

# MMEMSAC Agenda

## March 24<sup>th</sup> 2025

- 1800      Call to Order/Introductions  
            Approval of Minutes  
            Notice of recording in progress
- 1805      President's Report
- 1810      Regional Affairs Committee Report
- 1815      SEMSAC Report
- 1820      Medical Advisory Committee
- 1825      MD Trauma Network
- 1830      Pediatric Medical Advisory Committee
- 1835      Frederick County Reports
- EMS Operational Program
  - Medical Review/QA
  - Educational Program
  - EMS Committee
  - Emergency Communications/Emergency Management
- 1855      Washington County Reports
- EMS Operational Program
  - Medical Review/QA
  - Educational Program
  - Emergency Communications/Emergency Management
- 1915      Region I & II Healthcare Committee

# MMEMSAC Agenda

## March 24<sup>th</sup> 2025

|      |                                      |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| 1920 | Agency Reports                       |
|      | Frederick Memorial Hospital          |
|      | Meritus Medical Center               |
|      | Frederick County Health Department   |
|      | Washington County Health Department  |
|      | MFRI                                 |
|      | MSP Aviation                         |
| 1940 | Unfinished Business                  |
| 1945 | New Business                         |
| 1950 | MIEMSS Regional Administrator Report |
| 2000 | Next Meeting Date & Adjournment      |

# Mid-Maryland EMS Advisory Council

**March 24<sup>th</sup> 2025**

The Mid-Maryland Advisory Council meeting was held on March 24th, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Attending was: Dr. Janelle Martin, Mike Cole, Dave Chisholm, Jess Griffith, Jeanna Panarella, Melanie Higgins, Anne Johnkin, Caitlin Weems, Chuck Bowler; On Line: Dr. Jeff Fillmore, Dr. Ryan McFague, Eric Smothers, Susie Nicol; Organizations represented: MIEMSS-Alex Kelly, Wayne Tiemersma, Dwayne Kitis, Elizabeth Wooster; On line: MIEMSS- Cyndy Wright Johnson, Dr. Delbridge, Dr. Chizmar. Region 2 Trauma Center – Tamara Baughman; Excused members: Dr. Udeshi, Suzanne Butler; Guests: Frederick County – Scott Gordon (online)

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

## **Approval of December 16, 2024 Minutes**

Minutes were approved.

## **President's Report – Dave Chisholm**

- No report

## **Regional Affairs Committee Report – Eric Smothers**

- Regional Affairs met the first part of the month. They are still working through the monitor grants, which is working out pretty well. There are only a couple jurisdictions that we are waiting on for their requests. It looks like the equipment is coming in. We probably will not have anything left over out of this round. So, I want to say thanks to Western Maryland for Region II and all the jurisdictions that really worked hard to get that accomplished. It really shows that we still have a need. Going forward, we will look at the ancillary equipment that we talked about and what else we can purchase out of that money and we'll have to see what budgetary means we'll be able to look at for that.
- There was discussion about MIH and expanding the role of the CRTs. The EMS Board is going to take a look at that and see where that goes.
- Congratulations to Dave Chisholm the new Chairperson for Regional Affairs.

## **SEMSAC Report – Eric Smothers**

- The meeting for April will be cancelled (will be sent out tomorrow).
- There are several different bills going on in Annapolis. If you are following the legislative process, especially with MSFA, they put out a legislative agenda. They do a really good job of keeping everybody informed. There have been no new bills introduced as of last week. Typically, we would have had an EMS Coalition meeting today, but the Chairman decided not to do that since no bills were introduced. So, we're just kind of monitoring what's out there. If anybody has anything specific from what you've read, or what you've heard, let us know and we'll try to address that. We are at crossover now. If anything wasn't introduced or crossed over, it probably will not get approved this year. Anything that really had a funding earmark to it, I really wouldn't expect that. So, we'll wait and see in the next three week.

## **Medical Advisory Committee Report – Dr. Fillmore**

- There was no meeting this month.
- Dr. Fillmore requested that Dr. Delbridge report out on legislative efforts underway.

*Dr. Delbridge:*

- One bill provides AEDs in libraries. That has passed both the House and the Senate. There are different versions of the bill. We're trying to keep track to make sure it doesn't dismantle the AED program in general, but something will happen in that regard.
- Another bill relates to use of marijuana CBD by fire rescue personnel when they're off duty and have a medical necessity card. We're keeping track of that to make sure it doesn't interfere too badly with the processes the Board has set up for monitoring folks. It doesn't look like they conflict very much and so we're watching that.
- Another one has to do with providing medical coverage at high school football games. Initially, when the bill came out it required that there either be an athletic trainer, or an ambulance at every high school football game. There was a lot of push back on that from school systems that were worried about the expense and athletic trainers who didn't think they could cover all the high school football games or didn't think the bill was constructed very well. That's subsequently been broadened to include volunteer medical folks like physicians who might be the parent of somebody on a team or a nurse. The nurses have raised some concerns about scope of practice issues. We're concerned because it provides for the possibility that an EMS Clinician might be the volunteer at the game, but detached from an EMS Operational Program. To function as an EMS Clinician in Maryland, you have to be attached to an EMS Operational Program at the time, unless you just happen upon an emergency. We are trying to get some clarification from the sponsors of those bills.
- Another bill we're watching has to do with provision of buprenorphine by EMS Clinicians. We steered that quite a bit in the beginning. What I think it's going to do is provide grant money for jurisdictions to spool people up to be able to provide buprenorphine, but what reminded me of that was the relevance question. These issues keep coming up, and the posture is that every EMS Clinician, no matter what their qualifications ought to be, that they're able to provide buprenorphine, which is a controlled substance. So, we're sort of like fending off legislation that conflicts with other provisions.

