

**REGION I EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 16, 2025**  
**Agenda**

- I.** Call to Order
- II.** Approval of April 17, 2025 Minutes
- III.** Welcome Guests
- IV.** President's Report
- V.** Committee Reports
  - a.** Prehospital Care System
  - b.** Quality Improvement
  - c.** Bylaws/Membership
  - d.** ALS Advisory Committee / Garrett College – Doug Beitzel
  - e.** Region I Emergency Services Education Council Inc. – Wayne Tiemersma
- VI.** Garrett County Activities
  - a.** Garrett Regional Medical Center – Kim Gordon
  - b.** Garrett County Emergency Management / ESB
  - c.** Garrett County Communications – Justin Orendorf
  - d.** Garrett County EMS
  - e.** Garrett County Health Department – Lori Peck
- VII.** Allegany County Activities
  - a.** Allegany County Emergency Management / Communications
  - b.** Allegany County Emergency Services Board – Scott Whetsell
  - c.** Allegany County EMS – Mike Salvadge
  - d.** Allegany County Health Department – Alison Robinson
  - e.** UPMC Western Maryland – Wendy Helms
  - f.** Allegany College of Maryland
- VIII.** Regional Reports
  - a.** Regional Medical Director – Dr. Janelle Martin
  - b.** Jurisdictional Medical Director – Dr. Rameen Shafiei
  - c.** Region I Specialty Center – Jeff Hobbs
  - d.** MFRI – Todd Dyche
  - e.** MDEM
  - f.** Medevac – Rick DeVore
  - g.** CISM – Al Ward
  - h.** AGCVFRA – Jonathan Dayton
  - i.** Region I & II Health Care Coalition – Colin Graham
  - j.** Career Fire & EMS – Shannon Adams
  - k.** Commercial Ambulance – Scott Flaskamp
- IX.** MIEMSS
  - a.** Region I Report
- X.** Old Business
- XI.** New Business
- XII.** Adjournment

# Region I EMS Advisory Council Meeting

*October 16, 2025*

The Region I EMS Advisory Council Meeting was held on October 16, at 7:17 p.m. Members attending were: Jeff Hobbs, Dr. Janelle Martin, Scott Whetsell, Mike Salvadge, Alison Robinson, Doug Beitzel, Allan Ward. Online: Jennifer Ritchie, Lori Peck.

The meeting was called to order by Alison Robinson at 7:00 p.m.

## *Approval of July 10, 2025 Minutes*

The minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

## *Welcome Guests*

Paul Harman, Marissa Arnone, Cyndy Wright Johnson, Diane Wood, Dwayne Kitis, Wayne Tiemersma, and Alex Kelly.

## *President's Report – No report*

## *Committee Reports*

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

-The group discussed scheduling a meeting for fall. Regular meeting is usually scheduled annually in May. The group would like to meet semiannually. Details TBD

### **Quality Improvement – No report**

### **Bylaws/Membership – Wayne Tiemersma**

The membership list was discussed (attached).

Roger Bennett did not feel that he had the time to fill the position but would make a recommendation to the group if he could not fill the position himself. The committee moved to accept the Allegany County recommendation.

The following appointments were supported:

Jonathan Dayton - Allegany-Garrett County Vol. Fire and Rescue Association.

Michael Salvadge - Allegany County Dept. of Emergency Services - EMS Division

Justin Orendorf - Garrett County Emergency Management & Communications

Steven Smith - Garrett County Emergency Management – EMS

April Morgan – Commercial Ambulance

Rick DeVore – MSP Aviation Division

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

Written Report Submitted.

#### **2024-2025 Cohort (Class #22)**

- Program Duration: 1 year
- Start Date: September 4, 2024
- Program Format: Hybrid
- Progress: Class complete – scheduling NREMT testing
- Current Enrollment: 2 of 3 students passed

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

- Program Duration: 2 years
- Start Date: September 5, 2024
- Program Format: Evening program
- Progress: Started the second year in Sept. Released to all clinical areas outside peds.

