



Wisconsin EMS Association
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 21, 2025

1. Call to Order – 1640 by Tony Lash
 - a. Roll Call / Attendees:
 - i. Members Present: Tony Lash, Stacey Zellmer, Jay Young, Adam Robarge, Ryan Huser, Chanse Kaczmariski, Shaunna Bryant, Becky Smudde, Evelyn Dax, Wyatt Sachen, Jody Stoker, and Delaney Weiler.
 - ii. Others Present: Alan DeYoung, Executive Director
 - iii. Members Absent: None
2. Approval of the Agenda – Tony Lash

Motion Required: Motion made by Chanse Kaczmariski to approve the agenda, seconded by Evelyn Dax.
Vote Required: Motion carried.
3. Approval of Minutes – Tony Lash

Motion Required: Minutes not sent out for review. Postponed until the next meeting.
Vote Required:
4. Welcome and Introductions:
 - a. Member Comments (limited to 3 minutes per member commenting not to exceed 15 minutes total): None.
5. Consent Agenda (***Discussion Only***)
 - a. Education – Ryan Huser
 - i. The 2025 WEMSA Conference is running this week.
 - ii. Will be meeting after the conference to start looking at next years conference and other initiatives.
 - b. Finance – Jay Young
 - i. Everything is looking good financially.
 - ii. Balances provided by Alan DeYoung.
 - iii. Estimates on Conference Expenditures and Revenues provided by Alan DeYoung.
 - iv. Still have Revenues and Accounts Receivables still coming in.
 - c. Membership – Wyatt Sachen
 - i. The Membership Committee will be meeting after the conference to investigate new initiatives.
 - d. Political Action Committee – Becky Smudde
 - i. Had planned to hold a Member Advocacy meeting but had a conflict and had to reschedule. Have had members reach out asking how they can help.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion Required: Motion made by Becky Smudde to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Stacey Zellmer.
Vote Required: Motion carried.

6. Operations Report – Alan DeYoung

a. Grants

- i. Donate Life Grant – The grant has been extended and will be working to promote more after the conference.
- ii. Haz-Mat Grant – Hosting a training session at the 2025 Conference and have two additional training sessions scheduled in Rhinelander and at Chippewa Valley Tech.
 - 1. FREE CEUs count towards Haz-mat Refresher.
- iii. Data Center – Have had a couple departments sign on and will be holding more webinars coming up.
 - 1. Free to all departments.
 - 2. Grant goes until October 2026
 - 3. Looking into plans for after 2026. Possible Member Benefit or other revenue stream.
- iv. Exploring collaborating with DPI and HOSA on workforce recruitment opportunities.

b. Foundation:

- i. Gave out 5 scholarships at the 2025 Conference.
- ii. Will be giving out 10 – 12 scholarships in 2026.
- iii. Fire and EMS Memorial Legacy Stone fundraiser event in June. WEMSA is working with the memorial board to find sponsors for the event.

c. Building:

- i. Have one tenant now. Will be working on advertising for new tenants after the conference.

7. Old Business

a. None

8. New Business – Tony Lash

a. Strategic Sustainability – Alan DeYoung

- i. Moving to monthly Board of Directors Meetings going forward.

ii. Budget

- 1. Membership doesn't generate enough revenue by itself.
 - a. Increasing building costs.
 - b. Credit card expenses.
 - c. Increased insurance expenses.
 - d. Covers a small amount of personnel costs.
- 2. Discuss WEMSA's Staff Module
- a. Review staffing structures and will be finalized by budget review.
 - i. New Software has automated and helped a lot.
 - ii. CPA to handle some additional tasks.
- 3. Looking to increase membership fees for 2026.
 - a. New membership tiers based on call volume
 - i. Will increase the number of members allowing agencies to add all their members instead of the number of members they have based on the membership plan they have.
 - b. Annual increases to membership fees each year automatically.

b. Legislative Agenda

- i. Forbes pointed out that we really do not have a plan or direction of where to go during the next legislative session.
- ii. Majority of department members are municipally based EMS organizations.

- iii. Where do we want to focus our advocacy.
 - 1. Public agencies with an emphasis on rural agencies.
- iv. Focus on the following policy agendas
 - 1. WIGEMT – Change the language to match the language related to Private services, minus the mandatory fee, to include Managed Care and HMO coverage.
 - a. Generates more revenue for Public agencies with no additional costs to the state.
 - 2. Public disclosure of billing rates/transparency.
 - a. Most public agencies already do this.
 - b. No Surprises Act already affects Air Medical Services and may affect ground ambulance services
 - c. Requires private agencies to disclose their rates.
 - 3. Tax levy exemptions for EMS agencies with eight (8) or more municipalities.
 - a. Create special purpose tax districts for public safety
 - 4. Statewide EMS Recruitment Grant Funding
- v. Motion made by Becky Smudde to move forward with the legislative items proposed above, seconded by Ryan Hauser. Motion carried.***
- 9. President's Report – Tony Lash
 - a. Discussed above under New Business
- 10. For the good of the Association - comments and announcements
 - a. None
- 11. Adjourn

Motion Required: Motion to adjourn made by Becky Smudde, seconded by Wyatt Sachen. Vote Required: Motion carried.

Adjourn: 1810

Next Meetings

- a. May 17, 2025: 1400-1530 hrs, Wisconsin Rapids, WI (Memorial Clean-up)
- b. August TBD, 2025: All Day – Possible Annual Board Retreat / Member Day
- c. November TBD, 2025: (Virtual)
- d. February 3rd or 7th – Final Date to Be Determined