



**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Office of Emergency Medical Services**

**Arvin Singh, EdD, MBA, MPH, MS, FACHDM, FACHE
Secretary of Health**

**Joseph W. Ratliff, BA, FP-C
Director**

**Minutes
Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC)
October 16, 2025**

Members Present

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

OEMS Staff

Joseph "Jody" Ratliff
Dr. P.S. Martin
Jason Rucker
Andrea Wilson - virtual
Robin Jones - absent
Erin Timbrook
Janice Hagerman- virtual
Matthew Vance
Diana Linville
Dr. Kelly Rennie - virtual
Dr. James Scheidler - virtual
Dr. Sean Hanlon -virtual
Dr. Ben Deuell - virtual
Dr. W. Brocklehurst - virtual
Dr. Seidler - virtual
Dr. Kyle - virtual

Guest Present

Robby May
Forest Weyen
John Browning
Juila Zeto
Steve Ashcraft
Cheryl Whitt
Jerry Warner
Jennifer Wood
JR Spencer



Mike Alt
Coery Patrick
Paul Seamann
Kevin Duckwall
Patrick Clark
C Cole
Chris Lindsey
Micheal Jenkins

Guest Present Virtually

Aaron Bostel
BJ Hammonds
Brandon Jones
Collin Smith
Donna Wade
Doug McDonald
Helen Clark
Henry McDonald
Joshua Mills
Kraig Barker
Michael Ellis
Michael Moody
Peterstown VFD Rescue
R Wolfe
Robert Wilburn
Shalon Holloway
Tyler Savage
Amanda Simmons

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 11:00 am on October 16, 2025. Chairman Weller welcomed members and Guests. Roll call followed; Quorum established.

II. Approval of July 24, 2025, EMSAC minutes

Motion made by Ray Bryant to approve the minutes of July 24, 2025; regular statutory meeting as represented. The motion was seconded by Monica Mason. Motion carried.

III. EMSAC Committee Reports –

1. Special Interest – Monica Mason

- Active Threat Program, which is progressing well. A PowerPoint presentation with an instructional video is being developed, with multiple updates completed. The product is near completion. Motion made by Ray Bryant to move to OEMS. Seconded by Trish Watson. Motion carried.
- EMSC – Erin Timbrook - Pediatric Symposium 37 provided 1,012 hours of continuing education to nurses and providers. The ARK program is ongoing with 10 facilities, with 3 ready for site visits.
- Wilderness Protocols (Josh Mills): Finalized and will be submitted to EMSAC for review. The subcommittee named them the Lee Feuell Protocols. They will be forwarded to Jamie for discussion at the next meeting. Multiple class options are available. Dr. Martin requested that protocols be completed following this meeting.
- Community Paramedicine - Added back to the agenda. Discussion centered on national trends and federal focus. The committee will continue to monitor developments.
- Prehospital Blood Program - Participating agencies: Cabell, Mon Health, Camden Clark, and Harrison. 15 units were administered to 13 patients with positive outcomes. KCEAA, Charleston Fire, and Mineral County are expected to start soon. The program is expanding statewide with spray plasma training scheduled for December 5 at ASSET. Participants must be C3 approved and have blood transfusion training. Dr. Martin emphasized statewide education for spray dry plasma.
- Safety & Workforce - Day 16 of the government shutdown; claims on hold have been on since October 1. Anticipated EMS impact within 7–10 days. Carol Miller submitted a letter requesting CMS zip code updates to align with 2010 census data.

2. Administration – Trish Watson

- Government shutdown may impact EMS billing and reimbursements. Met with the Governor's Office of Rural Health to request \$50 million in funding. Focus areas include technology, telehealth, EMS salaries, and workforce shortages. Meeting was productive, permanent funding under discussion. Medicare HMO copay now \$250; Medicaid copay \$35. Decrease in billing returns noted. \$5 million equipment fund submitted to finance for approval.
- OEMS Update – Update provided upon arrival.
- EMS Instructor Course to be sent to the Training Committee for consideration. Motion made by John Smoot. Second by Brian Potter. Motion carried.

- Discussion on Death in the Field.

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

- Diabetic protocol corrected; Zofran protocol updated. Motion made by Trish Watson. Second by Ray Bryant. Motion carried.
- October EMSAC is the last meeting before the February 1 protocol deadline. **October** is the last month for Protocol Submissions to be accepted. **February 1** is the deadline for the final protocols to be turned into WVOEMS (no changes after that date). **February 15** – protocols will be posted for 30-day comment. **March 15- March 20** – period for changes to be made prior to rollout. **March 20- March 31** – Educational tools developed. **April 1** – Protocols rollout for training. **May 1** – Protocols become effective.

4. Training/Education – Marsha Knight

- Data collection for Training Officer Program ongoing. Future training depends on new policies and protocols. Training Officer Class scheduled for December at ASSET, with more classes to follow.

