



**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)
January 15, 2026**

Members Present

David "Jamie" Weller
Ray Bryant
Nicholas Cooper
S. Craig Cox
Thomas Hayes
R. Craig Horn
Marsha Knight
Ben Lasure
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
Matthew Vance
Bryan Justice
Andrea Wilson
Diana Linville
Erin Timbrook
Robin Jones – absent
Janice Hagerman – absent
Dr. Kelly Rennie
Dr. James Scheidler
Dr. Ben Deuell
Dr. Shane Bowen
Dr. Sean Hanlon

Guest Present

Allen Myers
Amanda Stover
Austin Bennett
Ben Deuell
Billie Hammonds
Blake
Bobby D.
Brandon Jones
Brian Potter
Cayla Long
Chad Cox
Cheryl Whitt
Chris Guynn, VMT
Christopher Lusk
Cody Lynch
Collin Smith
Corey Patrick
Courtney Turner
CRAIG COX
Crist
Donna Wade
Doug McDonald
Dr Mark McDaniel
Ed Bays
Forest Mon EMS
Gauge Miller (GTEMS)
H. Brown
Helen clatk
Janie Ward
Jeff White
Jeff Birks
Jennifer Landis
Jeremy Hedrick
Jeremy Laird
Jerry Warner
Jonathan Fink
Joseph J Strait
JT
Julia Zeto-Ratliff
Kevin Duckwall
Kim Morgan

Laura Forren
Lisa Hrutkay
Lorri White
Louie Robinson
Makiah Ratliff-RCES
Matthew Tyler Kirk (WVLAS, CEO)
Michael Jenkins
Michael R Moody
Michelle Matthews
Mike Alt
Nick Miramontes
Nick
P.D. Conley
R Craig Horn
Rob Paquette
Robby May
Robert S Wilburn
Robin Richardson
RW
Sa
Scott Hale
Serena Brafford
Shirley Morrison
Tanner Smida
Tonya Ward

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

Chairman Weller called to order the quarterly meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council at 11:00am on January 15, 2026. Chairman Weller welcomed members and Guests. Roll call followed: Quorum established.

II. Introduction

Dr. Mark McDaniel, State Health Officer, was introduced. Dr. McDaniel noted OEMS now reports directly to the State Health Officer and emphasized his availability to EMS agencies statewide.

III. Approval of October 16, 2025, Minutes

Motion made by Monica Mason to approve October 16, 2025, EMSAC Minutes. Motion seconded by Thomas Hayes. Motion carried.

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** – We are looking for instructors for the October 2026 Peds Symposium. ARK we have 11 recognized facilities and two visits next week. I am also working on ARK Pre-hospital program.
- **Wilderness Medicine** – Covered under New Business.
- **Community Paramedicine** – Important days to come, will keep up to date.
- **Prehospital Blood Program** – Doing great, 16 patients, 14 survived and two died. Currently we have the same four agencies, CCEMS, Camden, Mon and Harrison. KCEAA starts soon as well as Hampshire. We did the Train the Trainer. As of January 1, 2026, EMT's can be second provider during infusion after taking the education and passing the test.
- **Specialty Care Transport**- Rita not available.
- **Safety in the Workforce** – Jeff White following the national scene, looking at doing more safety classes.

2. Administration – Trish Watson

- Recruitment and Retention
- Rural Health Transformation funds, hopefully play a part of that.
- Mental Health- Courtney Turner been working on a list of state resources for mental health.
- Financial Stability – actively following the bills that are coming down.

3. Policy/Procedure/Protocol – John Smoot

- Developing an in-state rescue response team, we a version is now up for 30-day comments, it is not the final draft.

4. Training – Marsha knight

- Education Policy and Procedure Manual remain under review; protocol education planning is ongoing.

5. Medical Command - Shirley Morrison

- We continue to meet monthly and communicators working to meet flight criteria, anticipating new protocols.

6. Community College – Ed Bays

- Getting ready for spring semester.

V. Special Reports

1. OEMS – Director Josy Ratliff

Reported that state has received some complaints on air medical, not going to happen again, now we are following the protocol. Reported on legislative activity, trauma staffing, investigations, data initiatives, and protocol implementation.

2. OEMS – Jason Rucker PMI Education

Education policy covered, from the national side we are getting ready to start first meeting on national standards. Working on CCT standards.

3. OEMS – Matthew Vance PMI Licensure

Our inspectors are out and about. Be sure to check your tapes, there was a recall in December on the big broselow tapes.

4. OEMS – Bryan Justice Investigator

We have had 121 investigations, reminder to get the monthly probation reports in by the 10th of every month. We now have the complaints coming in through ImageTrend working good now.

5. Introduction – We now have a new data manager Wesley Webb; he has been picking things up quickly and we are working to catch him up to speed.

6. OEMS – State Medical Director Dr. P.S. Martin

Protocols out for 30-day comment, training recommendations for the people building the training now. I am working with Matt on QI, SCT protocols coming out. We will discuss new equipment during MPCC.

7. Air Medical – no report

VI. Old Business

1. Update Protocols Phase II – We have had issues of quality of video, so we are opening it up to squads to submit videos for a chance to be awarded a \$500 voucher for Escape.

2. Control Substance Policy Update – Waiting on DEA to fill the WV job.

3. EMSAC Bylaws – Rewritten by Trish, read, b ack 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 - Motion by R. Craig Horn, second by S. Craig Cox, to move to 30-day comment. Motion carried.

6. 2026 Protocol Update – covered in committee.

7. Final consideration of the updated Education Policy - Motion by Marsha Knight, second by John Smoot, to approve following comment period. Motion carried.

VII. New Business

1. **EMSAC Website** – JanCare agreed to fund the subscription and Jamie presented the new website.
 2. **Consideration of the pathway from Advanced Certifications to WV CCT Endorsement** - Motion by Marsha Knight, second by John Smoot, to approve following comment period. Motion carried.
 3. **Consideration of Wilderness/Austere Care Guidelines** - Motion by John Smoot, second by Brian Potter, to forward to MPCC. Motion carried.
- VIII. **Good of the Order** –
1. Dr. James Scheidler - Discussion held regarding patient refusal trends and development of guidance through a work group. Anyone that would like to be involved please contact Dr. Scheidler.
- IX. **Adjournment**
- Motion to adjourn by Ray Bryant, second by John Smoot. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned. **Next meeting April 16, 2026, Meeting format and location to be announced.**

