

Arvin Singh, EdD, MBA, MS, FACHE
Health SecretaryJoseph W. Ratliff, BA, FP-C
Director

Minutes
Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC)
July 24, 2025

Members Present

David “Jamie” Weller
Ray Bryant
Nicholas Cooper – virtual
S. Craig Cox – virtual
Thomas Hayes – absent
R. Craig Horn
Marsha Knight - virtual
Ben Lasure – absent
Brandon Martin – absent
Monica Mason
Brian Potter – absent
Samantha Richards – absent
Steven Schetrom – absent
John Smoot - virtual
Samantha Stamper
Trish Watson

OEMS Staff

Joseph “Jody” Ratliff
Dr. P.S. Martin
Jason Rucker
Andrea Wilson
Robin Jones
Erin Timbrook
Janice Hagerman- virtual
Paul Harrison
Diana Linville

Guest Present

Corey Patrick
Mark Strickland
Joseph Strait
Mike Alt
Johnna Harshbarger
Tonya Ward
Julie Zeto
Anthony McDonald
Watson B.
Mark Brooks
Jerry Warner
Jimmy Scheidler
Ed Bays



Guest Present Virtually

Brandon Jones
Brandon Murphy
Collin Smith
D Wong
David Beighley
Doug McDonald
Jeremy Hedrick
Jeremy Laird
Joel Feltner
John Hitchens
Kaden Parks
Laura Forren

Michael Ellis
Lorri White
Mike Thomas
Richad Davisson
Rita White
Robby May
Trevor Hensley
Jason Milton
Brian Queen
Scott Hale
Shawn Mckenna
Brian
Donna Wade
Kelly Rennie

I. Welcome, Introduction and Roll Call (Please turn cell phones to silent or vibrate)

Chairman Weller called to order the quarterly meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council at 10:07 am on July 24, 2025. Chairman Weller welcomed members and Guests. Roll call followed; Quorum established.

II. Approval of April 17, 2025, EMSAC minutes

Motion made by Craig Horn to approve the minutes of April 17, 2025; regular statutory meeting as represented. The motion was seconded by Ray Bryant. Motion carried.

Approval of June 25, 2025, Special Meeting minutes

Motion made by Ray Bryant to approve the minutes of June 25, 2025, special meeting as represented. The motion was seconded by Craig Horn. Motion carried.

III. Chairman Report and Legislative Updates - Chairman Weller

I did send a letter following up after the June special meeting, I sent it that evening. I sent it to the committee Government Finance at the Legislature. So, they have our response in hand. As a result of that meeting it went out for 30-day comment and comments closed yesterday. No comments.

IV. EMSAC Committee Reports –

1. Special Interest – Monica Mason

- EMSC – Erin Timbrook – Our biggest announcement we have is that we found out that the symposium fees per participant went from \$300.00 to \$50.00, due to some grant funding. We are still working on our ARK visits. We are currently at nine ARK

recognized facilities. We have two more on the books to be visited. We are also working on pre-hospital ARK.

- Specialty Care Transport Protocols – Dr. Martin – We have completed most of the list and changed the formatting to match the 911 protocols. We have changed the names a little bit. Once they are complete and formatted, they will go to the CCT committee, once I have their input, I will bring it to the MPCC followed by EMSAC.
- Safety in Workforce – Plan for 6 safety courses throughout WV, 4 are complete and still have 2 left to complete. Closely following Big Beautiful Bill and how that can affect us.
- Wilderness – Dr. Scheidler – Quick update, we have most of the policy and guidelines written that we hope to roll out. Unfortunately, we lost access to some documents on teams after Lee’s passing. WE are going to name them after Lee.
- Active Threat - They have been meeting and putting together an awareness level presentation, we had a lot of work going into this project. It is completed and went to Jamie, and it has been approved by the committee. We will be bringing the committee back together to finalize and work with Jason Rucker and include a quiz and wrap it up. Push it out to EMSAC for a vote between now and next meeting.

2. Administration – Trish Watson

- Funding, we had a roundtable with the Governor office and expressed all our questions and concerns. We asked them to check the funding to see if it is there for 737 EMS Salary Enhancement. We discussed the opioid money that is out there, and why can’t a percentage be for EMS.
- Mental Health was also discussed at the Governors’ offices and the four lives that were lost.
- We discussed the 20% that we felt like the legislature should fund to meet that unfunded amount.
- ADT, we have not done anything about that.
- Equipment fund, the five million, we are waiting on the invoice template to come back to send out to all the county commissioners. Once we get that we will send that out with the rules and very specific instructions. It will be 100% audited.
- PWW, a set of classes going over the Big Beautiful Bill.

3. Policy, Protocol, and Procedure – Chairman Weller covered

- Revising and updating Education Policy.
- We are working on 2026 Protocols already.
- Shirley and her group have been working on the “Phase Two” for the protocols.

