

Vermont Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: August 5, 2026

Location: Waterbury Ambulance Service

Meeting Called to Order: 1400hrs by Patrick Malone

Roll Call

Member / Entity	Status	Member / Entity	Status
District 1	Present	District 12	Present
District 2	Absent	District 13	Absent
District 3	Present	VAA	Present
District 4	Absent	IREMS	Present
District 5	Absent	PFFV	Present
District 6	Absent	VCFC	Present
District 7	Absent	VSFA	Absent

District 8	Present	VAHHS / VOS	Present
District 9	Present	VLCT	Present
District 10	Present	VDH	Present
District 11	Absent		

Also Present: Various members of the public, state officials, and clinical advisors.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Committee considered the previous EMSAC meeting minutes.

- **Motion:** Leslie Lindquist (District 3)
- **Second:** Lee Krohn (VLCT)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Leadership & Project Manager Report

A recap was provided regarding the recent cross-workgroup data workshop. The 4.5-hour session brought together representatives from various workgroups, state officials, and legal counsel to evaluate data needs, collection gaps, and privacy considerations related to ongoing strategic planning and consent items. A detailed recap document summarizing the data session will be distributed to all committee members.

OEMS & Commissioner Report

The Department of Health reported that current efforts are heavily focused on state budget and policy development. An update on the search for a new EMS Chief was provided, noting that candidate interviews are actively underway with a selection announcement anticipated in the near future.

Workgroup Reports

- **Governance:** Reported a robust queue of consent items undergoing development. Several items were brought forward for full committee consideration today, while items requiring additional physician and stakeholder feedback were deferred to the August 19th meeting.

- **Operations:** Reported that several operational consent items finalized during recent workgroup meetings were placed on today's agenda.
- **Education & Workforce Development:** Reported ongoing focus on recruitment and retention strategies, with additional consent items slated for presentation at the next committee meeting.
- **Medical Direction:** Reported continued work refining service-level and state-level medical direction frameworks, incorporating extensive physician and subject matter expert input ahead of final presentation on August 19th.
- **Finance:** Reported that fiscal evaluations and cost categorizations of approved consent items will resume following the completion of August workgroup deliverables.

Consent Agenda

CI-EWD-013 – State Benefit Access for EMS

The Committee reviewed a recommendation granting Vermont-licensed non-profit EMS agencies contracted to provide municipal or governmental services optional access to state health insurance plans, state retirement systems, and state procurement bidding contracts. The item aims to alleviate severe compensation, benefit, and operational cost disparities experienced by non-profit public-function EMS personnel compared to municipal counterparts.

- **Motion:** Matt Parrish (District 8)
- **Second:** Lee Krohn (VLCT)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CI-EWD-014 – Volunteer Education Incentive Program

The Committee reviewed a proposal establishing a Volunteer Education Incentive Program awarding active volunteer EMS personnel transferable state college tuition vouchers (3 credits per calendar year of service) redeemable within the Vermont State College system. Vouchers are transferable to immediate dependents and serve as a recruitment and retention tool for volunteer agencies.

- **Motion:** Leslie Lindquist (District 3)
- **Second:** Lee Krohn (VLCT)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CI-GOV-006 – EMS Interstate Compact (REPLICA)

The Committee considered a recommendation formally advising that Vermont decline adoption or participation in the EMS Interstate Compact (REPLICA) during the current 5-year strategic plan cycle. Discussion emphasized preserving state-level regulatory jurisdiction, licensing authority, and credentialing oversight, while clarifying that declining the compact does not impact existing cross-border mutual aid agreements or prevent future annual re-evaluation by the Board.

- **Motion:** Charles Piso (District 8)

- **Second:** Leslie Lindquist (District 3)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CI-GOV-007 – Licensure and Endorsement Framework

The Committee reviewed a proposal establishing a standardized administrative structure that utilizes layered endorsements (e.g., critical care, interfacility transport, MIH) attached to base provider and agency licenses. This structure codifies operational flexibility without creating fragmented, independent license categories.

- **Motion:** Leslie Lindquist (District 3)
- **Second:** Commissioner Rick Hildebrant (VDH)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CI-GOV-008 – Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) Governance

The Committee reviewed a recommendation formally recognizing, regulating, and housing Mobile Integrated Healthcare under the Division of EMS via state endorsements, standardized education, and sustainable reimbursement pathways. Extensive discussion occurred regarding medical direction requirements, with medical directors emphasizing the necessity of physician-led oversight by EMS-experienced physicians while incorporating multidisciplinary specialists. Committee leadership noted that modifying text on the floor would require returning the item to the workgroup, leading members to proceed with a vote on the item as presented.

- **Motion:** Charles Piso (District 8)
- **Second:** Commissioner Rick Hildebrant (VDH)

Member	Vote	Member	Vote
District 1	Yes	District 12	Yes
District 2	Absent	District 13	Absent
District 3	No	VAA	Yes
District 4	Yes	IREMS	Yes

District 5	Absent	PFFV	Yes
District 6	Absent	VCFC	Yes
District 7	Absent	VSFA	Absent
District 8	No	VAHHS / VOS	No
District 9	No	VLCT	Yes
District 10	Yes	VDH	Yes
District 11	Absent		

- **Tally:** Yes: 10 | No: 4 | Abstentions: 0 | Absent: 7
- **Result:** Motion carried.

CI-GOV-009 – Municipal Leadership Education and VLCT Partnership

The Committee reviewed a recommendation establishing an educational partnership with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) to conduct annual workshops for municipal officials on EMS delivery models, funding mechanics, licensure levels, and contract oversight.