Working on WVU education to open up PICU, NICU, Peds ER & Birthing Center. Class will end on May 5th with graduation to shortly follow.

- Current Enrollment: 13 students

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

- Program Duration: 1 year
- Start Date: August 20, 2025
- Program Format: Hybrid
- Progress: Student currently in A&P. Paramedic to start October 22nd with clinicals to begin November 24th.
- Applications: 13 applications

- Current Enrollment: 10 students for A&P, 11 students for paramedic

#### **Accreditation**

Program Sponsor: Garrett College, McHenry, MD

Program Name: Emergency Medical Services Professions-Paramedic

Accreditation Status Conferred: Continuing

Status Effective Date: July 16, 2025

Next Evaluation: 2030

Standards Version Used for Evaluation: 2015 Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in the Emergency Medical Services Professions

Standards Cited: N/A; No areas of non-compliance identified

#### **Ambulance Simulator**

- Completed install in July 2025. Started using in the paramedic 2-year program last week.

#### **MFRI ALS Classes**

- ALS Refresher
  - o 09/29/25-10/02/25 @ Garrett College CTTC (COMPLETE)
  - o 03/02/26-03/05/26 @ MFRI WMRTC
- Advance Medical Left Support (AMLS)
  - o 11/10/25 – 11/11/25 @ Garrett College CTTC (low enrollment)
- Geriatric Education for EMS (GEMS)
  - o Date: 4/21/26 @ Garrett College CTTC

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

-The committee meet prior to this meeting and finalized the plan. There are a few things to follow up on. Education plans are being worked on. The conference is scheduled for March 13 and 14<sup>th</sup>.

-General discussion was held regarding student attendance trends, current virtual options, training requirements/options at the jurisdictional level, and venue options.

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

#### **WVU Medicine Garrett Regional Medical Center – No Report**

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

##### **Emergency Management**

Preparations are underway for the upcoming winter weather season, including coordination with partner agencies and review of contingency plans. Updates to the County's Hazardous Materials Response Plan are nearing completion and will enhance operational readiness and compliance.

##### **911 Communications**

Significant progress continues in the transition of 911 operations from the Sheriff's Office to Emergency Management. The process has gone exceptionally smooth, and staff have adjusted extremely well. Four new hires are completing their Priority Dispatch certifications this week and will begin in-house training immediately after.

A VESTA system refresh is planned for both the primary and backup PSAPs to ensure system stability. A \$1.4 million funding request was submitted earlier this week to support ongoing system upgrades and training initiatives. The radio interoperability project with Pennsylvania is scheduled for completion next week, closing the final communications gap with surrounding counties.

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

EMS remains fully staffed and continues to work closely with our volunteer partners to deliver top-tier service to our citizens and visitors. A new ambulance is in production, and a remount of an existing unit is planned for the near future. The daytime upstaffing of a second clinician at Southern Rescue continues to prove an outstanding collaboration between Southern Garrett Rescue and Garrett County Emergency Services, strengthening daytime coverage in the south end.

EMS units provided coverage during the Autumn Glory Festival in partnership with law enforcement, ensuring a safe and well-coordinated event for all attendees. No problems or issues were encountered.

#### **Garrett County Health Department – Lori Peck**

- Flu clinics are active and the schedules are listed on the Garrett County Health Department website.
- Two ALICE trainings were completed and well attended.
- Stop the Bleed trainings are being planned.
- Grant funding toward POD training is in discussion.

## ***Allegany County Activities***

### **Allegany County Emergency Management / Communications – Mike Salvadge**

- Flood Recovery efforts are ongoing.
- The Primary 911 Center is now up and running. Box card adjustments are still being completed.
- The county is moving from *IamResponding* to *Chief 360* alerting software.

