

**Region 4 EMS Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 8, 2022**  
**Lincoln County EMS**  
**Lincoln, KS**

**Those present included:**

Brendan Cochran, LC Co EMS  
Dave Beam, DK Co EMS  
Karl Leech, Minneapolis EMS  
Levi Whitley, RP Co EMS  
Greg Brockway, SRHC

Pam Kemp, Region IV EMS  
Nathaniel Florian, EW Co EMS  
Shane Pearson, Salina Fire-EMS  
Tony Swetson, Bennington EMS/ CY Co EMS

**Call to Order – by Karl Leech, President at 1000**

**Approval of Minutes of December, 2021 meeting – MSA Cochran/Beam**

**Treasurer Report – MSA Beam/ Cochran**

**Karin the deployable Comfort Dog Presentation** – Keren the Comfort Dog was introduced and her work was explained by her handlers. Carol Kratzer, “Top Dog” of the Keren Comfort Dog program of the Immanuel Lutheran Church provided great information and handouts to those present.

**Salina Regional Health Center Update** – Greg Brockway – Greg discussed LVads at the request of Salina Regional he will send the packet electronically. Greg will check with St. Luke’s hospital and see if he can get in-service scheduled for a region meeting. Also discussion of patient follow up difficulties, especially on more routine medical patients. Discussion of calling stemi or stroke alert from the field – Salina Fire only at this time. Discussion of Stroke assessment training that might be beneficial to the region. Greg will do more research on this.

**Old Business:**

- **Edu Grant Updates** – no grant requests have been received since last meeting.
- **Legislative Update** – Shane updated - The priority list that was sent out last year was reviewed to determine legislative priorities. It was developed into a 5-10 year legislative plan listing immediate needs first. EMS day at the Capital was postponed. At least one board position is still open. Committee meetings will be restructured. If a committee has little business will be held at the discretion of the chair other than investigations and education.
- **Regional Homeland Security Project update** – John Hultgren / Missy McGinnis - neither were present. Those present at the meeting were asked to gather the information on what CO monitors they have in their service – make, model, serial number etc – and John and Missy will follow up with you regarding your current needs.

**New Business:**

- **Covid immunization status report to hospitals.**- Several regional services have been contacted by their local hospitals with requests for the COVID immunization status of their EMS personnel. Joe House has provided documentation on the CMS mandate that excludes non-hospital based EMS personnel from the mandate. Pam will forward that information to the group.
- **BEMS meeting report** – Joe House – Shane Pearson reported in Joe’s absence- At least one board position is still open. Committee meetings will be restructured. If a committee has little business to discuss their meeting will be held at the discretion of the chair. That will not apply to

investigations and education committees which will continue to meet as usual. Inspections are underway.

- **Replacement Secretary / Treasurer position** – tabled until the next meeting.

**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) –Brockway – reported at beginning of meeting
- **Regional Healthcare Coalition** – Hultgren/Pearson - No report. Shane has not received meeting notices.
- **EMS-C Updates** – Brittney Nichols – not sure of status of EMS-C no contact has been received. Shane has put it on the BEMS Planning and Operations Committee agenda.
- **Data Collection / KEMSIS**– Beam – Dave asked why there has not been training. Chad reached out to Dave about a problem with multiple places that techs have lost reports. Unit dispatched time and date is the trigger for how it is filed. If you don't put that in the report it won't show up.
  - EDTF – Champlain / Wicks / Yager – no report
  - Regional Homeland Security Council – McGinnis/ Hultgren – no report
  - **KRAF grant** – will be meeting twice virtually this year. Review and rank the grant requests for the KRAF grants. Theresa Charbonneau will replace Kathy Coleman as the representative. Send info to Suzette.
  - Regional Trauma Council – Buller / Cramer – no report

**Round Table Discussion – All (as time allows)**

**LC Co EMS** – is not able to charge for COVID-19 patients according to their billing service. The local hospital went on diversion in the middle of an EMS call so the patient was transported directly to Salina. Discussion of the confusion of issue and it has happened at other hospitals too. Hospitals going on diversion cannot close their ER. Joe at BEMS can provide information if you have the issue.

**Bennington** – applied for KRAF grant. Staffing ok after a couple rounds of COVID in the ranks.

**Minneapolis** – status quo, have had non-COVID illnesses. Still seeing COVID patients and requiring PPE use of staff due to the prevalence of COVID

**Dickinson County** – staffing issue one was deployed etc. New truck is being picked up this week.

**EW CO EMS**– added two more full time positions approval received

**RP CO EMS** - Levi reported they are fully staffed right now with some injury complications. Pay scale increase has made them more competitive. Applied for KRAF Grant

**Salina** – truck going to OSAGE for remount. On the list for 2023 remount. Have 5 in paramedic class. Still don't have a fire chief. Interim chief is deputy city manager. Going to a new time clock system.

There being no further business on the agenda or to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1240.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pam Kemp, Region IV Coordinator

**2022 Meeting Locations**

**April 12, 2022 - Salina**

**June 14, 2022 – Republic County EMS**

**August 9, 2022 – Clay County ESA**

**October 11, 2022 – Minneapolis EMS**

**December 13, 2022 - Ellsworth County EMS**