



**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 Council (EMSAC)
April 16, 2026**

Members' Present

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

OEMS Staff

Joseph "Jody" Ratliff
Dr. P.S. Martin
Jason Rucker
Matthew Vance
Bryan Justice - virtual
Andrea Wilson
Courtney Turner
Erin Timbrook
Robin Jones – absent
Janice Hagerman – absent
Dr. Kelly Rennie - virtual
Dr. James Scheidler
Dr. Ben Deuell - virtual

Dr. Sean Hanlon

Guest Present

Aaron Bostel
Allen Meyers
Kevin Duckwall
Anthony Oliveio
Shirley Morrison
Brian Collins
Paul Seamann
Mike Alt
Dan Dashanko
Julia Ratliff
Kayla Corbin
Danny Reynolds
Cheryl Whitt
Alex Moore
Jerry Warner

Steven Ashcraft
Thomas Miller
Bradley Roberts
Crist Mentzer
Doug
Helen Clark
Jennifer Wood
JR Spencer
Lisa Hrutkay
Lorri White
Michael Moody
Michael Gilliam
Phillip Bolt
Robby May
Robert Wilburn

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

Chairman David “Jamie” Weller called the quarterly meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. on April 16, 2026. Members and guests were welcomed. Roll call was conducted and a quorum was established.

II. Approval of January 15, 2026, Minutes

A motion was made by Ray Bryant to approve the January 15, 2026, EMSAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by R. Craig Horn. Motion carried.

III. Chairman Report and Legislative Updates

Chairman Weller reported that all required documentation has been submitted to the Governor’s Office for EMSAC member appointments. The process is ongoing, and current members will continue to serve until replacements are appointed in accordance with state law.

IV. EMSAC Committee Reports

1. Special Interest – Monica Mason

- **Active Threat** – EMSAC approved the awareness training and has been sent to the state, talked to Jason about getting that sent out to all the agencies. We have started to work at the operational level.
- **Erin Timbrook EMSC** – reported continued expansion of the “Always Ready for Kids (ARK)” program, with 15 recognized facilities and ongoing site visits. The pre-hospital ARK program has been released. Planning is underway for the October Pediatric Symposium at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, with 37 classes scheduled. Additional initiatives include a pediatric outreach academy and use of HoloLens technology for statewide training.

- **Wilderness Medicine** – Dr. Scheidler reported that draft protocols have been finalized and will be forwarded to MPCC.
 - **Prehospital Blood Program** – The program includes five ground agencies. Updates were provided on program expansion and data tracking partnerships. EMTs may serve as secondary providers following required training.
 - **Specialty Care Transport**- Ongoing protocol alignment discussions.
2. **Administration – Trish Watson**
 - **Recruitment and Retention** - Legislative funding (HB 5168) has been secured to support EMS workforce initiatives.
 - **Mental Health**- Funding allocated to develop statewide EMS mental health resources. Collaboration efforts are underway.
 - **Financial Stability** – Continued monitoring of legislative funding and EMS financial sustainability initiatives.
 3. **Policy/Procedure/Protocol – John Smoot**
 - The 2026 protocols have been released, with implementation scheduled for May 1, 2026.
 4. **Training – Marsha knight**
 - The Education Policy has been reviewed, revised, and released for public comment.
 5. **Medical Command - Shirley Morrison**
 - Ongoing monthly meetings continue. Efforts are focused on integrating communication systems between hospitals, EMS, and command centers.
 6. **Community College – Ed Bays**
 - No report

V. Special Reports

1. **OEMS – Director, Jody Ratliff**

Updates included upcoming participation in national EMS meetings, ongoing collaboration with communication centers and rural health initiatives, staffing updates, and continued development of EMS system integration. Stakeholder communication processes were emphasized.
2. **OEMS – State Medical Director, Dr. P.S. Martin**

The 2026 protocols were discussed as a living document. Specialty Care Transport (SCT) protocols are expected later in the year. Additional updates included RSI program planning and continued implementation of tourniquet conversion protocols.
3. **OEMS – PMI Education, Jason Rucker**

National discussions regarding EMS education standards are ongoing. Updates were provided on ImageTrend system enhancements, including security and permission updates.
4. **OEMS – PMI Licensure, Matthew Vance**

Final updates to the official equipment list have been completed and published.

VI. Old Business

1. **Update Protocols Phase II** – ongoing.

2. **Control Substance Policy Update** – pending federal staffing updates.
3. **EMSAC Bylaws** – Rewritten by Trish, read, back second meeting for a vote. Motion to approve made by Ray Bryant. Motion seconded by John Smoot. Motion carried.
4. **Update Agency Training Officer Program** – Jason has done two roll outs, plans on doing more and releasing an online version.
5. **Rescue Team Response Policy Update** – ongoing review.
6. **2026 Protocol Update** – covered in committee.

VII. **New Business**

1. **Special Presentations (addressed before committee reports)** – Hadtevy, ImageTrend, Department of Threat Prep, Lintu Solutions.
2. **Consideration of revised Education Policy** –
A motion was made by Trish Watson to approve the revised Education Policy. The motion was seconded by Marsha Knight. Motion carried.
3. **Consideration of moving the July meetings to July 23, 2026** –
A motion was made by Ray Bryant to move the July EMSAC meeting to July 23, 2026. The motion was seconded by R. Craig Horn. Motion carried.

VIII. **Good of the Order** –

1. Discussion included potential legislative updates and required rule revisions prior to July 1. Additional guidance will be provided by legal counsel.

IX. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Brian Potter, second by R. Craig Horn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned. **Next meeting July 23, 2026, Meeting format and location to be announced.**

