

# Region I EMS Advisory Council Meeting

*October 21, 2021*

The Region I EMS Advisory Council Meeting was held virtually on October 21, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. Members on the call included: Elizabeth Wooster, Wayne Tiemersma, Doug Beitzel, Kathy Condor, Rick DeVore, Al Ward, Vince Pyle, Alison Robinson, Diane Lee, Chris Biggs, Jonathan Dayton, Justin Orendorf, and Dwayne Kitis.

The meeting was called to order by Elizabeth Wooster at 7:00 p.m.

## ***Approval of July 15, 2021 Minutes***

The minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

## ***Welcome Guests***

Dr. Delbridge, Dr. Chizmar, Cyndy Wight Johnson, Alex Kelly from MIEMSS; Pam Jenkins, Chrissy Lechliter, UPMC Western Maryland; Scott Whetsell, and Paul Harman.

## ***President's Report*** – Elizabeth Wooster

Elizabeth informed the members that this would be her last meeting, and that it was an honor and pleasure to serve on the Council. She is moving to a new job in December.

## ***Committee Reports***

Prehospital Care System – A meeting was held on September 27; attending were Dr. Shafiei, Vince Pyle, Wayne Tiemersma, Elizabeth Wooster, Doug Beitzel, Alex Kelly, and Dwayne Kitis.

- Discussion was held on the issues involved with handling of regional responses for mutual aid to out-of-state areas.
- The recent "Diversion" at UPMC Western Maryland was also discussed; Alert policy for Maryland was reviewed.

Quality Improvement – No Report

Bylaws/Membership – Vote was taken to approve the attached Council membership list; it passed unanimously.

ALS Advisory Committee / Garrett College – Doug Beitzel

- An update on ALS training in the Region was provided, please see attachment.

Region I Emergency Services Education Council, Inc. – Dwayne Kitis

- The Miltenberger Seminar will be held in person at Rocky Gap next year; committee is working on filling the class schedule at this time.

## ***Garrett County Activities***

Garrett Regional Medical Center – No report

Garrett County Emergency Management / ESB / EMS – Wayne Tiemersma

- COVID 19 cases remain high in the area and cardiac arrests have also been higher the past two months. The County is also monitoring the increase in opioid deaths in the area.
- The EOC is now functional.
- Ambulance inspections were last week; Northern Rescue is still working on some issues that were found.
- Communication concerns with our operations and SYSCOM will be discussed at next Chiefs meeting.

Wayne also gave an update on SEMSAC:

- MIH education curriculum is approved for rollout across the state; delivery in January by virtual means.
- Direct Triage Protocol was approved as Optional Protocol for Jurisdictions.

Garrett County Communications – Justin Orendorf

- There are some staffing shortages at 911 Center; there are a few new people in training now.
- A WV siren radio was added at the Thayerville tower site to give more interoperability with WV in the Dispatch Center, also some helo channels were added to assist with communications with STAT and Healthnet helicopters.
- Garrett Regional Medical Center added a BA system in the Emergency Room to increase the 700 system there.
- The County is working with the Board of Education with a grant that will outfit busses and schools with 700 megahertz radios to improve their radio situation as well.
- All PPE has been moved to the EOC now; have a large supply of gowns, if anyone needs some.

- Backup 911 Center update – furniture is in place and technology is getting installed, also obtained the funding for E 911 system/equipment which is to be delivered next month; still waiting on five radio consoles.

Garrett County Health Department – Diane Lee

- Numbers for COVID are up – county is normally highest in state; have been pushing vaccinations, but are seeing hesitancy.
- Booster shots for Pfizer and others will be out soon.
- The HD issued an alert due to the cardiac arrests spike they have seen recently.
- One of their grants provides them funding for fentanyl and meth prevention campaigns; will see material on that soon.
- Flu vaccination clinics have started on Thursdays in Oakland and Fridays in Grantsville. COVID vaccination clinics are being held Tuesdays in Oakland and Fridays in Grantsville.

