The Regional Emergency Medical Services Council of New York City met on October 27, 2020 at 5:00 PM, via Zoom webinar. The meeting was webcast on the REMSCO FaceBook and YouTube pages and is open to anyone who wishes to participate. The meeting will be recorded and posted to the REMSCO NYC YouTube page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizational Members</th>
<th>Present</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chevra Hatzalah Volunteer Ambulance Corp</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Dov Jacob  Alternate, Ari Weisz</td>
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<td>2. Chief Grace Cacciola  Alternate, Chief Lillian Buonsignore</td>
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<td>Fire Department, City of New York Emergency Medical Services</td>
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<td>3. Chief Christine Mazzola, EMTP  Alternate, Bradley Kaufman, MD</td>
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<td>Greater New York Hospital Association</td>
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<td>4. Samia McEachin  Alternate, Alison Burke</td>
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<td>5. William Goffin, EMT  Alternate, Dominick Battinelli, EMTP</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York City Health &amp; Hospital Corporation</td>
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<td>6. Daniel Meisels, EMT-P  Alternate: Joseph Marcellino, EMT-P</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York City Office of Emergency Management</td>
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<td>7. Mordechai Goldfeder, EMTP  Alternate, Robert Bristol</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York City Police Department</td>
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<td>8. PO Johnathan Matamoros  Alternate, Det. John Johnstone</td>
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<td>NYS Volunteer Ambulance &amp; Rescue Association, Inc. Dist 4</td>
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<td>9. Travis Kessel  Alternate, James Downey, MBA, EMT</td>
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<td>NYS Volunteer Ambulance &amp; Rescue Association, Inc. District 18</td>
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<td>10. Jerrold Gelbard  Alternate, David Meketansky</td>
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<tr>
<td>REMAC NYC</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Josef Schenker, MD</td>
<td>X</td>
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Yedidyah Langsam, PhD, EMTP, Chair, brought the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Meetings of the Regional EMS Council are recorded to comply with the Governor’s Executive Order #3 to web cast meetings. A roll call attendance was conducted; a quorum was present.
Rules for today’s meeting: Governor has issued a statement that allows open meeting law meetings to use technology. Did not suspend quorum rules. Meetings continue to be open and are recorded. Published links meet requirements of public meeting. This is a legal meeting, and all votes will be via roll call.

Voting rules. A quorum is based on the number of voting seats – whether those seats are filled or vacant. Currently, REMSCO has 26 voting seats, so when voting, a majority of members must vote in the affirmative to pass any motion. That means, 14 votes in the affirmative are needed to pass any motion.

Committee members present were asked if they had comments, questions or corrections regarding the Minutes of the September 22, 2020 meeting. No issued identified, the Minutes were approved as written unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

The Offices of the Council received the following correspondence:

Membership:

➢ No new information.

FDNY EMS:

➢ No new information.

NYS DOH:

➢ Statement of Charges from the NYS DOH against Bensonhurst VAC. Suspended for 1 year – stayed. Probation for 2 years effective 9/23/20, $2000 civil penalty. Must hire a consultant and provide regular reports to NYSDOH.

▪ NYC REMSCO spent over 2 years attempting to assist, but Bensonhurst leadership refused guidance.

➢ The enforcement actions (for both providers and agencies) can be viewed on the NYS DOH BEMS&TS EMS Disciplinary Actions-Enforcement Actions page at https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/sanctions.htm

Ambulance Agencies:

➢ Communications between NYSVARA District 4 & 18 and Bedford Stuyvesant VAC identifying items being revised/corrected to better operationalize the corps.
Course Sponsors:

➢ No new information.

Other: Glen Oaks VAC Expansion CON:

➢ Letter of support for Glen Oaks expansion CON from Whitestone VAC.

➢ Letter of support for Glen Oaks expansion CON from FDNY.

➢ Requests to speak in support of the Glen Oaks VAC expansion CON from:
  ▪ Joe Marzilliano or Eileen Miller, Representing Queens CB#11
  ▪ Louis Greco, Regional Representative, NYSVARA
  ▪ Susan Sienfeld, Former District Manager, Queens CB#11
  ▪ Henry Ehrhardt, President, Glen Oaks VAC
  ▪ Michael Berlin, Greenberg Traurig, Legal Counsel

➢ Letters from Christopher Capo and Board of Trustees, representing former Bayside VAC, opposing Glen Oaks expansion CON. Mr. Capo has requested to speak at the public hearing.

  ▪ **Staff Note: BVAC had its certificate revoked in 2018 by the NYS DOH.**

➢ Letter from Little Neck-Douglaston VAC opposing Glen Oaks expansion CON.

➢ Letter from Michael Lyons, Bay Community VAC, opposing Glen Oaks expansion CON.

➢ Email from Joseph Heffernan, Bayside Community VAC, opposing Glen Oaks expansion CON and asking to speak at public hearing.

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**The Office of the Council sent the following correspondence:**

➢ Agendas, Minutes and associated attachments for the meeting.

➢ Letter sent to Ryan Greenberg, Bureau EMS, requesting that 20% reduction on contract reimbursements for Program Agencies not be implemented. This letter was sent on behalf of all NYS program Agencies.

➢ Letter on behalf of Central Park Medical Unit (CPMU) confirming said corps was activated under a mutual aid request from the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) through NYC REMSCO and participated in said mutual aid activation from March 29, 2020 to May 31, 2020. This mutual aid activation was due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

➢ Letter to Christopher Capo stating we have been advised by the NYS DOH Bureau of EMS that
this agency, Bayside Volunteer Ambulance Corps, ID 7336, no longer has an ambulance operating certificate. The REMSCO of NYC is obligated to function under the mandates of Public Health Law and Article 30 governing EMS and is guided by the New York State Department of Health. Our statutory duties require the REMSCO to process complete applications for Determination of Public Need. Attached was a copy of our application process.

