

# Annual Report Fiscal Year 2013— 2014

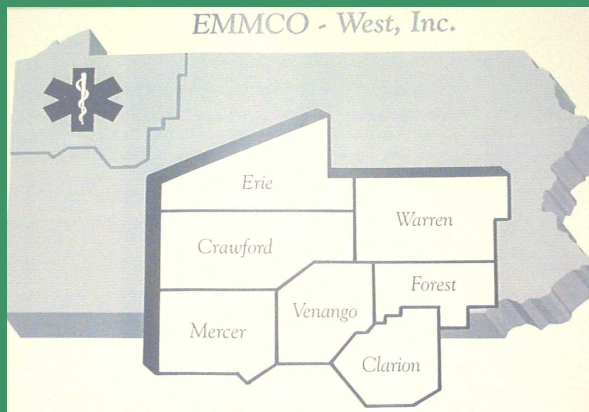


EMMCO West, Inc.

Northwest PA Regional EMS Council

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## Board of Directors Structure & History

EMMCO West, Inc. was incorporated in 1983 as a non-profit EMS council for seven counties in Northwestern PA. The PA Department of Health accepted a proposal to divide the former EMS Council of Northwest PA into two separate regions, EMMCO East and EMMCO West. The EMMCO West counties included Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Mercer, Venango, and Warren.

EMMCO is an acronym for Emergency Medical Management Cooperative. Acute care hospitals in the region formed EMMCO East and West to ensure the region had professional prehospital care available to the residents and visitors in Northwestern Pennsylvania.

In 2004, the corporation restructured itself. A board appointee format was adopted and a diversity of board members was identified. Hospitals, county government, disaster and at large appointees now comprise the 24 member board of directors for EMMCO West, Inc.

## Board of Director Committees

*"Providing direction and insights for the board of directors via its committees..."*

The following are the standing committees and their roles/functions -

- **Executive Committee**— In between of quarterly meetings, the Executive Committee oversees the business—operations of the corporation. Serving on the committee are President (Kurt Ellefson), Vice President (Douglas Dick), Treasurer (Albert Boland), and Secretary (Jason Chenault).
- **Regional Medical Advisory Committee**—RMAC members meet quarterly and discuss medical direction and system issues. Regional Medical Director Brian Risavi, DO, and Assistant Regional Medical Director Carrie Colleran, MD provide oversight to regional medical direction matters.
- **Quality Improvement Committee**—Scott Gross is the chairman of this committee. EMS system quality and improvement initiatives plus performance benchmarks are identified by this committee.
- **Transportation Committee**— This committee reviews EMS system performance and makes recommendations to improve EMS system response in the region.
- **Communication Committee**— Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) and EMS agency dispatching centers meet and discuss current and future EMS radio systems and inter-operability.

## Board of Director Calendar

The board of directors meet on a quarterly basis. The following is the schedule for FY 14-15 :