***Allegany County Activities***

Allegany County Emergency Management / Communications / EMS – Chris Biggs

- Allegany's COVID numbers are increasing; infection among employees is also on the rise. Also, opioid cases in the county have increased.
- Two new ambulances has been ordered, but no estimate on build or ship time has been received.
- On October 27<sup>th</sup> there will be testing for new potential applicants for the vacant BLS positions in the division; on the 28<sup>th</sup> six new employees that have been hired (3 full-time and 3 part-time) will start orientation.
- Ambulance inspections were held recently; a few discrepancies were found for various agencies, and are being cleared up.

Allegany County Emergency Services Board – Vince Pyle

- A committee has been formed to look at the single provider response issue – covered in 2018 Ambulance Response Policy.
- Out-of-state response issues into PA were also discussed.
- Appointed Josh Bosley to County QA Committee.
- There was also a FirstNet presentation at last meeting.

Allegany County Health Department – Alison Robinson

- The Health Department opened back up on July 1 for all programs and is still fully involved in all things COVID.
- They have some PPE; are recounting supplies now. If anyone, especially EMS, needs anything contact Alison and she will try to get it for you.
- They are still working on clinics – testing clinics at the fairground are three days a week (Mon, Wed, Fri), vaccination clinics there, too; vaccination clinics are held at the Health Department on Wednesdays.
- They are now gearing up for Moderna boosters and vaccinations for the 5-11 age group; no dates yet, still in planning stages.

UPMC Western Maryland – No update at this time.

Allegany College of Maryland – Kathy Condor

- Basic Life Support courses will be held on Nov. 13 and Dec. 11.
- Renewal classes will be held on Nov. 4 and Dec. 10.
- Pharm Tech and CNA/GNA programs are starting again on January 12.
- They have scholarship money to apply for - \$1500 available for Maryland residents for Continuing Ed.
- They are still doing a lot of work with Mind/Body Skills; will send out more information when they have January schedule.

***Regional Reports***

Regional Medical Director - No Report

Regional Pediatric Medical Director – No Report

Region I Specialty Centers – Elizabeth Wooster

- The EMS supplies have gone to no charge model and is monitored daily; have added some fields – Company #, Patient Incident #, and if it is a restock item or not.
- Working on Stop the Bleed courses; well over several hundred persons have been taught in the Region in last two months, along with a train-the-trainer class that was also held.
- New Stroke Coordinator at the hospital is Dan Hanes.

- Providers have been doing amazing with Door to Balloon initiative.
- They have a lot of bike helmets from toddler to adult to be used for injury prevention initiatives in the coming year.

MFRI – Todd Dyché

- A handout was provided on EMS classes in the Region; please see attachment.

MEMA – No report

Medevac – Rick DeVore

- Obtaining blood products for the aircrafts is still in the works, along with training related to it.
- If anyone is interested in demos, please get in contact with him.

CISM – Al Ward

- They had one debriefing approximately two weeks before this Council meeting.
- The next team meeting is will be held next Monday.
- The course on Delivering Bad News for 1<sup>st</sup> Responders was held with 20 people attending.

AGCVFRA – Jonathan Dayton (sent report)

- They are working on a very large recruitment / retention project and launch of a new web platform for the association membership. It is much needed in the Region and for the volunteer departments.

Region I & II Healthcare Coalition – No Report

Career Fire & EMS – Doug Beitzel

- Call volume for City of Cumberland Fire Department – 4618 EMS calls; 7163 Fire calls.
- Jeff Silka is the new City Administrator for Allegany County; starts on Nov. 1.
- They look for interim Chief Shannon Adams and interim Capt. Doug Beitzel to be officially confirmed soon.
- Recently tested four fire department candidates, as there are two openings to fill.
- A new Ladder truck is to be delivered in December and a new ambulance in the Spring; also looking to purchase an additional two new ambulances by Summer of 2022.
- They have obtained \$220,000 grant for 60 cylinders and 50 face pieces of the Scott 4500 45 min cylinders.
- In response to a request asking about vehicle fires on the interstate in the Cumberland area - research done shows that for the years 2020 and 2021 there have been a total of 35 vehicle fires on Interstate 68 within the 8 miles that the department protects in the City.

