HUDSON-MOHAWK REGIONAL EMS COUNCIL MINUTES  
February 28, 2022            6pm via Zoom (technical difficulties with recording)

I. Call Meeting to Order – called to order by Chairman Stairs at 18:00 with roll call completed by Secretary Brandt (quorum present). Members in attendance: Meehan, Allen, Vena, Wilgocki, Dailey, Kroll, Cross, Brandt, Kane, Stairs, Lingenfelter, Bowman, Retzlaff, Walker, Bell, Fink, Rockenstyre. Guests: P. Brodie, A Knowlton, D. Romano, M. Ramo

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approve minutes from prior meeting- approved unanimously

IV. Announcement of excused REMSCO Members: Paul Sugrue, Dr. McHugh, Tracy Weir, PJ Keeler

V. Executive Director’s Report

• Meeting with Terry Hannigan on 2/24 to finalize the consolidation Operational Agreement, and REMAC merger(s). *Awaiting Counsel’s report.*

• Teal, Becker, and Chairamontie have completed the 2021 audit. *Audit presentation to be scheduled at a future date.*

• HVCC Paramedic Advisory Committee meeting on 2/23. At Deb Kuf’s request I reminded the committee of our regional credentialing process and requirements.

• 1) Training update – all 3 REMO EMT classes are underway, no issues to report. We’ll be starting to plan for our summer session soon.  

• 2) The REMO-sponsored CIU is scheduled for March 3rd, this is a virtual session and the class is full – based on popularity and demand we’re working on a second class.

• Reminder – the annual Sexual Harassment training forms are due for those who have not already submitted them

• I had the opportunity to meet with Director Greenberg on 2/18 when he stopped by to observe our DOH EMT Bootcamp class (these classes have been well-received). I updated him on our merger proceedings and inquired about future contracts and payments post-merger, and he’ll be looking into that for me. BTW – he fully supports the merger.
VI. Chairperson’s Report

Chairman Stairs advised the council that he is awaiting a report from our counsel on the possible effects of the proposed EMS changes in the 2022 Executive Budget.

VII. Issue Discussions

None

VIII. Operational Reports

- Medical Director (Dailey)
- REMAC/Academic (McHugh) – no report
- Treasurer (Keeler) – no report, monthly financial report was distributed to all Council members
- QI (Dailey) – no report
- CON Committee (Stairs) – no actions

IX. Information Sharing

- DOH Disciplinary Actions:
  1. Leeza Steciak, Syracuse, NY, NYSEMT# 436284 had her certification revoked effective 2/10/22 and she was assessed a civil penalty of $5,000 – for violations of Part 800.16 (a)(1)(2) and (3)

- Course Applications (informational)
  1. None

- Correspondence:
  1. Letter from REMSCO delegate Steve Retzlaff expressing his desire to serve another term as an At-Large member. A seconded motion was approved reappointing delegate Retzlaff to another term.
  2. Email notification from interim Greene County EMS Director Patricia McAneny advising that a new director has been hired, with appointment expected next month. The new director will most likely be the new REMSCO rep for Greene County.

- Committee Reports
  1. Executive (Stairs)
  2. Finance (Kroll) – report tabled until March meeting due to the Treasurer’s absence
  3. NYS EMS Council (Kroll) – next meetings in April 2022 (4/12 & 4/13)
  4. Nurse’s (Cross) – met on 2/24
a. COVID inpatients: overall, NYS cases are trending downward
b. Agency nurses: still being used, all hospitals are hoping to increase core staff to decrease use of agencies
c. EMS: offload times improving, but still some extended wait times
d. JCAHO: SPH had an unannounced visit
e. MHU: Both SPH and CMH are challenged with pediatric holds

5. MCI (Keeler) – no report
6. Membership (Bowman) – acknowledged reappointment of delegate Retzlaff, in addition Membership Chair Bowman mentioned that the terms of several other REMSCO delegates will be expiring soon
7. Nominating (Walker) – no report
8. Awards (Brandt) – EMS award nominations are due to DOH by July 1st, and June 17th to REMO so they can be reviewed

• County Reports
  1. Albany (Wood) – no report
  2. Columbia (Meehan)
  3. Greene (????) – no report
  4. Rensselaer (Allen)
  5. Saratoga (Weir) – no report
  6. Schenectady (Vena) – representative Vena took a moment to recognize retiring REMSCO delegate Stan Wilgocki

X. New Business
• No discussion

XI. Old Business
• EMT course student payment plan(s) – tabled for future discussion

XII. Items from the Floor
• REMSCO delegate Lynn Kane (CIC) advised that she was unaware of the upcoming REMO Certified Instructor Update (3/3). The notice was posted on both the REMO website and Facebook page. Future notifications will also be sent to regional CICs. In addition – a second update TBA.

XIII. Next meeting date – 3/28

XIV. Adjournment – approved unanimously at 19:00

Minutes per T. Mirabile