

**Region 4 EMS Council
Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2025
Ellsworth County EMS Facility
Ellsworth, KS**

Those attending included:

Missy McGinnis, MC Co
Levi Whitley, RP Co EMS
Amy Havel, RP Co EMS
Chad Pore, KBEMS
James Reed, KBEM

Karl Leech, Minneapolis EMS
John Christensen, Concordia Fire/EMS
Dave Beam, DK Co EMS

Call to Order / Additions to agenda – Called to order at 1002 by Karl Leech, Pres.

Approval of Minutes of October 2024 meeting - MSA Beam / Havel

Treasurer Report: No update due to Pam being ill.

Old Business:

- Edu Grant Updates – Karl Leech per Pam Kemp – no applications have been received for training funds.
- Community Paramedicine project Update – Dave Beam – I’m working on completing the necessary paperwork and updating the new commissioner in Dickinson County on the project. So far, three medics and three RNs at the health department have completed their training. John may have additional updates at the next meeting.

New Business:

- Vincent Urbanek was introduced as the new director for Jewell County EMS
- BEMS meeting report – James Reed –
 - House Bill 2280 (EMS Modernization Bill) has passed through the House with no opposition.
 - The Director’s Briefings were intended to be posted on the board’s website; however, technical issues have delayed the process. Efforts are underway to resolve them.
 - The survey sent out after the December board meeting is still open. Everyone is encouraged to submit their feedback.
 - KBEMS staff are working towards greater consistency and request that all questions and responses be submitted in writing.
 - Town halls will be scheduled soon to discuss the new education plan. Dates will be announced shortly.
 - Emergency Transport Exception: During a state of emergency, such as a major snowstorm, the EMS director may authorize a non-ambulance vehicle (e.g., fire truck, command vehicle) as an emergency transport vehicle, provided it carries at least one provider. The director must notify KBEMS within 72 hours of this decision.
 - Miltonvale EMS is in the process of dissolving and is working with neighboring departments to ensure continued coverage for their area.
 - Upcoming Inspections: Before on-site inspections begin, EMS departments will receive a pre-inspection form that must be completed and returned within five

days. This process aims to streamline on-site inspections.

- BEMS – Chad Pore-
 - Long-Term Provider Courses- All long-term provider courses must be submitted within 30 days of course completion. There have been 13 violations so far for late submissions.
 - BioSpatial Acquisition by ImageTrend - BioSpatial, a free reporting system used by KBEMS to run data, has been acquired by ImageTrend. Currently, we are waiting to see what plans ImageTrend has for the system. Additionally, KBEMS is working on a CARES reporting system statewide, but details are limited. Updates will be provided as they become available.
 - NEMSIS Data Dictionary Shutdown - The NEMSIS data dictionary has been shut down in compliance with a presidential executive order. If you need a copy, KBEMS has a PDF version available upon request.
 - KBEMS Staff Restructuring - After years of challenges, the state has approved a KBEMS staff restructuring, adding seven new positions. This change aims to improve efficiency and response times, with four employees assigned to each section of KBEMS.
 - Communication with KBEMS - Please make sure to read emails from KBEMS staff. Many individuals have expressed frustration over missing information that was, in fact, emailed multiple times.
 - Providing Feedback to KBEMS - If you have frustrations or concerns, please voice them in detail. This will help KBEMS understand and address any issues. Additionally, KBEMS assures that there is no retribution for providing feedback.
 - Proper PCR Documentation & QA Review - EMS services must ensure proper documentation on all PCRs. Two services were recently fined for stating that procedures were completed without documentation. Additionally, two services failed to catch repeated patient care issues due to inadequate QA reviews. Please review and strengthen your QA process to prevent similar issues.
 - Roster Management Reminder - All EMS directors must update personnel changes within 7 days on the KBEMS portal. Ensure that all additions and removals are completed in a timely manner.

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)
- Regional Healthcare Coalition –
- EMS-C Updates –
 - Regional Homeland Security Council – CO Monitors: The monitors are in and available for pickup from Nathan. Please ensure the Transfer of Property Agreement is signed and returned as soon as possible.
 - Expansion Discussion: There is interest in expanding the project to include first responders who respond with EMS, such as fire and law enforcement. Everyone is asked to assess the need within their respective agencies and report back at the next meeting.
 - KRAF grant – Amy Havel – Amy has not received any contact from KBEMS regarding the grant. Chad will follow up with Suzett to get an update for Amy.
 - Regional Trauma Council – Nathaniel Florian Nathan has been asked to assist in coordinating the statewide Trauma Symposium. He is seeking recommendations for a relevant EMS topic or potential speakers. Please share any suggestions.

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

Jewell Co. EMS – Received much-needed equipment through the Patterson Grant. Currently facing

staffing shortages and actively seeking additional EMS technicians.

Concordia Fire/EMS – A previously out-of-service truck is now operational. The department was two personnel short but hired two new staff members at the end of January.

Dickinson Co. EMS – No updates to report.

Mitchell Co. EMS – One truck remains out of service, with three new trucks on order. They are currently working on constructing a new station but have encountered minor setbacks. Plans are in place to hire an assistant director in the near future.

Republic Co. EMS – Two individuals are currently enrolled in an EMT class. They will be hosting a rescue class on June 6th and 7th, with more details to be provided.

Minneapolis EMS – No updates to report.

Ellsworth Co. EMS – Successfully had nine students complete the EMT class in December. Added a new full-time position in January and are now fully staffed. Equipment Advisory: There is a significant issue with capnography cannulas manufactured by Salter Labs when used with LIFEPAK 15 monitors. These cannulas have been found to cause damage to the module, requiring costly repairs (approximately \$10,000 per unit). Stryker has advised against using any Salter Labs products on LIFEPAK 15 monitors to prevent further damage.

Adjourn – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1228 for lunch.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nathanial Florian for Pam Kemp

2025 Meeting Dates

April 08, 2025 – Concordia Fire / EMS
June 10, 2025 – Republic County EMS

August 19, 2025 – Minneapolis EMS
October 14, 2025 – Smith Co EMS
December 09, 2025 – DK Co EMS