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

- The county proposed EMS officer standard was adopted as well as consensus to drop the current *ICS 400* Requirement.
- ESB has received a proposal to allow grandfathering for officers who don't have the officer class but have had a minimum of 10 years of "good credible service" without an incident, and continue holding positions. So that's planned to be discussed at the next meeting in December.
- The council is looking for recommendations toward policy enforcement options. This topic will be discussed in the December meeting.
- There are two vacant members at large. One would sit with the EMS Chiefs and the other with the Fire Chiefs. Both would be part of the ESB. The only stipulation for that is they cannot be involved in fire, EMS or local government.

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

- ACDES has officially have taken adoption of the Georgia Creek area including all property, building and three ambulances. One is going to be auctioned off, one is getting repaired and wrapped and the third one is going to be wrapped and hopefully put in service somewhere near the end of November. Renovations are underway to correct identified building code deficiencies.
- 4 new clinicians have been hired. Interviews are scheduled for Monday and for the hiring of additional 5 clinicians. ACDES will then open up testing again to hire another 4 clinicians.
- ACDES has taken delivery of two ventilators. ACDES is deciding where they will be deployed (Flintstone, PPG Road, or George's Creek). A training platform needed to be finalized prior to deployment and is now completed. The training will be going out to other paramedics.
- ACDES should be taking delivery of 5 video scopes tomorrow.
- ACDES did participate in a grant request through MIEMSS for a whole blood option.
- The department also meet with neighboring areas specifically Pennsylvania to try to help them solve EMS response concerns without using Allegany County as the sole solution.

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

- ACHD is also assisting with flood recovery and the State Disaster Response Fund.
- the Western Maryland Long-Term Flood Recovery Group has been created. Chuck Ternent is a head of it. They are looking to rebuild some of the houses up in Western Port and Barton and Lonaconing.
- ACHD has been awarded a \$35,000 toward a Maryland Respond activation function (Medical Reserve Core or Maryland Response). The health department is looking as conducting a full-scale exercise. A short discussion was held regarding support for the idea of a full-scale exercise and the inclusion of Mobile Morgue training. A committee was recommended for planning of the event. Funds need to be spent by May 2026. GCHD may be able to partner with the project.

### **UPMC Western Maryland and Region I Specialty Centers – Jeff Hobbs**

- UPMC has moved to Epic for electronic medical records that went over better than expected there. UPMCWM is still working through issues and bugs to work out involving EMS as far as the Pyxis is concerned.
- Phase one of security upgrades were recently completed and starting this week is the magnet in the emergency department. So now when you come to the ER, you have to, walk through a metal detector. Procedures for ambulance entry for EMS with patents and family were discussed.
- UPMCWM has transitioned from physio control to Zoll. There are remaining physio-control products are available for partner EMS agencies.
- EMS turnover of care times has crept up a little bit. Please look specifically at turnover time accuracy in reporting.
- Trauma services recently onboarded a new neurosurgeon since our last meeting Dr. Chamczuk. So, we continue to offer full-service neurosurgery coverage.
- UPMCWM is doing a mass casualty tabletop exercise on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Regional Reports**

**Regional Medical Director – No Report**

**Jurisdictional Medical Director – No Report**

**MFRI – Todd Dyche**

Written Report Submitted.

**EMS Class Update in Allegany / Garrett County**

Report Date: Fall 2025

Class	Log Number	Location	Start Date	Days	# Students	Status
EMT	-	GCCTC	2/19/25	W/Sat	15	Testing
EMT	-	WMRTC	8/11/25	M/W/Sat (every other)	12	Active
<b>*EMS Officer I</b>	<b>MGMT-203-S001-2026</b>	<b>WMRTC</b>	<b>10/27/25</b>	<b>M/W</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>Open</b>
EMT Refresher	EMS-203-S003-2026	GCCTC	11/8/25	Sat/Sun	(9)	Open / Active
EMT Refresher	EMS-203-S004-2026	WMRTC	12/6/25	Sat/Sun	(15)	Open / Active

Notes:

1. Numbers in parentheses indicate total preregistered students
2. \*red color, bold, and italicized font indicates additional enrollment needed for class to start

- Doug Beitzel advised that the Garrett County Refresher only has none registered for the class to date.

