



*ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY*  
**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**  
*ADVISORY BOARD*

October 7, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 1901 with Chris Adams in chair. Roll call taken and duly recorded. No corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting were made.

Members present: Tom Tomlins, Ken Gardner, Don Thompson, Curtis Newtown, Ann Smith, Chris Adams, Brenton LaGrow, Wayne Love, Phyllis McDougall, Richard McDougall, Dr. Greg Healy, Julie Henry, Julianne Sciorria

Members excused: Storm Cilley, Jeannie McClear, and Craig Ballard

Members absent: Ron Hance, Ron Koster, Carol Muench, Cindy Rockhill

Guests: Tammy Sykes, James Barr - both from CPH ER

**Correspondence:** None

**Chairperson Adams** – 1. Chris reported that North Lawrence FD First Responders is asking support from this board to respond to calls to assist Tri-Town Rescue. The problem, Chris stated, was the Town of North Lawrence is planning on downsizing from 3 departments to just one and North Lawrence is not one of them resulting in Town of Brasher and Town of Lawrence which includes Nicholville. Because of this uncertainty, it was decided to table this request until we see what develops later on. This was put into the form of a motion by Dick McDougal, seconded by Kevin Wells and carried with one abstention by Chris Adams.

**REMSCO** – 1. There are some vacancies on the REMSCO board from St. Lawrence County. Mike LeCuyer said there is someone from Gouverneur that has expressed interest and was told to write a letter but so far has not done so.

2. Updated pages for the protocol books are being made available. As for the new AEMT protocols, they were sent just to those departments that are certified at this level. Contact John Filangeri at the North Country EMS Program Agency if interested in these AEMT protocols.

3. Re: state level: There is a huge issue regarding leaving a PCR at the hospital or emailing one in a timely fashion. It seems some PCRs are taking several hours up to several days before arriving at the ER. Hospitals are being heavily fined for this lack of documentation

4. 12-lead transmissions to the ER are being looked into for funding to make this possible. BC/BS makes funding grants possible if this is a regional project.

5. Transporting patients receiving blood products has been approved for paramedics but they must go through a training program first. The paramedic's agency must be registered in order to do this interfacility transfer.

NCEMSPA – no report

**Office of Emergency Services** – 1. Mike LeCuyer reported about a patient being transported to a local hospital and it was determined the patient tested positive for TB, There was a follow-up with the transporting agency and it was found this agency had poor on-file health records for its membership. He wished to remind everyone that each agency must have a designated Infectious Control Officer and to follow the DOH-1302 policy. Mike stated he would send out any information from his office to the county departments and would be willing to assist any department to get things organized, Infection control groups from the Public Health office will also help with this.  
2. The EMS channel from dispatch is still having a problem and can only transport but a short distance.

**Air Methods** – 1. Ann reported the fixed wing airplane is in service and has been operational since July 15<sup>th</sup>. So far, it has been a huge benefit and has been able to fly more patients out than by helicopter.  
2. Ann passed around a handout showing 15 minute flight time for helicopter service to the southern part of the county by helicopter from Watertown.

**Unfinished Business** – none

**New Business** – 1. Tammy Sykes and James Barr informed the board that CPH is attempting to make Canton-Potsdam Hospital a level 3 trauma center. They expect this to be a three year process in order to get this certification and are currently in the middle of year one. Their goal is to submit for provisional status with DOH by March 2015. They hope this will all trickle down to the areas squads. If a trauma patient meets the criteria for a level 3 trauma center, it can be transported to CPH rather than to out-of-the-area trauma center. Trauma criteria for level 1, 2, and 3 trauma centers will be distributed to the area departments.  
2. It was suggested to that instead of meetings every other month, to follow the REMSCO meeting schedule starting with the February 2015 meeting. Dick suggested Chris have the meeting agenda mailed out a minimum of one week in advance of the scheduled meeting date.

The next monthly meeting will be at 7pm at the Office of Emergency Services on November 18, 2014.

Upon a motion made by Dick McDougal and seconded by Ken Gardner, meeting was adjourned at 2033 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Thompson  
Secretary