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HUDSON VALLEY REGIONAL EMS COUNCIL

CORPORATE MEETING

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MINUTES OF MEETING, held at Hudson
Valley Regional EMS Council, 33 Airport Center
Drive, New Windsor, New York, on Wednesday,
November 28, 2018 p.m. at 7:00 p.m.

Debra Boggs,

Court Reporter

Rockland & Orange Reporting

Two Congers Road

New City, New York 10956

(845) 634-4200

1 A P P E A R A N C E S:

2
3 RICHARD PARRISH, NREMT-P
4 President

5 ROBERT CUOMO, EMT-P
6 Vice-President

7 NICHOLAS RUSIECKI, EMT
8 Treasurer

9 NICHOLAS TRIO, EMT
10 Secretary

11 WILLIAM HUGHES, EMT
12 Executive Director

13 OFFICE STAFF

14 JEFFREY CRUTCHER, QI Coordinator
15 KAREN DELAUNAY, Office Manager

16 DUTCHESS COUNTY

17 NICHOLAS TRIO
18 DAVE VIOLANTE
19 JOAN SIEBERT
20 DEE SAGENDORPH

21 ORANGE COUNTY

22 BEN CONQUES
23 ISRAEL KNOBLOCH
24 DAVID GRASS
25 FRANK CASSANITE
MICHAEL BIGG

PUTNAM COUNTY

ROBERT CUOMO

ROCKLAND COUNTY

NICK RUSIECKI
THERESA HAMILTON
NEIL DAHAN
BJ LEIDNER

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A P P E A R A N C E S: (Continued)

SULLIVAN COUNTY

ALBEE BOCKMAN
GREG TAVORMINA
NEAL MEDDAUGH

ULSTER COUNTY

RICHARD PARRISH
KELLY NELSON
LISA SERVINO

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MR. PARRISH: Okay. We're going to get started. I've got to call the meeting to order and start out with roll call.

MR. TRIO: Nicholas Trio? Here.
Dave Violante?
Joan Siebert?
Tim Murphy?
Dee Sagendorph?

MS. SAGENDORPH: Yes?

MR. TRIO: Pete Schinella?
Guy Carpico? No.
In Orange County.
Joann Cheney?
Ben Conques?

MR. CONQUES: Here.

MR. TRIO: David Grass?

MR. GRASS: Yes.

MR. TRIO: Israel Knobloch?

MR. KNOBLOCH: Here.

MR. TRIO: Teri Barbee?

Frank Cassanite?

Michael Bigg?

MR. BIGG: Here.

MR. TRIO: Putnam County.

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Robert Cuomo?
David Jacobson?
Matthew Bondi.
Rockland County.
Kim Lippes?
Nick Rusiecki?
MR. RUSIECKI: Here.
MR. TRIO: Tim Egan?
Desiree Leone?
Glen Albin?
Theresa Hamilton?
MS. HAMILTON: Here.
MR. TRIO: Neil Dahan?
MR. DAHAN: Here.
MR. TRIO: BJ Leidner?
MR. LEIDNER: Here.
MR. TRIO: Sullivan County.
Albee Bockman?
MR. BOCKMAN: Here.
MR. TRIO: Greg Tavormina?
MR. TAVORMINA: Here.
MR. TRIO: Neal Meddaugh?
MR. MEDDAUGH: Here.
MR. TRIO: Heidi Stack?

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Mike Bruce?

Marc Strauss?

Ulster County.

Richard Parrish?

MR. PARRISH: Here.

MR. TRIO: Kelly Nelson?

MS. NELSON: Here.

MR. TRIO: Dorothy Bailin?

Timothy Mitzel?

Lisa Servino?

MS. SERVINO: Here.

MR. TRIO: We have 17 present.

MR. PARRISH: That's a quorum?

MR. HUGHES: Quorum is 13, so we're
here.

MR. CASSANITE: Frank Cassanite Orange
County, I apologize.

MR. PARRISH: Then we have 18.

Minutes were distributed. Any additions
or corrections to the minutes as distributed?
If not I've got two.

One on page 24, line 24. And I'm going
to read this, because Bill and I can't
understand, we think, what it's saying. But,

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"tied to that they also said that the regional faculty program coordinators would no longer need approval from the local REMSCO because those personnel are going to be state physicians". No, we're not going to be state physicians. But is that a state position? Does anybody remember?

MS. SAGENDORPH: I thought what the discussion was a position as well.

MR. PARRISH: Position. And that's what we're talking about.