4. Training/Education – Marsha Knight/ Chairman Weller

- Main thing here is the EMT pre course that we have been working on. Hopefully by next meeting we will have a product we can show.

5. Medical Command – Shirley Morrison

- Medical Command managers continue to meet with OEMS monthly.
- Been working to solidify the one command in five locations concept.
- Exploring Air Medical issues through discussion, objectives to have a process to reduce unnecessary flights in WV.
- Still have radio issues

5. Community College – Ed Bays

- I would like to emphasize the money that is available for tuition assistance.
- Been working on EMT pass rates.

V. Special Reports

1. **OEMS – Robin Jones, Program Manager, Division of Trauma, Designation and Categorization** – We have 32 Trauma Centers, one is on suspension, four on probation. We are continuing to work on our Trauma Registry implementation. That has been an up and down road, currently looking at an October 1 date with ESO. The RMRC meetings are still on hold until we get the position filled. The previous candidate could not accept the job. August 8, 2022, we will have our STAC meeting.
2. **OEMS – Jason Rucker, Program Manager, Education** – I don't know if you are aware that National Registry had a little hiccup, not been fixed totally. We had a meeting with them, and they had a massive data move. We did create work around, so new providers will need to email us a copy of their card. We must manually input the information until it is fixed. We are moving from certified providers to licensed providers on August 1, 2025. So, July 30-31, 2025, all applications will be down.
3. **OEMS State Medical Director Report – Dr. P.S. Martin** – In reviewing guidelines please refer to guideline 022 the blood guideline, we omitted the pediatric dosage for calcium chloride. I just wanted to remind everyone that the correct dosage is in PM012.
4. **OEMS – Jody Ratliff, Director** – We just finished up the interviews for the Program Manager I position. Hopefully within the next couple of weeks we will be making that announcement. We have gotten the position of Data Manager approved, so that should be on the State website this week.
5. **Air Medical** – No report.

VI. Old Business

1. **ALS Pre-Hospital Blood Administration Update** – Julia Zeto – We now have four agencies across the state that are participating in the program. Cabell has given 34 units of blood to 24 patients. So far 14 have lived, 7 have expired and we have 3 unknowns. Mon EMS has

transfused 8 patients, 8 units used. 7 lived 1 expired. Harrison county has had 3 patients and 2 have lived, 1 passed away. Camden just started two days ago. We have KCEAA and Charleston Fire that are still in the process of starting the program. Putnam is also in the formative stages.

2. **EMT Orientation Program** – Covered.
3. **Update Protocols Phase II** – Covered.
4. **Controlled Substance Policy** – Everything is on hold until DEA gets back in WV.
5. **Update on pilot Projects:**
 - POCUS Pilot -No major issues or problems
 - Oxytocin Pilot – On hold
 - Keppra Pilot – On hold
 - HFNC – We have the outline of the protocol complete, ready to be reviewed.
6. **Hospital Hub Update** – Still being worked on, we are waiting until we get someone in the data position to help with that. Right now, it is a slow process.
7. **Update of Agency Training Officer Program/Rollout** – This will rollout the first Friday in December at the Asset Conference, that information will be sent out.
8. **Education policy Update** – Covered.

VII. New Business

1. **Consideration of the creation of a committee for Blood Administration** – I had a request from OEMS to place Blood Administration as a stand-alone committee under Special Interest. Ray Bryant made a motion to create the committee. Motion was seconded by Craig Horn. Motion carried. Julia Zeto will head that committee.
2. **Consideration of expanding the Rapid response equipment list** – A motion to expand the list was made by Trish Watson. The motion was seconded by Monica Mason. Motion carried.
3. **Consideration of alternatives to diltiazem Add Vantage System** – discuss during MPCC
 - Lopressor
 - Verapamil
 - Diltiazem vials
4. **Board of Pharmacy temperature control discussion** – Jody has spoken to the second in charge there and at the end of the day the inspectors will tell you the range and you can figure out how to keep it at that temperature.
5. **Consideration of policy for Rescue Team Response** – Ray Bryant made a motion that this be sent to Policy/ Procedure & Protocol Committee. The motion is seconded by Craig Horn. Motion carried.

VIII. Good of the Order

Dr. Shukis – Death in the Field discussion – We are having issues as to whom is legally responsible for the patient. Per Jody it is not EMS responsibility. What you do as an agency is up to you. Jody will plan to meet with the Secretary to discuss best practice for everyone. A motion was made by Ray Bryant to forward this matter to OEMS. The motion was seconded by Craig Horn. Motion carried.

Mental Health survey – Dr. Scheidler – If you receive this in your email, please fill this out.

Dr. Martin introduced a guest from Pierpont CTC, David Beighley. He will be representing Community Colleges in future meetings.

IX. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Ray Bryant. The motion was seconded by Monica Mason. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Next meeting October 16, 2025, Meeting format and location to be announced.