

# Region I EMS Advisory Council Meeting

*April 16, 2026*

The Region I EMS Advisory Council Meeting was held on April 16, 7:00 p.m. Members attending were: Al Ward, Alison Robinson, Cheyenne Bever, Doug Beitzel, Janelle Martin, Jeff Hobbs, Jonathan Dayton, Justin Orendorf, Michael McCloskey, Mike Salvadge, Rick DeVore, Roger Bennett, Scott Whetsell, Shannon Adams, Wendy Helms.

The meeting was called to order by Doug Beitzel at 7:01 p.m.

## *Welcome Guests*

Aaron Edwards, Paul Harman, Alex Kelly, Dwayne Kitis, Wayne Tiemersma.

## *Approval of October 16, 2025 Minutes*

The minutes were reviewed and approved.

*President's Report* – No report, president unable to attend.

## *Committee Reports*

### **Prehospital Care System – Wayne Tiemersma**

Regular meeting is May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Hall of Fame nominations will be selected.

**Quality Improvement – No report.**

**Bylaws/Membership – No report.**

### **ALS Advisory Committee / Garrett College – Doug Beitzel**

Written Report Submitted.

#### **2024-2026 Cohort (Class #23)**

- Program Duration: 2 years
- Start Date: September 5, 2024
- Program Format: Evening program
- Progress: In clinicals, will graduate in spring.
- WVU education is open with PICU, NICU, Peds ER & Birthing Center.
- Class will end on May 12th with graduation.
- Current Enrollment: 11 students

#### **2025-2026 Cohort (Class #24)**

- Program Duration: 1 year
- Start Date: August 20, 2025
- Program Format: Hybrid
- Progress: Currently in clinicals.
- Current Enrollment: 8 students.
- Graduation August 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Accreditation**

Reaccreditation not due until 2030.

#### **Personnel**

First time in history of program looking to hire full-time program director / lead instructor that would be dedicated to paramedic program.

New 2-year and hybrid cohorts will start in fall. Applications are being completed now.

#### **MFRI ALS Classes**

PHTLS class this week at Garrett College.

### **Region I Emergency Services Education Council, Inc. – Wayne Tiemersma**

Miltenberger 2026 Wrap-up meeting is April 27<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Garrett County Activities***

#### **WVU Medicine Garrett Regional Medical Center – Cheyenne Bever**

She is new manager of ED and ICU. Doing extensive pediatric education this month including EMS.

#### **Garrett County Emergency Services Board / EMS / Emergency Management & Communications – Justin Orendorf**

##### **Emergency Management**

Met in March. Discussed dual alerting county resources in addition to out-of-county resources due to poor response of out-of-county / state mutual aid.

##### **Communications**

911 is fully staffed. Refresh in process for both primary and back-up centers. National telecommunicators week.

##### **Emergency Medical Services**

EMS is fully staffed as well. Bringing on additional part-time staff. Just received new ambulance that had been on order for four years. Unit away for remount should be completed soon. New chase purchased with funds from MDH Whole Blood grant.

#### **Garrett County Health Department – No representative.**

### ***Allegany County Activities***

#### **Allegany County Emergency Management / Communications – Roger Bennett**

Continuing to launch Cheif360 to replace I Am Responding. Telecommunicator picnic this Saturday. Long Term Recovery Committee for George's Creek area still meeting every two weeks. New chair of ESB is Cody Peirce. Eli Crowe new chair of Standards Board.

#### **Allegany County Emergency Services Board – Scott Whetsell**

Only business still pending for ESB is revision of Officer Standards. This has gone from Standards to Chief's and back again several times.

#### **Allegany County EMS – Mike Salvadge**

Awarded cancer screening grant. George's Creek station is now open and staffed 24/7 with paramedic and EMT. Two new ventilator units in service – one in Tri Town's and one in Flintstone.

#### **Allegany County Health Department – Alison Robinson**

Mass Casualty / Mass Fatality full-scale exercise June 5<sup>th</sup>. "Heal Mobile" Winnebago mobile clinic has travelled county providing services including reproductive and dental health. Revamping digital media to meet 508 compliance for visually impaired.

#### **UPMC Western Maryland and Region I Specialty Centers – Wendy Helms**

ED boarding has experienced a decline for beginning of year and hope is to continue the trend. New UPMC orthopedic physician starts July 1 and will cover all injury types.

#### **Allegany College of Maryland – No Report (Vacant)**

### ***Regional Reports***

#### **Regional Medical Director – Dr. Martin**

Protocol updates should be released in May.

#### **Jurisdictional Medical Director – No report.**

#### **MFRI – Todd Dyche**

Written Report Submitted.

#### **Medevac – Rick DeVore**

Sgt. Mike McCloskey is new Trooper 5 Section Supervisor. Heavy maintenance 4 year schedule completed. Next promotion list will impact Aviation due to transfers to road of new promotions.

#### **CISM – Al Ward**

No significant issues to report. Available 24/7 if needed.

**AGCVFRA – Jonathan Dayton**

Association Awards nominations are open. Community Oriented Award available. Convention first week of June in Westernport. This year will be full convention. Smoke alarm program running smoothly, now offering CO alarms as well. MSFA Executive Committee weekend is this weekend at Eastern Garrett. Cancer screening bill extended cancer screenings for volunteer fire fighters. "Care Closet" second location at Baltimore Pike open now.

**Region I & II Healthcare Coalition – No representative.****Career Fire & EMS – Shannon Adams**

CFD is busy with calls. Training recruit class of nine in-house. \$1000 grant for smoke and CO alarms. New recruit testing at MFRI this weekend. Cody Pierce is interim fire chief.

**Commercial Ambulance – No representative.****MIEMSS****Clinician Services – Aaron Edwards**

Down to 9 regional ALS clinicians that need to finish recert requirements. Looking at May 1 for protocol update information available.

**Region I - Wayne Tiemersma**

Rural Health Whole Blood grant discussed. IFR helicopter approach to Garrett Regional discussed. CDG grant is in process. ALS grants have all been returned.

**EMSC – No representative.**

Written report submitted.

**MIEMSS Mission Support – Dwayne Kitis**

Congratulations to Cheyenne and Shannon.

**Old Business – None****New Business**

Justin Orendorf reported on meeting with GRMC Mark Boucot to bring back Night for Stars award celebration. Looking for incidents in Garrett, Allegany, Hampshire, Mineral counties worthy of recognition.

Scott Whetsell reported that LaVale Rescue will be having an open house to kick off EMS Week on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Next meeting will be at Garrett College Performing Art Conference Center following Hall of Fame Awards on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.