

Region 4 EMS Council
Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2026
Ellsworth County, KS EMS Facility

Those attending included:

Nathaniel Florian, EW Co EMS
Alex Winters, EW Co EMS
Vincent Urbaniak, JW Co EMS
Amber Robinson, MC Co EMS
Karl Leech, Minneapolis EMS
Levi Whitley, RP Co EMS

Amy Mullis Havel, RP Co EMS
Joe House, KBEMS
Pam Kemp, Region IV EMS
Alec Trembath, CY Co EMS
John Christensen, Concordia Fire/EMS

Call to Order – Called to order at 1000 by Karl Leech, Region IV President.

Additions to agenda? None requested

Approval of Minutes of February 2025 meeting – MSA Whitley/ Florian

Treasurer Report – MSA Florian/ Whitley. Discussion included

Old Business:

- **Edu Grant Updates** – Pam Kemp reported there are no open grant requests. The KEMSA conference is open for registrations as of this week, but no requests have been received yet. Questions were asked about what the Region IV grant covers. It was MSA Whitley / Christensen for the Region IV Education Grant to cover only KEMSA registration and lodging. The Region will no longer pay for the mileage and per diem. Pam will revise the Education Grant Workbook and get it posted and distributed. Service Directors were asked to encourage their personnel to read the workbook to become familiar with the personal responsibilities for accountability and accurate reimbursement submission they are pledging to fulfill when they accept the grant.
- **Possible carry over from last meeting: KEMSA Training;**
 - **Mutual Aid** – No discussion. If interested, talk to Levi Whitley for more info on that project.
 - **KEMSA Training** – KEMSA has indicated they will be willing to fund continuing education events hosted by the Region. If anyone has suggestions for region wide training topics, let Service Directors or the Region IV office know.

New Business:

- **BEMS meeting report** – Joe House or KBEMS representative
 - April board meeting approved the grant applications and was a quick meeting.
 - Thursday meeting Operations committee and investigation committee. They will be in a big room so plenty of room for those that wish to attend.
 - The KBEMS website will be going away in order to meet the federal accessibility requirement. Current PDF's will have to be requested directly from the board office.
 - Public hearing on May 12 for the 3 of the regulations on types of ambulance service and staffing requirements.
 - Legislative session. SB30 had best intentions but will possibly adversely impact statewide EMS. Any proposed regulation change that would change current approved regulations that outline the duties, functions, requirements, or responsibilities of occupational certifications in any of the covered occupations would have to go back

through the legislative process. The bill was vetoed by the governor, but override was successful so the law will go into effect. The remaining issues in the session were pretty benign.

Committee Reports – (These standing committee reports will be given if the committee has met or had business since the last Region IV Meeting)

- **Salina Regional Health Center Updates (as needed)** no representative present. Some of the services reported that there is a new triage process for admissions of transfers that is causing some issues with delaying transfer crews in the hospital. It was suggested to bring the issue to the ER Supervisor's attention to see if she can help work through it.
- **Community Paramedicine project Update – John Hultgren / Dave Beam** Karl Leech reported in the absence of DK representatives that there several more meetings have occurred and minute details are being worked out. There may be more services getting involved in similar MIH programs through the Rural Health Transformation Fund. (MIH program = Mobile integrated health)
- **Regional Healthcare Coalition** – No representative, no report.
- **EMS-C Updates – EMS-C** – Joe House reported that Brenda Kolbaba has been appointed to the position within the injury prevention program at KDHE.

BREAK FOR LUNCH AT 1140 RESUME MEETING AT 1200.

- **Regional Homeland Security Council** – McGinnis/ Florian - Nothing going on due to government shut down, projects can order equipment but cannot guarantee to vendors when payment will occur, therefore most projects are at a standstill. CO Monitor project is still on track.
- **KRAF grant – Amy Havel** – KRAF grant. Service specific questions from those present were discussed and clarified. Five Region IV services applied for the grants and four were approved. There was a drop in funding so that resulted in not as many projects being funded. For the 2027 funding opportunity there are some options under consideration that could change the local funding percentage on some expenses. All the board discussion on the issue is included in the posted Board of EMS meeting brief.
- **Regional Trauma Council** – Nathaniel Florian – NC Trauma council meets April 15. The council has training funding available if anyone has training they would like to submit to the RTC..

Round Table Discussion – All (as time allows)

MC Co EMS – Will be starting an AEMT class soon.

JW Co EMS – finally got their open key position opening filled. Have 5 new EMT's from the last class.

Concordia – filled an opening. Have an EMT class starting.

CY Co EMS – Officially took over Miltonvale area. Clifton is also having difficulties and have asked Clay County to put them under their license. That is under discussion between Clay and Washington County BOCC members. Five people will be going to a pediatric conference in Wichita. Others going to other training. Purchased 6 additional AED's for distribution into outlying cities in the county and are coordinating the training and maintenance between all those agencies. Sending a truck for remount this year. Two in paramedic school. Have students from area classes doing clinical rotations with the service.

EW Co EMS – Fully staffed and filling openings easily. Newest truck in service. They have three trucks in Ellsworth and one in Wilson. The service will be going to a 3 year rotation on 2

ambulances per year for replacement. The service had a very bad call involving kids and called 10-33 to do the debriefing. It was excellently done and EW highly recommends the network to other services. Nathan reported that they will be partnering with next door neighboring counties to build a Peer Support Network to assist each other with those challenges.

RP Co EMS – Levi also recommends involvement with the 10-33 program. Doing more rescue training classes. Water rescue class will be in July.

Minneapolis – and Bennington are both struggling with funding so are trying to work together to find help for that issue and have approached the BOCC without any success so far.

Reminder on Service updates for website

- (check this page for accuracy <https://www.kansasemsregion4.org/agencies> – notify Pam ASAP of needed changes)

Adjourn - There being no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 1235.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kemp, Coordinator
Region IV EMS

2026 Meeting Dates

June 9, 2026 – Minneapolis

August 11, 2026 – Republic County

October 13, 2026 – Smith County

December 8, 2026- Concordia