#### Dr. Fillmore – Protocol Committee

- We had a big discussion about hemorrhage control and there were quite a few things that were brought up that are things relating to this possible issue.

One is for instance, in places where there's not a Whole Blood Program is having the helicopter being able to bring whole blood where it looks necessary. Also, putting in protocols things to help people understand the order of treatment for severe hemorrhage. The first being just simply pressure. Tourniquet being last. Of course, I don't know about lots of interest, but there's interest in things that are being marketed as spray and other related remedies for clotting blood. I think you'll hear a lot about this because there's a lot of different ideas out there and a lot of people that quite frankly know more about it than I do. I think you'll probably see some things coming out in terms of either protocol or just statements from the state.

- The other thing we talked about was pediatrics having a system much like we do for triaging trauma to certain centers also doing the same thing with severely ill children, which probably has been needed for a while. There's some research going on at the state level using several jurisdictions and using some protocols and we'll be hearing about that. But you'll probably see something eventually come out that tells you which centers are appropriate for severely ill children and some definitions of severely ill that they're working on. I think they're going to give us some tools to work with on that. It should be interesting, but also very helpful for our triage of children.
- The protocols will be coming out with the new protocols for July 1<sup>st</sup>.

### ***MD Trauma Network Report – No Report***

### ***Pediatric Medical Advisory Committee Report – Cyndy Wright Johnson (handouts were also forwarded to committee)***

- We've been doing SIMS on the go, both medical and trauma, for the last three years with our EMS Champions. Dr. Anders and a team of nurses and physicians has just finished SIMS on the go for hospitals. Dr. Udeshi was there as well as two Advanced Practice Providers from Frederick which is really very helpful. We are going to hand those off to the Champions on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, which is the nurses in-person annual meeting for our Pediatric Nurse Champions.
- We will be out Wednesday at Meritus, two days from now, and have Region I and Region II EMS Champions and Nurse Champions meet. This will be the fourth of four meetings. It has been incredibly positive across the state. We'll do a summary and send it out to all the councils. Each of these regions has come up with something different that they want to do together collaboratively to improve readiness for pediatrics.

- Our Champion EMS meeting is April 23rd and it will be a little bit different this year. All of the Champions have that date. It will be in Howard County and the morning will be an update on the EMSC performance measures, what the Champions are doing, working with them on skills and sharing with them the critical care simulations that we did for EMS at both Winterfest and Miltenberger. In the afternoon, there will be an option to stay and I think many want to because we will be programming the I-simulate reality 360s. We're bringing in Billy Fritz from Vermont and I believe it will be a lot more informative if you've worked with that ISIM 360. The device can be any monitor that is in EMS or in hospitals. It's a series of iPads and programming, but there's no operations manual, zero printed material that comes from the manufacturer. It's all in a series of self-done, self-promoted YouTubes. We are going to actually run a three-hour training on how to program those.
- A reminder for Right-Care-When-It-Counts submissions.

## ***Frederick County – Mike Cole***

### EMS Operational Program

- The blood program is up and running; we're a couple months into that. There have been two administrations since the beginning. The program seems to be running smoothly.
- Ultrasound devices have been received. Dr. McFague is in process of identifying an initial training program and continuing education for proficiency maintenance.
- Frederick County is opening up job applications April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Frederick County is still in process of identifying new cardiac monitors. FCDFRS sent 5 personnel to Boston in review of the Zoll product. The new Stryker device has also been reviewed. Anticipation is that new devices will be in the field by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- A second EMS Captain should be in place by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Paramedic Engine placement at 3,10, and 25 are wrapping up.

### Medical Review/QA – No report

### Education

- There are 9 new ALS clinicians in process to become operational within the county; hopeful for a few to be completed by the first part of April.

### EMS Committee

- ESPP funds are being reviewed for projects including: Standardized backboards, First watch, mannequins, Tactical Team equipment, etc.

### Emergency Communications

- CAD program is improving within the communications system. They are still looking for new recruits.
- A Tele 911 program is being reviewed for implementation in Frederick County.