MS. SAGENDORPH: I think so.

MR. PARRISH: Regional faculty and program coordinators, employees of the state.

So, recommend changing that to position.

And then on page 43 line 19. It should be -- it currently states, let the agency pull it out. It should be let the agency fill it out. It's talking about filling out a form.

Any other additions, corrections?

Motion to accept the minutes as amended?

MR. RUSIECKI: Second.

MR. PARRISH: All in favor?

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(All ayes.)

MR. PARRISH: Opposed? Thank you.

President's report. Nothing right now.

Treasurer's report. Nick?

MR. RUSIECKI: Sure.

MR. PARRISH: I'm sorry. I do. I've got to get this read in.

Karen, please, read and state our current delegates. Albee Bockman, Neal Meddaugh, and alternate Heidi Stack. We need a motion to approve.

MR. TRIO: Moved.

MR. PARRISH: Second?

MS. SAGENDORPH: Second.

MR. PARRISH: Any discussion? If not all in favor?

(All ayes.)

MR. PARRISH: That way you're legal. Done.

All right. Now we can move on. I'm sorry, Nick.

MR. RUSIECKI: No problem.

We wrote 29 checks, \$14,786.00. Rent and health insurance there is still at the

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top. I don't see them moving any time soon from the top.

Some refunds for CON actions. Details are available if anyone is interested.

We transferred \$30,000.00 to payroll. Got our first quarter program agency voucher paid. It's billed and paid. And the second quarter counsel ending in 9/30/2018 was billed and paid. Total amount is \$217,781.75.

An audit is scheduled for December 12.

MR. PARRISH: Any questions of the treasurer? If not a motion is in order to accept his report.

MS. SAGENDORPH: So moved.

MR. PARRISH: Any discussion? If not all in favor.

(All ayes.)

MR. PARRISH: Staff?

MR. HUGHES: The two muni CONs that the counsel voted on at the last meeting were approved by the New York State Bureau of EMS. And the permanent CONs have been issued to the Town of Patterson and Arlington Fire

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Department, so they do have their permanent
CONs now.

MS. SAGENDORPH: Town of Patterson and?

MR. HUGHES: Arlington Fire. Yes. Both
have been approved and certificates have been
issued.

The New Windsor expansion that we voted
on a while back in to Cornwall was appealed,
and it's been submitted to New York State
ALJ's office -- well, no. It hasn't been
submitted yet. It will be submitted by the
end of the year. And -- this is the third
case submitted by them. So, they do them in
sequential order. So, the bureau of EMS is
saying that it might not hear any results
until the summer of 2019. So, we will have
to see.

I would like to thank the transportation
committee for all of the time and commitment
they had this year on CON actions. Because
it was a lot more than we ever had before.
We had five of them this year. And I think
we probably had five of them in the last ten
years. So, it was a lot of work for them.

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As Nick said, the first quarter program agency and second quarter counsel bills was submitted and the vouchers were paid.

The office is going to be increasing the payment deposit on CON applications from \$3,000, which is what they pay now, to \$5,000. Due when the application is filed. It's being done because the cost hasn't been raised in a long time. And we're finding that the cost of the CON process is more expensive at this point. Even a simple muni CON was almost \$3,000. So, when you start adding in with the judges and the stenographer and everybody else, the cost is getting to be much higher. So, were going to be asking for a five thousand --

MS. SAGENDORPH: That's what goes up in 2019?

MR. HUGHES: Yes. Anybody that applies after that.

One of the things I mentioned at the last meeting is I have a monthly conference call with Director Ryan Greenberg. And a couple of things that were covered on there,

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I just want to go over.

Tom Behanna, I'm not sure if any of you people deal with him from the agency. I deal with him a lot from the contract point. But his position has been filled. And Andy Johnson, the Deputy Director of Training and Education, his last day was November 9. And Jean Taylor will be acting as the deputy director of education until they fill that position. Diane, and I don't know her last name, she managed onsite testing. She was transferred to a different department. And now Liz Donnelly is going to be handling onsite testing. And Bernice Berenme, I think, has been added to the marrow office and will be working with Richard Robinson down there.

The other thing that we talked about a lot was the ATS, which is the ambulance transfusion services. At the last SEMAC, some people came away from the meeting thinking that those rules that were put in there by Wadsworth were in a moratorium, and they weren't going to enforce them. That's

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not true. What it was is the SEMAC voted to send the letter to the commissioner asking for the moratorium, but the commissioner has not acted on that. So, ATS, all of the rules are still in place as of right now.