Commercial Ambulance – No Report

**MIEMSS**

Dr. Delbridge

- MIEMSS is experiencing some personnel changes; Terrell Buckson has left the organization; Monty Magee retired and Adam Malizio will be filling that position now; and Dave Balthis also retired.
- Along the lines of restructuring we are contemplating from just organizational changes to better connote what we want to be to folks; rebranding ourselves into being EMS clinicians services and to be more user friendly to the folks that are needing us.
- Spoke about current "Alert System" and the piloting of another system that monitors ED activity in near real time in the state. Also working on a hospital ambulance dashboard. We are trying to create different sources for situational awareness for EMS folks in the field so they know what to expect at the hospital.

Cyndy Wright Johnson

- Cyndy emailed handouts to the members.
- The EMSC National Pediatric Readiness Assessment, which is done every four years, has been completed; all of Maryland hospitals participated.
- EMS Survey was completed.
- Pediatric Champions will meet on October 29.
- Star of Life and Right Care When it Counts nominations are due back by April 2, 2022.
- An in-person Moulage class has been scheduled for January 21, will be in a central location of the state. Are looking for people to attend and people to ultimately become new faculty for the course.

Region I Report – Dwayne Kitis

- Dwayne informed the membership about the Critical Care Coordinator Center (C4); pediatrics has been incorporated into this now. It is up and running and hiring is continuing. If a bed is needed for a patient, they will help find one for you.

- Cardiac Device Grant applications need to be in by the evening of Oct 22. A message will be sent to Wayne and Chris once they have been compiled.
- Question was asked on status of Albuterol protocol. Wayne reported that Garrett County needs to complete all in-service for clinicians before it is implemented. Chris said Allegany County made it mandatory training for all clinicians. Scott Whetsell added that training will also be given at the EMT Refresher starting on November 1 in Allegany County; this is a new refresher program which is in pilot this time through.
- Dr. Chizmar also told the group that a decision on Supraglottic Airways will be made in the next 9 months to a year.

### ***Old Business - None***

### ***New Business***

- Dwayne recognized Elizabeth Wooster and Jeff Hinebaugh for all they have done for him, the Council, and the citizens of the Region and State. He thanked them for all the time they have put in for this Committee and the Region.
- Election of Secretary for the Council – Diane Lee was nominated and voted in as Secretary. The officers will now be: President – Doug Beitzel; Vice President – Alison Robinson; Secretary – Diane Lee.

### ***Adjournment***

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**Region I EMS Advisory Council Membership  
January 15, 2022**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Representation</b>		<b>Expiration Date **</b>
Elizabeth Wooster	Region 1 Specialty Center	No Action Required	01/15/24
Wendy Helms	Emergency Department Manager - Allegany County	APPOINTMENT	01/15/25
VACANT	Emergency Department Manager - Garrett County		01/15/25
Dr. Janelle Martin	Regional Medical Director	No Action Required	01/15/24
Dr. Stephanie Sisler	Regional Pediatric Medical Director	No Action Required	01/15/24
Vince Pyle	Allegany County Emergency Services Board	No Action Required	01/15/24
John Frank	Garrett County Emergency Services Board	No Action Required	01/15/24
Jonathan Dayton	Allegany-Garrett Counties Vol. Fire & Rescue Association	No Action Required	01/15/23
Shannon Adams	Career Fire & EMS Departments	APPOINTMENT	01/15/25
VACANT	Allegany County Dept. of Emergency Services - Emergency Mgt & Communications		01/15/25
Chris Biggs	Allegany County Dept. of Emergency Services - EMS Division	No Action Required	01/15/23
Justin Orendorf	Garrett County Emergency Management & Communications	No Action Required	01/15/23
Wayne Tiemersma	Garrett County Emergency Management - EMS	No Action Required	01/15/23
Scott Flaskamp	Commercial Ambulance	APPOINTMENT	01/15/23
Alison Robinson	Health Department – Allegany County	REAPPOINTMENT	01/15/25
Diane Lee	Health Department – Garrett County	REAPPOINTMENT	01/15/25
Doug Beitzel	Education – Garrett County	No Action Required	01/15/23
Kathy Condor	Education – Allegany County	REAPPOINTMENT	01/15/25
Todd Dyche	MFRI	REAPPOINTMENT	01/15/25
Rick DeVore	MSP Aviation Division	No Action Required	01/15/23
Allan Ward	MCISM	No Action Required	01/15/24
Jennifer Ritchie	Public At Large – Allegany County	APPOINTMENT	01/15/24
Cheryl Rexrode	Public At Large - Garrett County	No Action Required	01/15/24