## ***Washington County***

### EMS Operational Program – Dave Chisholm

- Washington County is working on a Whole Blood Program with Meritus Health. Both entities are working through the legal aspects of the program MOU. Once that review is complete the program will move forward including MIEMSS program application and purchasing of equipment.
- Lifepak 35's have been introduced to the county (CRS, Smithsburg, and Hancock). There have been significant data transmission issues. Both Jason Cantera and Stryker continue to work on the issue.
- WCDES has been approved to purchase 4 Hamilton T1 ventilators. They are on order and hope to have them within a few weeks. These devices are replacing the outdated Revel devices.
- Washington County is now staffing 3 additional stations and looking to add a 4<sup>th</sup> within the June 30<sup>th</sup> timeframe. This will result in Washington County providing staff to 50% of the EMS companies within the jurisdiction.
- ESPP funds are being looked at as eligibility continues to increase.
- Hospital wait times were increased through this past period. Some issues were identified and continue to be worked through with Meritus administration. A thank you to FDFRS for standing up a Transport Officer position through the FHH cyberattack incident.

#### Medical Review/QA – Melanie Higgins

- Thanks to Meritus and the foundation WCDES is closer to standardized equipment with the purchase of HandTevy Bags.

#### Education – Dave Chisholm

- Current Cohort is ongoing. They are schedule to graduate in late July or early August. A new cohort should start shortly after.
- A COA site review was completed. The program received a few recommendations and the program is currently working through them.

#### Emergency Communications/Emergency Management – No Report

### ***Region I & II Healthcare Committee – Caitlin Weems***

- HCC has their RAD exercise planned for April 9<sup>th</sup> at the WCTC. The exercise spans all counties in Region I & II. There is still space if someone would like to attend.
- HCC is also participating in an MRSE exercise on May 6<sup>th</sup> headed by OP&R.
- We are in the process of procuring CPR training materials and modular decon kits. Each decon kits should service 50-150 persons depending on severity, as well as necessary equipment for detecting radiological evidence.

### ***Agency Reports***

#### Frederick Health Hospital – No Report

#### Meritus Medical Center – Jess Griffith

- Initial start date for renovations in the triage area are slated for April.
- A reminder of the Trauma Net awards for EMS and RN Clinician nominations throughout the end of the year. A nurse from Meritus and a Paramedic from Frederick were awarded in 2024.

#### Tamara Baughman

- On May 23<sup>rd</sup> Meritus will be hosting a Stop the Bleed event at 142 Robinwood. Hoping to get people from Allegany and Fredrick to come as well. Everyone participating in classes will receive a Stop the Bleed kit provided by Shock Trauma. Classes will go throughout the day and will also be available in Spanish.

#### Frederick County Health Department – No Report

#### Washington County Health Department – Catlin Weems

- WCHD is in the process of conducting a few POD exercises with our community partners. We just finished up Family Healthcare Hagerstown on March 10<sup>th</sup>. We have one scheduled in April with Western Maryland Hospital Center.
- The Health Department is going to be exercising our bulk shipment site on May 14<sup>th</sup> (Western Maryland Hospital Center).
- WCHD continues to provide Stop the Bleed trainings with school partners. Eight schools including staff, were completed since fall. We will continue to provide training through the end of May.

#### MFRI – No Report

#### MSP Aviation – No Report

#### Frederick County Emergency Management – No Report

#### Washington County Emergency Management – No Report

### ***Old Business – None***

### ***New Business***

#### Eric Smothers

- Eric advised that the Governor's office is looking at who is sitting on various councils as a matter of transparency. We do not know what may come of this review. A general reminder to please make sure personal documentation is in order.

## ***MIEMSS Regional Coordinator Report***

### Cyndy Wright Johnson

- Provided a shout out to Jessica Griffith (Meritus) who "has got the Safe Kids Coalition for Washington County up running and out in the community constantly and consistently".

### Wayne Tiemersma

- Reminder that MIEMSS is working toward Clinician intentional closure of report. Trying to avoid automatic locking of reports.
- Please follow up and take back any equipment that may be sitting at Shock Trauma and/or Bayview.
- Protocols are coming up. Please remind your Clinicians that the 3 previous years of protocol review need completed for recertification and the protocol update needs to be completed before July 1.

### Dr. Chizmar

- Thanked Mike Cole and Dave Chisholm's staff for providing assistance with reviewing draft protocols.
- Printed protocols should be available around May 1<sup>st</sup>. Online training target is the beginning of May as well.
- New medications were sent out to Jurisdiction administrations for operational awareness.
- Medical Directors Symposium is scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup> in Howard County.

### Dr. Delbridge

- MIEMSS continues to work with the HSCRC and the Wait Time Reduction Commission about emergency department wait times which aren't such a problem in Region II, but we're focused on EMS documentation in some of the other jurisdictions.

### Elizabeth Wooster

- Thank you very much for what you do every single day. It matters. It makes a difference in our patients lives.
- We have a very good survival rate for traumatic injury in the state of Maryland. There are some stats on the MIEMSS website. You should be proud of what you do every day. We're proud of you and our citizens benefit from your care.
- We are revising some COMAR regulations related to adult trauma. They go on a schedule to be reviewed every 10 years. That information will be updated when it gets through all the layers of approval in the state process.

### Dwayne Kitis

- Thanked all for what they do and making patients safe.
- Announced that Region 5 Associate Coordinator Michael Cooney took a position with Bound Tree and is no longer with MIEMSS. He will announce when the position is posted.

## ***Adjournment***

The next meeting will be in Frederick County at the Training Center on June 9th at 6:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 6:41