**Medevac – Rick DeVore**

Written Report Submitted.

- Trooper 5 is back in service from the maintenance issues we were having earlier in the year. The Command is optimistic on aircraft availability in the next few months.
- Blood program is going very well. Ground providers should review the Whole Blood protocol and tip off the aircraft if the patient meets/is close to meeting the indications for administration.
- Trooper 5 will be conducting their annual "Not So Scary Halloween" event on Monday October 27th from 5p-7p. Everybody is welcome to come out and if departments are interested in attending, they can reach out to me.

**CISM – Al Ward**

- The team has been busy due to several incidents recently. The team has conducted one full debriefing, two diffusions and several one-on-one personal contacts.
- State Police has been working on a grant to complete a CISM class in region 1.
- Mountain Maryland Search and Rescue is cross training and recruiting new therapy dogs as part of their service.

**AGCVFRA – Jonathan Dayton**

Written Report Submitted.

Community Care Closet

- This initiative was originally created to support fire victims, addressing immediate needs within 24 hours and aiding in long-term recovery. However, it is also available to first responders and other essential personnel, including those working in public health and hospital systems. If you know families in need, you are more than welcome to refer them to us. All assistance is provided professionally and confidentially.

Currently, we are circulating a business card and a flyer outlining the resources available and contact information. Fire companies can distribute these materials during incidents, allowing individuals to reach out for help. Assistance can be provided in a few ways:

Self-pickup: Giving recipients autonomy to select what they need.

Delivery: Items can be dropped off at their home or temporary residence.

Available resources include clothes, household items, water filters, hygiene kits (soap, shampoo, deodorant), toys, blankets, baby items (bottles, formula, shampoo), pet supplies (dog/cat food), adult diapers, shoes, socks, underwear, paper towels, cleanup supplies, and more.

### **Region I & II Healthcare Coalition – No Report**

#### **Career Fire & EMS – Doug Beitzel**

- CFD safer grant for the past year has gone well.
- CFD just offered testing for an eligibility list. We anticipate some openings (retirements, etc.) in the future.
- The department is changing their uniforms.
- The department anticipated Engine 2 delivery any day. Radios and equipment need installed.

### **Commercial Ambulance – No Report**

#### ***MIEMSS***

#### **EMSC - Cyndy Wright Johnson**

- We had our nursing champion meeting two weeks ago and it featured a comprehensive lecture on burn assessment. We are in the process of merging the audio with the slides and that should be available first week in November.
- Our pediatric champion meeting is the 22nd, next Wednesday, in person at MIEMSS and Dr. Anders will be launching a QA project on pediatric trauma as well as a full agenda for the day.
- The physician champion forum which meets quarterly is always virtual. We have two new leaders one from St. Agnes, one from Johns Hopkins Children's Center. Forum is a joint effort with EMSC, AAP and ACEP. October focus will be on pediatric respiratory illness treatment, preparing for the winter season that we all know is coming. Forums are open to physicians, nurses, and EMS.
- We'll be doing a pediatric conference on February 25th at MITAGS in Linthicum, which is right next to the airport. It'll be open to anyone in the state who wants to come for interdisciplinary training.

#### **Region I - Wayne Tiemersma**

- Both Region 1 VAIPS have been completed. A few small follow up to be completed.
- MIEMSS continued to follow the patient turnover of care times.
- Please have clinicians close their reports by the end of the shift, and avoid automatic locking.

#### **MIEMSS Mission Support – Dwayne Kitis**

- Cardiac devices grant is closing. Please submit by tomorrow. The grant cycle is closing.

#### ***Old Business – None***

#### ***New Business - None***

#### ***Adjournment***

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.