September 17, 2014

December 18, 2014

March 17, 2015

June 17, 2015

### Board of Director Listing Key

(P) = Primary Appointee

(A) = Alternate Appointee

(AL)= At Large Appointee

(DA)= Disaster Appointee

(G)= Government Appointee



# EMMCO West, Inc.

## Northwestern PA EMS Council

### 2014—2015 EMMCO West Board of Directors

- |                                       |                                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • American Red Cross                  | <b>Trish Lawrence (DA)</b>     |
| • Clarion County Area Agency on Aging | <b>Stephanie Wilshire (AL)</b> |
| • Clarion County Government (G)       | <b>Vacant</b>                  |
| • Clarion Hospital                    | <b>Don Hosey(P)</b>            |
| • Clarion Hospital                    | <b>William Helppler (A)</b>    |
| • Corry Memorial Hospital             | <b>Dr. Michael Antoon (P)</b>  |
| • Corry Memorial Hospital             | <b>Barbara Nichols (A)</b>     |
| • Crawford County Government          | <b>Eric Henry(G)</b>           |
| • Erie County Government              | <b>Jack Carter (G)</b>         |
| • Forest County Government            | <b>Don Hall (G)</b>            |
| • Grove City Medical Center           | <b>Cheryl Pebbles (P)</b>      |
| • Grove City Medical Center           | <b>Lynette Fair (A)</b>        |
| • Meadville Medical Center            | <b>Jay Parker (P)</b>          |
| • Meadville Medical Center            | <b>Valerie Wade (A)</b>        |
| • Mercer County Government            | <b>Douglas Dick, (G)</b>       |
| • Millcreek Community Hospital        | <b>Dr. Paul Kohut (P)</b>      |
| • Millcreek Community Hospital (A)    | <b>Vacant</b>                  |
| • Law Enforcement                     | <b>David Morgan (AL)</b>       |
| • Primary Health Network              | <b>Joseph Montone (AL)</b>     |
| • Saint Vincent Hospital              | <b>Dr. Carrie Colleran (P)</b> |
| • Saint Vincent Hospital              | <b>Dr. Wayne Jones (A)</b>     |
| • Sharon Regional Health System       | <b>Cory Fenton (A)</b>         |
| • Sharon Regional Health System       | <b>Kurt Ellefson (P)</b>       |
| • UPMC Hamot                          | <b>Dave Basnak (A)</b>         |
| • UPMC Hamot                          | <b>Jason Chenault(P)</b>       |
| • UPMC Horizon - Greenville           | <b>Cindy Snyder (P)</b>        |
| • UPMC Horizon - Greenville           | <b>Kellie Klimis (A)</b>       |
| • UPMC Horizon - Shenango             | <b>Albert Boland, (P)</b>      |
| • UPMC Horizon - Shenango             | <b>Karen Calhoun (A)</b>       |
| • UPMC Northwest                      | <b>Matt Heasley (P)</b>        |
| • UPMC Northwest                      | <b>Dan Shearn (A)</b>          |
| • VEMSAAC/Meadville Ambulance         | <b>Katie Miller (AL)</b>       |
| • Venango County Government           | <b>Tom Sherman, (G)</b>        |
| • Warren County Government            | <b>Scott Rose (G)</b>          |
| • Warren General Hospital (A)         | <b>Vacant</b>                  |
| • Warren General Hospital             | <b>Jody Mashensic (P)</b>      |



# 2014 Awards

Bryan Jones of Superior Ambulance received the EMS Achievement Award. Bryan started his EMS Career in 1988, taking an EMT course in Erie. He then continued into the Paramedic program, completing that in 1992. Since that time, Bryan worked in New York until he and his family came back to Pennsylvania and he accepted a position at Superior Ambulance. Bryan is known for willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty without question. He is a strong mentor to his colleagues, both new and old. He is always seeking ways to make the EMS delivery system better.



2014 EMS Achievement Award- Bryan Jones

Sponsored by Charles P. Leach Agency—VFIS



2014 Volunteer of the Year Award- Helen Allen

Sponsored by Charles P. Leach Agency—VFIS



2014 EMS Mentor of the Year– Doug Johnson

Sponsored by Charles P. Leach Agency—VFIS

## Special Recognition Award

James Kifer and EmergyCare were given a special recognition award for the coordination of Camp EMS. The idea for Camp EMS came from Jim's experience working as a counselor at State Police Camp Cadet. Kudos to Jim and EmergyCare for making the camp a reality.

## Volunteer of The Year Award 2014

Helen Allen of the Springboro Volunteer Fire Department was selected as the 2014 Volunteer of the Year. Helen has been in the EMS field for over thirty years. She is known for being very professional and uses good judgment in patient care. In addition to being an EMT, she is also a CPR instructor. Helen has served many roles over the years for her agency but one thing always remains the same, she is there to serve her community and provide the excellent service they have been accustomed to.

## Mentor of The Year Award 2014

Doug Johnson of the Albion Volunteer Fire Department received the Mentor of the Year award. He has been with AVFD since 1999. Doug is always willing to help the newer people in his agency. He is described as the most patient person and answers all of their questions. Doug can be found doing anything that is needed around the station, all the time helping his fellow members feel confident in their skills.



**Special Recognition Award to James Kifer & EmergyCare for coordination of "Camp EMS"**

## Cardiac Arrest Recognition Awards

At Symposium 2014 and at the EMS Recognition Awards Dinner, EMS agencies and providers were recognized for their role in a prehospital cardiac arrest save. With the implementation of the High Performance CPR protocols, more and more cardiac arrest patients are walking out of the hospital and returning to productive lives. The following EMS agencies reported saves to EMMCO West since the protocol was implemented on July 1, 2013 -



- EmergyCare Erie, Warren
- Millcreek Paramedics
- Hayfield VFD QRS
- Meadville Area Ambulance Service
- Superior Ambulance



- Perry Hi Way Hose Co.
- Oil City FD
- Community Ambulance
- Fairfield Hose Co.
- Harborcreek VFD
- Conneaut Lake Amb.
- Erie City Fire Dept.
- Albion VFD
- Cranesville VFD
- Greenfield VFD
- Stancliff Hose Company



# Quality Improvement Awards

## Gold Silver Bronze Honorable Mention

The EMMCO West Quality Improvement Committee recognizes EMS agencies that meet regional performance response benchmarks and for calls made. Gold, Silver, Bronze, and honorable mention awards are presented to EMS agencies during the annual appreciation dinner.

