

REMSCO Meeting
Monday October 25th 2010
Mountain Lakes Office, Queensbury, NY

Meeting called to order by Patty Bashaw at 6pm

A 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.

Many aspects of the software / website development were liked by board members. Questions about cost were directed to Mr. MaCue and he will send Travis Howe an official quote.

Roll Call:

Members present were (includes conference call): Patty Bashaw, Dr. John Broderick, Bruce Mason, Kevin White, Gary Scidmore, Chris Norton, Storm Treanor, Ron Jackson, Mary Jane Connors, Tammy Trombley, Eric Catalfamo, Micki Guy, Brian Langdon

NYS DOH EMS representatives present: Joe Farrell, Mary Ramo, Sue Barg

Staff Present: Travis Howe, JP Jones

Previous meeting minutes:

The July 2010 meeting minutes were presented for approval. Motion made by Ron Jackson to approve the minutes as distributed. Second to the motion by Kevin White. None opposed. Motion carried.

REMAC Report: REMAC report was given by Dr. John Broderick, REMAC Chair. The following are items from his report:

- Agency ALS operating authority renewals were handled. Three agencies were extended for three months because of late paperwork. FREMSA was granted a one year certification. City of Plattsburgh was granted a two year certification and Saranac Lake a six month certification.
- The PAD study is up and running. The study involves EMS interaction with a PAD site after use of an AED on a patient.
- The Intra Nasal Narcan project is on hold due to nationwide drug shortages.
- The REMAC will be working with AAREMS and REMO on protocols. Joint meetings are scheduled.
- Thurman EMS had their ALS certification revoked on September 1, 2010.
- The REMAC voted to add the King Airway device to the protocols. The device will not replace the combi-tube. This change will need to be approved by the SEMAC at a later date.
- Dr. Giuseppe Ventre who is a hospitalist at CVPH applied and was approved for a REMAC seat. Dr. Ventre will work with several squads that Dr. Russ Hartung had under his direction in Clinton County.

- Dr. John Southwick applied for a REMAC seat but he did not meet the necessary criteria.
- The new Jack Shea law was discussed and it was decided that the REMAC would issue an advisory on the subject. The consensus of the REMAC was that State Law supersedes any regional policy and that drawing blood for law enforcement is up to the individual EMT.
- Nationwide medication shortages continue.
- Level one and level two recommendations on performing patient care in a moving ambulance will be coming from the State. EMT's should remain buckled up when the ambulance is moving.

Finance Committee Report:

Report was given by Storm Treanor. Storm stated that the Council is doing "OK" financially and that she will be working with Travis to re-structure the budgets soon.

Awards Committee Report:

Report was given by Patty Bashaw. Patty stated that the banquet in September was well attended. Both 2008 and 2009 award winners were honored. Dr. Russ Hartung was also honored for his years of service to the region.

Conference committee report:

The report was given by Patty Bashaw and Travis Howe.

- Nearly 160 people attended the conference.
- The Council made over \$7,000.00 which will be used for next year's conference as well as helping with our operating budget when we are waiting for money from NYS.
- The committee is looking at resorts in Lake Placid for next year's conference.
- Most remarks from attendees were very positive.
- A lot was learned which will help the committee next year.

CON committee report:

The report was given by Mary Jane Connors.

- Washington County is working towards applying for a county wide CON.
- Glens Falls Fire will be applying for a CON soon. They currently have a Municipal CON.
- Elizabethtown Hospital will be applying for a CON.
- The town of Plattsburgh has asked the committee for advice on CON's.

New and Old Business:

- A new numbering system was proposed by the office staff. In an attempt to regionalize the numbering on ALS techs and Medical Control Physicians the following system could slowly be put into place:
 - 5000 series – Intermediates
 - 6000 series – Critical Care
 - 7000 series – Paramedic
 - 9000 series – Online medical control physicians

Those ALS techs with current three digit numbers will simply have a 5, 6 or 7 put in front of their current number. The new numbering system will help doctors to easily identify an ALS technician's level of care when they call a signal among other things.

A motion to approve the new system was made by Gary Scidmore. Second to the motion was made by Kevin White. None were opposed. The motion carried.

