:**

SEMAC Report given by Dr. John Broderick and Storm Treanor. They reported the following:

- The Intra Nasal Narcan study is on hold due to a National shortage of the drug.
- STEMI Centers – Hospitals must provide 24/7. If they are unable they must have transport agreements with other STEMI facilities.
- Concerns about safety in the back of a moving ambulance were discussed. Recommendations about wearing seatbelts and not trying to perform certain skills in a moving ambulance will be forthcoming.
- The State is working on moving towards being able to meet NEMSIS standards. EPCR users can only use NEMSIS compliant systems.
- A lot of safety issues were discussed and focused on.
- Pediatric equipment and medical direction policies coming from NYS.

#### **Agency ALS certification applications:**

Essex Fire – Application was received today. Patty Bashaw states they Essex and Willsboro are dispatched at the same time and have agreements in place to cover calls. Both agencies are in the process of establishing a new corporation so they can transfer their CON's.

Motion made by Dr. Robert Desiderio to extend Willsboro and Essex's certification for three months because of it being late. Second to the motion by Dr. Doug Girling. None Opposed. Motion carried.

Westport – Patty explained that Westport was unable to complete their application due to their lone Critical Care technician having emergency heart surgery.

Motion made by Dr. Robert Desiderio to extend three months. Second to the motion by Dr. Doug Girling. None Opposed. Motion carried.

City of Plattsburgh Fire – Bruce Barry mentioned that Plattsburgh checked off that they are applying for renewal at the Critical Care level but that they should checked Paramedic. They do have Paramedics on staff. Storm Treanor has no reservations. They have paid members 24/7 and agreements with neighboring squads.

Motion to increase Plattsburgh's certification to Paramedic and renew for two years by Storm Treanor. Second to the motion by Kevin White. None opposed. Motion carried.

FREMSA – FREMSA was extended at the last two meetings. Doctor Broderick stated that he is concerned about mutual aid agreements. Do they have any? Can they have any?

Mary Jane Connors stated they do not need any.

There were questions about FREMSA members not doing PCR's and Bruce Barry stated that this is getting better and that FREMSA is now actively participating in QA/QI.

Dr. John Broderick stated that FREMSA is applying for renewal as well as in increase of service from Critical Care to Paramedic. He stated that he is not comfortable with a two year certification and recommended one year.

Bruce Barry stated that dispatching is an issue. Should we approach Franklin County and ask that they dispatch FREMSA? It was decided that this will be looked into as we move forward.

Motion to renew FREMSA's certification and increase them to the Paramedic level for one year as long as they continue working on PCR's and QA/QI was made by Storm Treanor. Second to the motion made by Gary Scidmore. None opposed. Motion carried.

Saranac Lake Rescue –

Dr. John Broderick stated that the newly formed Saranac Lake Rescue Squad is awaiting their State inspection so they can get their State Certification. Joe Farrell will be doing this on Thursday.

There was a lengthy discussion about dispatching and how Saranac Lake is dispatched. Some feel that they all of the emergency calls in their district should go to Franklin County 911.

Dr. John Broderick stated that Dr. William Viscardo, Saranac Lake's medical director sent a request by email that stated the REMAC approve their certification for six months.

Motion was made to approve Saranac Lake for a six month certification. Second to the motion by Dr. Doug Girling. None opposed. Motion carried.

#### **Old Business:**

- Medical Director credentialing policy is in effect and has been distributed.
- PAD Study is up and running
- Stroke study from last year has been completed
- New protocols (Solumedrol and Zofran change) have not been submitted to the SEMAC yet. Our REMAC will be working with two other regions to review protocols and hopefully submit protocol changes to the SEMAC as a group. There will be a meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> at REMO.
- Thurman EMS had their ALS certification revoked on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Doug Girling reported that they have had problems with their town board and he would like to see them do well at the BLS level and get out on their calls for at least three months before they attempt to re-apply for ALS. Dr. Girling will not sign their paperwork at this time.

- The King Airway was discussed. There was a motion to approve the King Airway device and present a protocol change to the SEMAC by Dr. Robert Desiderio. Second to the motion by Dr. Doug Girling. None opposed. Motion carried. It was clarified the combi-tube will remain in our protocols.

- The Gum Bougie intubation assist device was discussed. It was decided that more information was needed.

- The new Jack Shea law was discussed. There were many questions including whether the REMAC can or should have a protocol/policy on the subject. The REMAC cannot forbid AEMT's from drawing blood at the request of law enforcement but can make suggestions.

It was decided that the REMAC will release an advisory to clarify the law and REMAC's position. AEMT's can do this on their own and that the REMAC advises that when doing so the EMT is acting on their own under the authority of the law.

- IV sticks were discussed. It was decided to send a REMAC advisory on the subject. The advisory will read that the provider should use good clinical judgment.

**Informational subjects:**

- DOH enforcements. None from this area this quarter. These are available on the NYS DOH EMS site.
- Rural Health Documents were distributed by Dr. John Broderick.
- Attendance records were passed out.
- Dr. Harry Davis will be leaving the REMAC in December 2010.

Motion by Kevin White to adjourn the meeting. Second to the motion by Gary Scidmore. None opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45pm

Minutes submitted by Travis Howe