The last call we had, mutual aid, which was a big issue. It's a statewide issue. And it took up a substantial part of the call talking about different problems with mutual aid and people having to go into different areas and stuff. So, that's going to become one of Ryan Greenberg's agenda items. So, we will see what happens with that.

Also, we had a survey that went out to help define EMS performance and improvement elements. And the Bureau of EMS is requesting at the next SEMAC meeting, which is in January, is going to be requesting them to be pick 15 or 20 of these elements to use as a baseline for EMS to start tracking improvements in EMS through out the region. So, I'm not exactly sure how it is going to work yet. We haven't seen the details. But they are going to start looking at how they

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can put improvement in see improvement in different EMS systems through out the state.

There was a policy, policy 1304, which is alternate medication formula that came out in 2013. And it was about drug shortages and what could be used. On page 6 there is an expiration date. They said the policy is still in effect that the expiration date is not to effect the policy. So, if there is a problem with a medication we can't can use the alternate formularies that are available to us.

The other thing that we have is the 2018 EMS annual awards due in the regional office by April first. I'm mentioning it now because it's going to be close to that at the next meeting. So, think about it. If you have people to nominate, it's a way of recognizing them. Fill out the state form and send it to us by April one. The state form says May first. And that's when it has to be up there. So, we have to get it. We have to evaluate it. And then we pick our people that are going to be winners at the

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regional level, and then we pass that on to the state. So, if you have any candidates let us know.

The other thing I wanted to mention is Director Greenberg will be visiting our area. And we will be having a part of his listening tour. And hopefully everybody has seen this or pick one up outside, one of these flyers. It tells you the information, where it is and when it's going to happen. And it's going to be December 13 at 5:00 in the afternoon up at the Lagrange Fire Station II. It's part of a listening tour. He's going in to every region, listening to EMS and seeing where the common problems are, or if a particular region has an individual problem that he can work on and could help solve.

That's all I have.

MR. PARRISH: Any questions of Bill? If not.

All right, Jeff.

MR. CRUTCHER: The migration to NEMSIS 3.4, New State Bridge is ongoing. At this point in time we have almost all of our image

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trained clients moved over. ESO is starting to pass 3.4 data. And when it's compared to the New York State Schematron it seems to be looking pretty good along with Zoll.

We anticipate that the end of the transition will be by the end of the first quarter of 2019. New York State is adding approximately 20 agencies per week to the bridge. And the biggest impediment that we have is making sure that the data is valid.

Towards that end we have 330 local rules. And occasionally not all of these rules get tripped on a call. So, when a rule does get tripped that doesn't work, we have to fix it. And this is a project that is going across the state. And there are a group of us that sit and work on these things.

One of the rules that is is giving us some grief right now is a stroke rule. That's a 50 point rule. If it doesn't pass. In order to have New York State accept 3.4 data that call has to validate at 97 percent or higher. So, if you can't satisfy the

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stroke rule, that call will get turfed back to the agency for correction. So, we're working hard to make sure that that rule gets fixed. So, if there is a deviation from protocol, as in, not two complete sets of vitals. It's one of the triggers on that rule. That we can see the exception and it will validate.

It's a fair amount of work that is being put into this to make sure that the data is good. And a lot of what we're doing, data wise, is going to be used by the state, as Bill talked about, with key performance indicators. And it will allow us to not only let an agency look to see how they're doing, but to compare with other like agencies within the region and across the state.

That's it.

MR. PARRISH: Any questions of Jeff? If not, all right.

Medical Director, did he leave a report?

MR. HUGHES: No. But I do have REMAC.

MR. PARRISH: Committees, training committees, was report from training

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committee?

MR. HUGHES: No. And Dave is not here. But the only thing I do want to mention is that we have a CIU that was scheduled November 15. And we had snow that day. So, it was changed to December 13 between seven and ten. And if you are interested in it you can still apply, or if you have somebody that knows, they could still apply and come to the class.

MS. SAGENDORPH: It was changed to what date?

MR. HUGHES: December 13, seven to ten in the evening. It's at Dutchess Community College, is the primary site. And it's being transmitted to Rockland Paramedic Services in Rockland County. It was going to go to Rockland Fire Training Center, but we have some technical issues there. So now it's going to Rockland Paramedic Services. If anybody wants to go there, they're more than welcome.

The second thing that we have is a CLI class that is starting Friday. So, if you

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want to get into that, that's tight.