- **Motion:** Lee Krohn (VLCT)
- **Second:** Michael Ranzio (VCFC)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CI-GOV-010 – Service Coverage Standards Rule Amendment

The Committee debated a proposed amendment to Rule 4.5.2.9 mandating that licensed EMS agencies maintain 24/7/365 operational readiness at their specific authorized license level independently or through executed contracts with partner services. Members expressed significant concern that the rigid mandate would prove punitive to small, rural, and volunteer

agencies, potentially forcing unwanted service level downgrades. State EMS representatives also noted that monitoring agency duty rosters for compliance is operationally unfeasible.

- **Motion:** Charles Piso (District 8)
- **Second:** Lee Krohn (VLCT)

Member	Vote	Member	Vote
District 1	No	District 12	No
District 2	Absent	District 13	Absent
District 3	No	VAA	No
District 4	No	IREMS	Abstain
District 5	Absent	PFFV	No
District 6	Absent	VCFC	No
District 7	Absent	VSFA	No
District 8	No	VAHHS / VOS	Abstain
District 9	No	VLCT	No
District 10	No	VDH	No

District 11	Absent		
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- **Tally:** Yes: 0 | No: 13 | Abstentions: 2 | Absent: 6
- **Result:** Motion failed. Item returned to the Governance Workgroup for revision.

CI-HIN-005 – Interfacility Transport Categories

The Committee reviewed a standardized framework categorizing interfacility patient transfers based on clinical acuity (Unstable ≤1hr, Potentially Unstable ≤3hr, Stable ≤6hr) and required transport resources. Discussion noted that the framework serves as a recommended template for health systems and agencies without altering sending physician statutory authority or clinician scope.

- **Motion:** Leslie Lindquist (District 3)
- **Second:** Matt Parrish (District 8)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Procedural Motion – Meeting Extension

The Committee considered a motion to extend the meeting by 30 minutes to allow for the completion of the remaining consent agenda items.

- **Motion:** Leslie Lindquist (District 3)
- **Second:** Matt Parrish (District 8)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CI-HIN-006 – Statewide Trauma System

The Committee reviewed a recommendation establishing a formal, coordinated statewide trauma system governed under the Board of EMS, with the Healthcare Integration Subcommittee leading quality assurance, performance evaluation, and registry development. Clinical advisors and committee members voiced strong support for transitioning Vermont from an informal trauma structure into a unified statewide system.

- **Motion:** Devon Green (VOS / VAHHS)
- **Second:** Matt Parrish (District 8)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CI-OPS-007 – Continuity of Operations Task Force

The Committee reviewed a proposal establishing a voluntary Continuity of Operations Task Force program providing temporary ambulance coverage (up to 2 ambulances for 14 days at \$5,000/day) during critical local service failures, backed by a recommended \$150,000 state legislative appropriation.

- **Motion:** Leslie Lindquist (District 3)
- **Second:** Billy Fritz (PFFV)

Member	Vote	Member	Vote
District 1	Yes	District 12	Yes
District 2	Absent	District 13	Absent
District 3	Yes	VAA	Yes
District 4	Yes	IREMS	Yes
District 5	Absent	PFFV	Yes
District 6	Absent	VCFC	Yes
District 7	Absent	VSFA	Yes
District 8	Yes	VAHHS / VOS	Yes
District 9	Yes	VLCT	Yes
District 10	Yes	VDH	Abstain

District 11	Absent		
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- **Tally:** Yes: 14 | No: 0 | Abstentions: 1 | Absent: 6
- **Result:** Motion carried.

CI-OPS-008 – Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Task Force Framework

The Committee reviewed a proposal establishing a single statewide Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) task force framework replacing separate regional models. The plan utilizes a voluntary Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) structure integrated into statewide CAD dispatching and establishes standardized backfill and overtime reimbursement models.

- **Motion:** Matt Parrish (District 8)
- **Second:** Leslie Lindquist (District 3)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CI-OPS-009 – System Health Dashboard and Data Management

The Committee reviewed a recommendation directing the Board of EMS to produce an annual operational health report, establishing a permanent state-funded EMS Data Manager position, and creating a live public-facing operational health dashboard tracking turnout time, time to care, mutual aid, hospital wall time, and PCR validity.

- **Motion:** Matt Parrish (District 8)
- **Second:** Devon Green (VAHHS)

Member	Vote	Member	Vote
District 1	Yes	District 12	Yes
District 2	Absent	District 13	Absent
District 3	Yes	VAA	Absent
District 4	Absent	IREMS	Yes

District 5	Absent	PFFV	Absent
District 6	Absent	VCFC	Yes
District 7	Absent	VSFA	Yes
District 8	Yes	VAHHS / VOS	Yes
District 9	Yes	VLCT	Yes
District 10	Yes	VDH	Abstain
District 11	Absent		

- **Tally:** Yes: 11 | No: 0 | Abstentions: 1 | Absent: 9
- **Result:** Motion carried.

Procedural Review & New Business

Members discussed a late request regarding a proposed letter of support for an inter-institutional grant application to establish a Statewide Medical Operations Coordination Center (SMOC). Following procedural evaluation, it was determined that the item had not been warned on the published meeting agenda. In accordance with Vermont public meeting laws regarding non-warned items, no formal action or vote was taken. Committee leadership noted the topic could be submitted as a formal agenda item for the August 19th meeting.

Open Discussion & Public Comment

No additional public comments were offered. Committee leadership confirmed that the next meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2026, at the Vermont EMS Academy in Newfane, VT.

Adjournment

- **Motion:** Leslie Lindquist (District 3)

- **Second:** Lee Krohn (VLCT)
- **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at **1645 hours**.

DRAFT