- Glen Oaks VAC Expansion CON:
  - Deemed Complete letter
  - Letter requesting permission to go forward with public hearing
  - Public hearing notice via email, certified mail and published in NY Times
  - Emails to/from Frank Schorn, Public Hearing Officer
  - Copies of application posted on NYSDOH HCS

### AMBULANCE COMMITTEE REPORT, Chair Joseph Marcellino, MPH

- No action items.
- No new applications for Transfer of Operating Authority received.
- No new applications for Determination of Public Need.

### STAFF REPORT

**Emergency Preparedness Update (Scott Chiang)**

As reported last month, the Council is working with DOHMH to establish a process for requesting PPE through NYC’s vendor (Medline) should there be a resurgence of COVID. This is meant as a last resort when all other options are exhausted. Agencies are advised to begin stockpiling PPE now. Once the process is finalized, we will share this with our agencies.

**Program Agency (Marie Diglio)**

- Reminded everyone that REMSCO continues to have Narcan available for distribution. Email Marie Diglio for information.

- VAC leadership has been working to assist Bedford-Stuyvesant VAC in its response to a DOH Stipulation. We thank the volunteer leadership for all their efforts and hope this assistance will set Bedford-Stuyvesant on the right path to re-operationalization.

- As reported at last month’s meeting, REMSCO is working with the NYS OMH in reactivating our former PEER Response Team. NYS OMH has trained 14 providers in NYC
who will now begin suicide prevention training.

- Protocol Update has been completed and will be posted on the NYS LMS. This site has ability to collect data and generate certificates.

- Program Agency and REMSCO contracts have not been finalized by NYS DOH. This is partly due to the introduction of a new web-based portal for submission of documentation. Another issue is that we have been advised that due to a reduction in state funds, RC and PA contract funds may be reduced by 20%.
  - Nancy Benedetto asked if the Council has received any written documents that affirm that the contracts will be approved. The answer is no. Ms. Benedetto motioned that a letter be written to NYS DOH requesting a commitment for the contracts. Motion seconded by Scott Orlanski and approved unanimously.

**TRAINING AND EDUCATION REPORT, Mordy Lax, Chair**

T&E Committee has been meeting often and has competed the protocol update training modules. The BLS module has been posted to NYS DOH LMS, the ALS module should be posted by next week. Town Hall zoom meetings will be held to answer questions. Thank you to John MacMillon, NYS DOH BEMS.

**REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, Josef Schenker, MD**

The Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) of New York City met on October 20, 2020 via Zoom webinar. The following is a meeting summary:

- Michael Redlener gave a PPT on QA and the First Watch Program
- The Community Conscious Award from the Northeast Cerebrovascular Consortium was given to REMAC and FDNY, being accepted by Drs. Redlener and Ben-Eli this week for work on STEMI and Stroke.
- ET3 will be reconvened with Jeffrey Rabrich, MD, as Chair.
- Protocol will discuss:
  - Pain Management Protocol
  - RTAC request regarding time and destination parameters for the transport of traumatic cardiac arrest patients to trauma centers
  - Even if it means bypassing closer facilities, as long as the airway is manageable
  - Includes transporting pediatric traumatic arrest patients to pediatric trauma centers
• Issued: 2020-16 REMAC Advisory Regional Paramedic Credentialing:
  o A list of all NYC REMAC paramedics with current regional expiration dates can be viewed at: https://www.nycremsco.org/remac-approved-als-agencies-line-medical-control-physicians-paramedics/.
  o Temporary memos identifying NYC and NYS expiration dates shall be accepted in lieu of REMAC cards until such time as standard cards are printed.
  o Evidence of state certification can be provided by the paramedic’s specific agency via the NYS Health Commerce System.

• REMAC Bylaws were read and reviewed for the 2nd time with no changes.

• Mercy Medical Center, Rockville Centre, and St. Joseph Hospital, Bethpage, asked to be listed as Primary Stroke Centers in NYC Protocol Hospital Destinations. A letter will be sent advising them that they cannot be included in our regional list.

JOINT REMSCO/REMAC QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE, Michael Redlener, MD

Joseph Raneri reported that the committee met by Zoom last week. Stroke/STEMI First Watch program was discussed. Almost all 911 participants have registered and are pushing data into project. Dashboards are being finalized. Agencies will be able to review their specific data and compare to regional data. COVID after-action report has been developed. The first draft has been released and is being reviewed. Will be presented at the next REMAC meeting.

STATE EMS COUNCIL REPORT

No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Langsam brought up a letter from Dr. Leviton regarding the transport of patients who are identified as COVID positive after admission. What is REMSCO’s policy? Dr. Schenker stated he would speak to Dr. Leviton offline.
Joseph Raneri announced that NYS DOH will no longer accept paper PCRs. Agencies will now be required to register into the state’s Elite system. Agencies will have to manually input data and submit scanned PCRs. He urged agencies to join the ePCR system. A message will be sent to agencies.

Joseph Raneri also discussed a TAG that is working on integrating hospital and EMS data, having PCRs sent into the NYS Health Information Exchange. DEIP funding has been released to encourage agencies to participate in this process. Meetings have already been held with agencies in NYC.

No further business remaining, the meeting of the Regional EMS Council was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on November 17, 2020 via Zoom.