5. Medical Command – Shirley Morrison

- Regional changes are progressing well. Meetings were shorter and more efficient. Continued focus on air medical coordination and communicator endorsements.

IV. Special Reports

1. OEMS – Jody Ratliff, Director — Mental Health we are still pushing for that, it is at a standstill. For funding we are doing what we can with the resources we have, some still have the \$18k left over for mental health. We now have Matt Vance with us, Program Manager for Licensure. He is learning and going through the growing pains and pumping out data. We are currently interviewing for a data position. ESCAP planning is going well, and the Peds Symposium has had great feedback.
2. OEMS State Medical Director Report – Dr. P.S. Martin – CCT protocols are under development. Equipment list minimized to essential items. Agencies advised preparing for additional patient needs.
3. **Air Medical** – No report.

V. Old Business

1. **Update Protocols Phase II** - Protocol Phase 2 updates still ongoing. Work with Jason to get information out.
2. **Controlled Substance Policy update** – DEA replacement pending.
3. **Hospital Hub Update**- discussed.
4. **Update of Agency Training Officer Program/Rollout**- covered.
5. **Education Policy Update** – covered.
6. **Consideration of Policy for Rescue Team Response** - Rescue Response discussion: proposed policy under RMD supervision allowing search and rescue medical support. Motion to move to PPP Committee for policy development. Motion carried.
7. **Rapid Response Equipment List** – covered.
8. **Clarification on 2026 Recertification Policies** - MCI and HazMat awareness not required this year.
9. **Consideration of final approval for Active Threat** -

VI. New Business

1. **EMSAC Website sponsorship** - EMSAC Website Sponsorship: renewal due in January (\$300 for two years). Paul Seamann offered sponsorship.
2. **Review of Protocol Submissions** –
 - **Pregnancy and Postpartum HTN** – Motion Bryant. Second Potter. Motion carried.
 - **Eclampsia** – Motion Smoot. Second Knight. Motion carried.
 - **Postpartum bleeding** – Motion Watson. Second Mason. Motion carried.
 - **Neonatal Resuscitation** – Motion Smoot. Second, Bryant. Motion carried.
 - **Modification to Tachycardia Protocol** -Not ready
 - **Hypertension** – Motion Mason. Second, Bryant. Motion carried.
 - **Symptomatic Bradycardia** – Motion Watson. Second Potter. Motion carried.
 - **ROSC** – Motion Potter. Second Smoot. Motion carried.
 - **Allergic Reaction Adult**. Motion Mason. Second Potter. Motion carried.
 - **Optional Whole Blood** – Motion Watson. Second, Bryant. Motion carried.
 - **Seizure Adult** – Motion Mason. Second Cooper. Motion carried.
 - **OB/Emergency Childbirth** – Motion Potter. Second Smoot. Motion carried.
 - **Airway Management Adult** – Motion Mason. Second Knight. Motion carried.

- **Respiratory Distress Adult – Motion Smoot. Second Horn. Motion carried.**
- **Respiratory Distress Pediatric – Motion Mason. Second, Bryant. Motion carried.**
- **PEEP – Motion Cooper. Second Horn. Motion carried.**
- **Medical Communications – Motion Horn. Second, Bryant. Motion carried.**
- **Adult Hypoperfusion/Shock – Motion Watson. Second Smoot. Motion carried.**
- **Adult Diabetic – Motion Potter. Second Knight. Motion carried.**
- **Nausea Vomiting – Motion Bryant. Second Horn. Motion carried.**
- **Adult Fever – Motion Mason. Second Horn. Motion carried.**
- **Pediatric Fever – Motion Horn. Second Cooper. Motion carried.**

3. **Consideration of the 2026 Equipment Lists** - Equipment Lists Approved: BLS Level, BLS Conversion, 2026 List, Non-Transporting Equipment List (with modifications). Motion by Cooper. Second by Knight. Motion carried.
4. **Consideration of pathway from Advanced Certification to WV CCT Endorsement** – Asking education committee to modify and come up with the best pathway. Motion by Smoot. Second Horn. Motion carried.
5. **Consideration of Convalescent Transport Category and Equipment List** – Motion to approve by Potter. Second by Horn. Motion carried.
6. **Consideration of 2026 EMT Skills Sheets and Summary Sheets** – Motion by Potter. Second Horn. Motion carried.
7. **EMS Compact Introduction** - EMS Compact Introduction scheduled for ESCAP Conference.

VII. Good of the Order

Jason Rucker reported an EMT pass rate improvement to 80% and commended all staff.

Ray Bryant raised concern over equipment expiration dates causing unnecessary waste.

VIII. Adjournment:

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

Next meeting January 15, 2026, Meeting format and location to be announced.