- A training proposal that was proposed by Guy Goodell and Dave Lavergne was discussed. Using Dave's services for the planning of next year's EMS Conference was also discussed. After a brief discussion a *motion was made by Chris Norton to send Dave a letter that thanks him for his services and notifies him that we will no longer use his services for the conference or training. A second to the motion was made by Tammy Trombley. None were opposed. Motion carried.*
- Patty Bashaw has been in contact with the landlord. As our lease expiration date of July approaches we will need to discuss whether to move or not.
- A CV and request to represent Washington County on the REMSCO board was received from Cara Catalfamo. A brief report was given by Washington County EMS Coordinator Bruce Mason who stated that he approved. A motion was made by Bruce Mason to approve Cara. A second to the motion was made by Ron Jackson. None were opposed. Motion carried.
- Annual CME and skills sheets are out. The main changes include it being based on a twelve month period instead of two six month periods. Also, there are two fees in place if ALS technicians hand in late or incomplete paperwork.
- Lee Burns did a documentation lecture in Queensbury on October 19th that was well attended. She has volunteered to do another on December 1st in Saranac Lake.
- DOH enforcements were presented. These can be found on the NYS website.
- The office staff proposed to switch payroll companies to save money. The proposed switch from ADP to Paychex would save hundreds of dollars. A motion was made by Chris Norton to switch companies as long as the CPA is OK with it. Second to the motion was made by Gary Scidmore. None were opposed. Motion carried.
- The office staff will be working with the NYS DOH and audit unit to take care of the debt owed to NYS. No agreements have been signed at this time.
- The current audit was discussed and Travis Howe reported that it is going well. He is working with Pat Ida and his subcontractor to complete the work.

- A recent request for EPCR use was received by Lamoille Ambulance.
- A proposed "CO-OP" that agencies would use to buy supplies was discussed. The CO-OP was proposed by Dave Lavergne but he failed to present a business plan to the Council. A motion to not approve the CO-OP was made by Doctor John Broderick. A second to the motion as made by Storm Treanor. None were opposed. Motion carried.
- Two Warren County Council seats will be open in July as Chris Norton and Kevin White will be coming off after two terms.
- A SEMAC report was given by Storm Treanor. Highlights included:
 - The state is moving forward with Image Trend to become NEMSIS compliant. The project is taking shape and a new paper PCR will be created to reflect all of the data points needed for reporting.
 - The "Move Over" bill was signed. Starting in motorists must move over for emergency vehicles (with activated lights) that are parked on the side of the highway.
 - New policy statements on Pediatric equipment and medical direction were released by NYS.
- An Education Corporation report was given by Patty Bashaw. Highlights included:
 - Michelle Signorelli is resigning from her position. She will leave no later than January 1, 2011.
 - The Education Corporation will be moving from the building that they currently share with the Council because of their financial situation. No date has been set.
 - The Education Corporation will start charging up front for ALL courses starting 12/1/10
 - North Country Community College will be pursuing a course sponsorship.
- A New York State DOH report was given by Mary Ramo and Joe Farrell. They would like to encourage agencies to review their policies on securing unattended ambulances and the use of lights and sirens. They also reported that they will be conducting audits on new CIC interns.

Patty Bashaw requested a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues. A motion to go into executive session as made by Doctor John Broderick. A second to the motion was made by Gary Scidmore.

Executive session lasted for approximately fifteen minutes. After the executive session the following motions were made:

A motion to give JP Jones, Travis Howe and Elise Enman a 3% raise retroactive to July 1, 2010 was made by Kevin White. A second to the motion was made by Tammy Trombley. None were opposed. Motion carried.

A motion to make JP Jones a full time employee with benefits retroactive to July 1, 2010 was made by Ron Jackson. A second to the motion was made by Bruce Mason. None were opposed. Motion carried.

A motion to make Travis Howe the Acting Executive Director for six months with a salary of \$39,400.00 was made by Doctor John Broderick. A second to the motion was made by Kevin White. None were opposed. Motion carried.

A motion to pay former executive Director Guy Goodell his accrued vacation and sick time if he agrees to sign a release that states he will not seek further compensation in the future was made by Doctor John Broderick. A second to the motion was made by Chris Norton. None were opposed. Motion carried.

A motion of adjournment was made by Ron Jackson. A second to the motion was made by Tammy Trombley. None were opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 pm