

**Region 4 EMS Council
Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2024
Mitchell County EMS**

Those attending included:

Levi Whitley, RP Co EMS
John Hultgren, DK Co EMS
Pam Kemp, Region IV EMS
Dave Beam, DK Co EMS

Keith Wangarin, SM Co EMS
Karl Leech, Minneapolis EMS
Missy McGinnis, MC Co EMS
Brandon Cochran, LC Co EMS

Call to Order at Mitchell County EMS by Karl Leech, Region IV President

Approval of Minutes of February 2024 meeting – MSA Whitley / Florian

Treasurer Report – included discussion of the increasing costs of the landline phone. Motion to switch to a cell phone service and approve treasurer’s report, MSA Whitley / Wangarin

Salina Regional Health Center Update – Greg Brockway - Greg not here, will have new neurologist at the June meeting.

Old Business:

- **Edu Grant Updates** – Pam Kemp –
 - Republic County has requested grant funding for upcoming airway classes MSA Beam/McGinnis.
 - Some discussion of whether or not could use to fund underage (17) student that was denied EIG grant because of their age. Conesus is that we do not have enough EIG grant funding to fund initial education and our purpose has always been to fund continuing education and professional development / leadership enhancement types of classes.
- **Community Paramedicine project Update** – John Hultgren – A scheduled meeting was cancelled or delayed because the foundation didn’t have everything ready for review it will be rescheduled. The project is still moving along. NAEMT put out a proposal into establishing critical access ambulance services similar to reimbursement rules for critical access hospitals. Federal House ways and means committee met for a hearing on rural emergency care in April in Texas. Rep. Estes from KS was there and there are good reports of the meeting. Options being explored were presented to them by many experts. Focus was on rural access to care including community paramedicine programs. The report on this meeting is online and searchable by reviewing the house ways and means committee meetings – search for Rural Health Care. HR8042 will be the bill to provide grants \$750,000 grants for administrative and development for Community Paramedicine. A Region 7 HRSA meeting is being planned for August.

New Business:

- **BEMS meeting report** – Joe House – no BEMS representative was present. Board updates should be on their website.

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 –
- Regional Healthcare Coalition – Hultgren/Pearson -

- EMS-C Updates – Wendy O’Hare
- Data Collection / KEMSIS– Beam
- **Regional Homeland Security Council – McGinnis/ Florian** – CO project all except Miltonvale have been distributed.
- KRAF grant – Amy Havel -
- **Regional Trauma Council – Nathaniel Florian** – Had the annual regional symposium. The RTC will fund PHTLS classes.

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

DK Co EMS –Good with trucks so don’t have to purchase for a couple years.

RP Co EMS – Doing low and high angle classes in June and July. Working with dispatch on some priority policies. The community purchased the old armory for remodel into additional space for emergency services, EOC, training etc.

MC Co EMS – Need good ideas for pediatric training, please e-mail the contact info on any good programs to Missy if you have ideas. Received 2 new power stair chairs and a new truck. Have several in classes. 3 are interested in paramedic classes. All is going relatively smoothly. Have been tracking transfers to give frequent and updated reports to the BOCC. There are issues with hospital wanting transfers when all ambulances are already busy and not sending to closest facility but to Wichita for non-emergency transfers.

EW Co EMS – also fighting the transfer issue and will not take nurses anymore due to the problems that developed doing that. They were told that the ventilators that were received from the HCC during the pandemic have been recalled and FDA banned them from use according to one of the sales reps. Nathan is researching that. Will be doing an EMT class this fall. Just did a CPST class for their staff.

LC Co EMS – no funding to replace the truck, but need to get that done. Had an EMT retire and hired a paramedic to replace that person.

CY Co EMS – Brenden reported doing a lot of classes for the public. Keeping very busy and running a lot of transfers.

SM Co EMS – Keith reports all is going good. Doing public classes and some at the hospital. Bought a new supervisor vehicle. Will take delivery on new truck in a few months. Going well overall.

Minneapolis EMS – not much going on. Finishing up trying to figure out how to get EIG grant approved since the initial requests have been denied.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:30.

2024 Meeting Dates and Locations

June 11, 2024 - Salina

August 13, 2024 – Republic Co.

October 8, 2024 – Smith Co.

December 10, 2024 – Dickinson Co.