Mid-Maryland EMS Advisory Council

June 15th 2026

The Mid-Maryland Advisory Council meeting was held on June 15th, 2026. Attending in person: Cyndy Wright Johnson, David Chisholm, Jeana Panarella, Jeffrey Fillmore, Melanie Higgins, Michael Cole, Ryan McFague, Suzanne Butler, Todd Johnson, Alex Kelly. Attending on-line: Caitlin Weems, Wayne Tiemersma, Janelle Martin, Timothy Chizmar, Rupal Udeshi, Anne Johnikin.

The meeting was called to order by Dave Chisholm at 6:02 pm.

Approval of March 16th 2026 Minutes

Motion by Jeana to approve, second by Mike Cole.

Minutes were approved.

President's Report – Dave Chisholm

No Report.

Regional Affairs Committee Report – Dave Chisholm

Met previous Thursday, CDG most companies have received equipment and submitted for reimbursement. ALS Education grants similarly in reimbursement stages. Wayne reported on stragglers and follow-ups.

SEMSAC Report – Dr. Fillmore

EMSOF solvent through 2034.

Emergency Department closing in Germantown.

Frederick Health and Meritus still number 4 and 5 EMS receiving hospitals for off-cot times.

Christiana (Delaware based) hospital in Cecil County eliminating all OB services.

315 units of pre-hospital blood have been administered. Only 47% for trauma. Value blood for the commodity it is.

SB159 (Minimum Equipment for Ambulances) passed. MIEMSS still evaluating. Wayne and Cyndy commented on current understandings.

Fines for out-of-state vehicle registration fraud passed.

IV lidocaine for pain management. Cardiac monitoring required.

Surgical cricothyrotomy for younger ages.

Prehospital antibiotics for sepsis, particularly cefepime. Many variables including antibiotic resistance and logistics of administration.

Medical Advisory Committee Report – Dr. Fillmore

Please see above.

MD Trauma Network Report – No report.

Pediatric Medical Advisory Committee Report – Cyndy W. Johnson

Handouts have been sent out.

PEMAC met in May and will meet again in July with an afternoon focus on protocol development.

Completed NPRP Assessment (National Pediatric Readiness Program). Thank You to all the hospitals in Maryland that again participated (100%).

Successful Pediatric Readiness statewide conference held this past February. Pediatric Champion virtual forum for disaster preparedness coming in July.

MHSO Grant is hosting three workshops this summer (June, July, August - see flyer in handouts) that are identical at Howard County Training Academy. The workshop will be trialing new vehicle crash "place-mats" to be used for Hot Wash after serious crashes.

Frederick County –

EMS Operational Program – Mike Cole

Working through protocol updates.

Operationally: new medic engine in service end of June in Green Valley area.

First Watch program progressing with data flowing in and out.

New Zoll monitors will be deployed end of July following county-wide training.

Medical review / QA – Mike Cole

No report.

Education – Anne Johnikin

13 paramedic students currently in cohort.

Moved to Anatomy Gift Registry from state Anatomy Board for cadaver work and happy with change.

Halfway through refresher training.

30 in current BLS entry class.

Pearson View testing room is moving in the building.

EMS Committee – Jeana Panarella

Working on aid policy that will be consistent through the county.

Emergency Communications –

No report.

Washington County –

EMS Operational Program – Dave Chisholm

In process of hiring Dr. Flint as associate Medical Director primarily for education.

Recruit School 8 is in session with 18 students. Upon graduation new transport service will go in service in Fairplay.

Paramedic class scheduled for graduation in August.

Rolling out ultrasound after July 1. Equipment still to be determined.

Whole blood program expanding to four units of blood in field on supervisor units.

Second quarter ALS education in progress via scenarios with focus on new protocols and areas identified by QA process.

Preparing for July 4th at Ag Center with 8000 anticipated participants.

Medical Review/QA – Mel Higgins

Finished EMS Lieutenant promotional process as well as Chamber of Commerce awards.

Education – Dave Chisholm

See above.

Emergency Communications/Emergency Management – Dave Chisholm

Communications recruit class is perpetually in session as ranks are never full. 24-hour shifts are popular with applicants.

Region I & II Healthcare Coalition – Caitlin Weems

Radiation hazards training on June 23 from 9-5 at Meritus.

Agency Reports

Frederick Health Hospital - Suzanne Butler

New stroke coordinator Krista Johnson. ER medical director is stepping down so national search for replacement underway.

Meritus Medical Center – Dave Chisholm

In a trial to improve throughput numbers.

Frederick County Health Department – Todd Johnson

Conducted mass fatality plan training. Also refurbished mass fatality trailer.

Wednesday at Washington County Training center is natural disaster table top exercise sponsored by MDH.

Todd retiring in October.

Washington County Health Department – Caitlin Weems

New deputy health officer / medical director Alexander Chen.

Summer outreach planned to coincide with meal drops in parks.

MFRI –

No representative.

MSP Aviation –

No representative.

Old Business –

Dr. Udeshi had a question about epinephrine dosing in allergic reaction and the group discussed some of the finer points of draw-up epinephrine versus an EpiPen.

New Business –

Cyndy explored possibility of hosting TEEX Pediatric Disaster Management course in Washington County area in 2028.

MIEMSS Report –

Statewide – Dr. Chizmar

2026 protocol updates available for clinicians as well as base stations. SB159 looking at both VAIP and county-based equipment lists. TeleDizzy program with Hopkins in progress. Ebola memo forthcoming shortly. Working with Montgomery County on IRB for ventilator use during CPR.

Region 2 - Wayne Tiemersma

No report.

Adjournment -

The next meeting will be at Washington County Public Safety Training Center on September 21st at 6:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 pm.