Response award levels are -

Gold = 99—100%

Silver= 97—98%

Bronze= 95 –96%

Honorable Mention awards are for 90—94% responses. Throughout this report are photos of this year’s award recipients.

# Gold QI Awards

Community Ambulance      EmeryCare

Superior Ambulance      Millcreek Paramedics

McGonigle Ambulance      Conneaut Lake Area Ambulance Service

Sheffield VFD Ambulance Service      City of Warren Fire

Clarion Hospital EMS      Oil City Fire Dept.

Life Force of Western PA



# Quality Improvement Awards

## Silver Awards

Platea VFD Ambulance    Reno VFD Ambulance

Springboro VFD

West Co. Paramedic  
Association

Cranesville VFD



## Bronze Awards

Perry Hi-Way Hose Co.    McKean Hose Co.

Central Erie Paramedic  
Association



## Honorable Mention Awards

Knox Area Ambulance    Albion VFD Ambulance

Brookside VFD

Russell VFD



## EMS Scholarship & Exams

The EMMCO West Transportation Committee recommended the creation of an EMS Scholarship program as a regional EMS project. The Board of Directors approved the program. The scholarship program is a partnership between students, EMS agencies, and EMMCO West. EMS agencies were able to be reimbursed up to \$500.00 for each student's tuition costs for an EMR or EMT training program.

State certification written exam costs for the first two attempts were also reimbursed to EMS agencies.

## Regional Projects in FY 13-14

The following regional projects were approved by the EW Board of Directors -

Seat Belt Covers	Suction Gauges
How Low Can U Go Wellness Program	EMS Leaders of Tomorrow
IPAD Data Project	Recruitment & Retention Project
EMS Safety Conference	EMS Week Recognition
EMS Appreciation Awards	Symposium 2014
Camp EMS 2014	Transfer of Care Forms



## Financial Statement FY 13-14

EMMCO West, Inc. is a grant recipient of the PA Department of Health. The budget is divided into eight funding categories. The following is a working financial statement for fiscal year 2013—2014 -

	Budget	Actual	% Spent
Category I A Personnel	\$331,012.35	\$330,146.56	99.7%
Category I B Fringe	\$124,222.41	\$105,679.08	85.1%
Category II Consultant	\$ 750.00	\$ 595.15	79.4%
Category III EMS Scholarship	\$23,216.19	\$23,167.79	99.8%
Category III Provider Equipment	\$33,051.00	\$33,026.26	99.9%
Category III Regional Projects	\$26,050.00	\$23,963.92	92.0%
Category III Maintenance Agmt.	\$22,100.00	\$22,100.00	100%
Category III Preparedness	\$124,000.00	\$124,000.00	100%
Category VI Supplies	\$ 10,400.00	\$ 9,959.63	95.7%
Category VII Travel	\$ 12,892.00	\$ 9,517.19	73.8%
Category VIII Other	\$216,003.05	\$201,885.76	93.5%
Category VIII Preparedness	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,491.79	99.8%
Totals	\$931,197.00	\$891,533.13	96%



# Regional Activities

## Hands Only CPR Events

EMMCO West continued it's outreach activities, especially promoting Hands Only CPR. The Heart Rescue CPR Dog made appearances at the Erie Sea-Wolves games and participated in a special mascot night at the Erie Sea-Wolves.

Additional demonstrations and radio broadcasts were held at the KOOL101 booth at the Crawford County Fair to promote hands only CPR education.



**Hands Only CPR Demonstrations @ Erie SeaWolves Games**

## Camp EMS 2014

Bureau of EMS Director, Richard Gibbons, Jr. is with Camp EMS cadets. The week long program is held at the Allegheny College, Meadville. Camp EMS is coordinated by EmeryCare.

**Camp EMS**  
Your Future Begins Now





## Regional Activities

### Trailer Safety Training

EMMCO West , EMMCO East, EMSI, and regional EMS strike team members participated in a two day trailer safety training program. Personnel used towing vehicles and trailers that would be used in real deployment settings.