**Garrett College**  
**ALS Training report for**  
**Region 1 EMS Advisory Council meeting**

October 21, 2021 - 1900 hours – online

**Cohort Report and status.**

2020-2022 cohort – 27 students completed the spring semester. This is the first cohort that is unable to test at an intermediate level after the first year since the Maryland CRT level is no longer available. The students will continue on through the second year to test at the paramedic level.

Of the 27 students, 2 decided over the summer not to continue. We started the fall course with 25 students. To date, one student dropped due to COVID vaccine starting to be required by clinical sites.

Some clinical requirements were delayed from the first year due to clinical sites being closed to students. We continue to work through what hours that are need to graduation and how to get those.

Accreditation – Our 5-year reaccreditation is about to begin with our self-study arriving sometime next month. We will have 6 months to complete, then a site visit team will schedule a 2 day visit to inspect the program.

ALS courses – The ALS refresher in Allegany County is already complete, and the one in Garrett County begins this weekend.

October 26 & 27 **PALS Provider** – Garrett Regional Medical Center

November 13-14 (S-S) **PHTLS** Garrett College – Accident (**FULL**)

November 20-21 (S-S) **ACLS** Cresaptown VFD (Allegany)

December 11-12 (S-S) **PALS** Cresaptown VFD (Allegany)

January 9 (Su) **GEMS** Garrett College – Accident

January 22 (Sa) **Maryland Rescue Task Force** Allegany County DES

February 26-27 (S-S) **EPC** Allegany County DES

March 19-20 (S-S) **PHTLS** Allegany DES

March 26-26 (S-S) **AMLS** Garrett College – Accident

April 9 (Sa) **Maryland Rescue Task Force** Garrett College – Accident



Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute  
 University of Maryland  
 Western Maryland Regional Training Center  
 Post Office Box 5153  
 13928 Hazmat Drive  
 Cresaptown, MD 21502-5153

EMS Class Update in Allegany / Garrett County

Report Date: October 2021

Class	Log Number	Location	Start Date	Days	# Students	Status
EMT	-	Corriganville	1/28/21	Th/Sun	13	Completed
EMT	-	Cresaptown	8/17/21	T/Sat	16	Active
EMS Officer I	-	NGCRS Station 1	9/13/21	Mon	5	Active
EMT	-	GCCTTC	9/1/21	M/W/Sat	(5)	Canceled
EMT Skills	-	Cresaptown	9/21/21	T/Th	6	Completed
<b>*EMR</b>	<b><i>EMS-105-S001-2022</i></b>	<b><i>Rawlings</i></b>	<b><i>11/7/21</i></b>	<b><i>Sun</i></b>	<b><i>(9)</i></b>	<b><i>Open</i></b>
EMT Refresher	EMS-203-S005-2022	GCCTC	10/30/21	Sun/Sat	(20)	Open / Active
<b>*EMT Refresher</b>	<b><i>EMS-203-S006-2022</i></b>	<b><i>Cresaptown</i></b>	<b><i>11/1/21</i></b>	<b><i>M/W</i></b>	<b><i>(6)</i></b>	<b><i>Open</i></b>

Notes:

1. Numbers in parentheses indicate total preregistered students
2. \*red color, bold, and italicized font indicates additional enrollment needed for class to start