### Triage Education Courses

EMMCO West staff participated in various educational programming dealing with triage and also large scale incidents. Staff members assisted with initial, continuing education, and disaster drills.

Personnel assisted with SMAT-DMAT team drill, Titusville Airport, and the Erie International Airport drill.



### Preparedness—Response

Preparedness personnel and resources assisted at planned events and actual incidents in Northwestern Pennsylvania. Preparedness specialist Caleb Dixon and regional staff responded to incidents in both EMMCO West and EMMCO East regions. From HVAC assistance in winter to flooding in the spring, preparedness assets and personnel were used to fulfill unmet needs requests.



EMMCO West personnel and assets assisted at planned events, such as Autumn Leaf Festival, Clarion. Additional events included Crawford County Fair, Tall Ships Erie, and Groundhog Day, Punxsutawney.

# Regional Activities

## Preparedness Assets

EMMCO West, through assets acquired by the PA Department of Health, has the following preparedness assets to support emergency preparedness—responses:

MSEC Trailer— Medical Surge Equipment Cache for casualty collection points or medical disaster shelter

MMSS Trailers—Mobile tent and supply system for deployment during disaster operations or planned events

MCI Trailer—Mass Casualty Incident trailer to support on-scene emergency operations or support resources

NWPAERG/EMMCO West MCU— Mobile Communication Unit (COW) is available to enhance communication operations

Stat-PAK Communications Unit— Establishes communications by cellular or satellite . Additional 800 MHZ repeater system and portable radios on 400 MHZ and 800 MHZ.



### Groundhog Day 2014

Groundhog Day, February 2, 2014 was warmer and wetter than it was a year earlier when it was 1 degree below zero and ice conditions. Despite the warmer temperatures, the wet muddy conditions created their own challenges. EMMCO East staff and EMS Strike Team members assisted Jefferson County EMS manage the EMS system requests at the knob!



### SMAT-DMAT Team Drill





# Regional Activities

EMMCO West teamed up local health and wellness agencies to incorporate a wellness fair as part of Symposium 2014. Various health screenings, immunizations, massage therapy, back stress assessments, and physical therapy tips were offered to EMS providers during the two day health fair.

Another health fair is already being planned for Symposium 2015.

Immunizations were provided by nurses from the PA Department of Health during the Symposium 2014 Health Fair.



## Symposium 2014

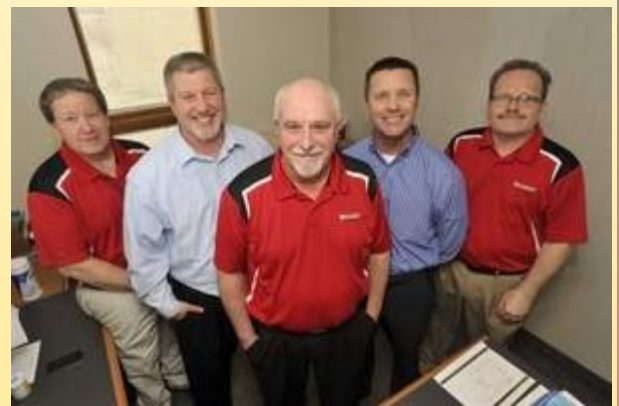
One of the featured presentations at Symposium 2014 was the Boston Marathon bombing of 2013. Ed Hasson from Boston EMS was on duty the day of the bombing and provided his account of the incident. The preplanning of healthcare treatment centers for the Marathon ultimately affected the survival rate of victims, due to the pre-deployment of EMS and medical personnel within these treatment centers.



Rebecca Levenberg's presentation was based on her experience as a trauma victim. She was involved in a bicycle and garbage truck crash. She recalled the challenges of being a trauma patient and her steps of recovery following the crash.

She is making her way on a 1000 mile journey, on step at a time.

Carl Johnson said thanks to his co-workers, 911 dispatcher, and EMS personnel from Millcreek Paramedics for saving his life a few weeks before Symposium 2014. He



suffered a sudden cardiac arrest. Co-workers provided CPR, with assistance from the 911 dispatcher until Millcreek Paramedics arrived and successfully resuscitated him. Mr. Johnson and his family wanted to publicly thank the people that saved his life.

# Regional Statistics

## Meetings Attended

- NWPAERG Meeting Plus Health-Medical Subcommittee Meetings & Communications committee
- VEMSACC
- Clarion Co. EMS Council
- Warren Co. EMS Council
- Erie Co. EMS Advisory
- Crawford Co. LEPC
- PEHSC Board of Directors
- PEHSC Data Committee
- Safe Kids Coalition
- Bureau of EMS Meetings & specialty projects
- Preparedness—Various Disaster Drill planning mtgs
- (10) EMS Agency Meetings to review EMS System Act
  - (1) PSAP Center EMS Act Mtg
  - (2) Medical Director Mtgs
- (4) Board of Director Mtgs
  - (4) Medical Advisory Mtgs
  - (2) Transportation Mtg
  - (4) Quality Improvement Mtg
  - (1) Communication Mtg.

## Certified Practitioners In The EMMCO West Region

County	EMR	EMT	Paramedic	PHRN
Clarion	25	130	59	9
Crawford	84	426	82	23
Erie	129	980	239	55
Forest	1	11	3	0
Mercer	26	290	128	19
Venango	36	240	50	10
Warren	16	194	30	7
Total	317	2,271	591	123

Data from PA Department of Health, 8/4/2014. Reflects new expiration dates for EMS practitioners.

## EMS Agencies (As of July 1, 2014)

ALS Agencies— 19	106 Ambulances	15 Squads
BLS Agencies — 25	36 Ambulances	
QRS Agencies — 57	72 Vehicles	
WCA Air - 1	2 Air Ambulances	
STATMedEVAC—4	4 Air Ambulances	

## Staff Mileage (4) Company Vehicles

Lease (2010 Honda—2014 Kia)	22,745
2004 & 2008 Chevy Trucks	24,088
2014 Ford Truck	2,238
(July 1, 2013—June 30, 2014) =	49,071

# EMS System Act

Most of the provisions of Pennsylvania's EMS System Act went into effect on April 10, 2014. Leading up to and following the implementation date, EMMCO West staff conducted meetings with EMS agencies to orient them to the significant changes to the EMS System Act. At Symposium 2014, several sessions with Bureau of EMS Director Richard Gibbons, Jr. addressed questions about the EMS System Act.

Special sessions were also held to orient Medical Command Physicians and EMS Agency Medical Directors regarding their expanded roles within the EMS System Act. Agency Medical Directors are required to conduct annual credentialing of ALS personnel, in lieu of the former medical command authorization process.

A special meeting was held with public safety answering points (PSAP) and EMS agencies with dispatching centers. The EMS System Act identifies communication components and education needed between PSAP centers and EMS agency dispatching centers.

## Timeline of Act 37

- August 2009 Act 37 signed into law
- October 2012 Final Draft Regs Published
- August 2013 Rules & Regulations approved
- April 10, 2014 Majority of provisions go into effect for the EMS System Act
- July 9, 2014 EMSVO requirements take effect





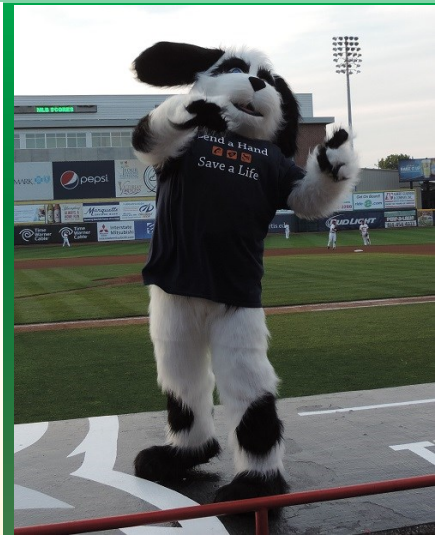
# Educational Programming & Outreach Services

A variety of educational programming was conducted by EMMCO West in FY 13-14. Programs conducted included an EMS Instructor Course, Evaluator training program, EMS Safety Conference, Symposium 2014, and a series of continuing education sessions called “Con-ed Wednesdays”. EMMCO West also renewed its BLS training institute accreditation with the PA Department of Health.

EMMCO West staff assisted with adding realism to Prom Promise, preparedness education programs, and disaster drills.

Hands only CPR efforts continued, with staff members demonstrating and educating the general public on how they can make a difference in helping to save cardiac arrest victims. Special sessions were held at the Lights and Siren Expo at the Erie Convention Center, Crawford County Fair, and at other educational venues.

Indiana University of PA (IUP) conducted the first online EMT course in western PA, using the EMMCO West educational center for the hands on training days. Regional EMS agencies were used for the clinical education experience. The class is scheduled to take their NREMT tests in August 2014.



IUP's Online EMT class visits STATMedEVAC's Meadville base as part of their educational programming. The online EMT class was the first online EMT class to be held in western PA.