Let me just correct myself on this one here. Because I said the CIU is at Dutchess Community College it's not. The CIU is here in this office. And it's going to be transmitted to RPS. It's not in Dutchess. The CLI will be held in Dutchess. And the first class is tomorrow. And then December first -- it's Friday. And then December first and December eighth are the second two classes. So, if you want to get into that class, you can still do that. We will take more people, but it has to be -- the paper work has to be here by 3:00 tomorrow so we can have everything ready for the class.

MR. PARRISH: Karen, you got something.

KAREN: The first class is Friday not tomorrow.

MR. HUGHES: Right. Friday.

MR. PARRISH: He corrected it under his breath.

MR. HUGHES: That's it.

MR. PARRISH: Okay. REMAC. You said you had that.

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MR. HUGHES: Yeah. We had two REMAC meetings since our last meeting here.

The first one was October 1, 2018, and there was no quorum, so we didn't do any business there. A lot of the doctors were at the a medical conference outside the state. So, we didn't conduct any business. There was one evaluation case that was discussed, and remediation was taken care of.

The other thing that we discussed there was the BLS and AEMT collaborative protocol implementation, which should be voted on in the January meeting. And we should have that in production or available for us to use after January.

Dave Violante gave a presentation on Arlington Fire Department and some of the other agencies that are using nitrous oxide in our area.

The November 18, 2018 meeting was -- we also there we created two tags, technical advisory groups, created to evaluate submitted to the MAC. The Village of New Square EMS in Rockland County and Alamo d/b/a

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Vassar EMS for use for the purpose of inter-facility transfer to and from Vassar Hospital has submitted for ALS upgrades.

So, we have a tag consisting of at least two physicians, and four ALS providers in the region that are going to be looking at those and making sure that they meet the criteria that we need for ALS upgrades.

There was no evaluation cases discussed.

And Ryan Greenberg attended the meeting. He stopped in to say hello and we discussed some of the policies and talked to a lot of the physicians after the meeting.

The REMAC will be establishing a helicopter committee to monitor and report helicopter activity in the region. We will start that -- a meeting with the helicopter guys next week just to start getting statistics from them to see what's happening. They kind of fell apart with Dr. Berkowitz leaving Westchester. So, we haven't had any activity there.

And Dr. Murphy discussed active shooter drill that was conducted in Orange County.

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There was a lot of discussion on different drills that happened. But Michael Benanotti [ph] out of Lagrange Fire recommended that all EMS agencies review a short FBI video called The Coming Storm. It shows active shooter situation, how an active shooter situation can occur in any community, and how the teams have to be integrated to work together to be able to handle the problem successfully.

I did review it. It was a very interesting video. They did a nice job in simulating what would happen in a active shooter situation. And it showed how everybody worked together and was successful, would be successful.

Go ahead.

MR. PARRISH: On the BLS protocols. It was a three-hour conference call last Wednesday addressing the comments. And we were asked to send it back out for comments for certain agency. And we got over 80 comments, and went through the BLS protocols. And they adopted some of them. And felt

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others didn't belong there. So, hopefully when we present it again in January at the State it will move forward.

Any questions of Bill on his report? The REMAC? If not -- transportation committee? Anything from Glen? Nothing. All right. Public information? Desiree? Nothing?

MR. HUGHES: No.

MR. PARRISH: We will get this done before Bobby gets over the bridge.

Policy and procedures? Greg?

MR. TAVORMINA: Nothing to report.

MR. PARRISH: Albee?

MR. BOCKMAN: Okay.

MR. PARRISH: Bylaws and legislation.

MR. BOCKMAN: At our last meeting we discussed having a legislative breakfast. At the last United New York Ambulance Network meeting the lobbyists discussed the change in our legislature in Albany. We had much support from many of the senators, republican senators, on many of the plights that we have in EMS on that level. Which is basically the

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same level here. But, as we all know, the democrats have taken over the assembly, and which they always had, and the democrats have taken over the senate right now. And we have never had really that much support from the legislator, EMS wise, on the left.

So, with that, I would propose that if we have a legislative breakfast, which I think is a very good idea, that we let the new chambers get settled, and propose having a legislative breakfast in the month of March.

I say March because UNYAN, United New York Ambulance Network, has their lobby day in May, late May. So, instead of having one on top of the other, we can get a jump on things. Introduce our counsel to the new legislature up there. And try to get a fresh start with the new chambers. So, if that's okay with you, I have a list of all of the new members of the assembly and the elected senate of our region. And I can start reaching out to them. We just have to set a date.

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What I will do is, I will reach out to my buddy Assemblywoman Gunther, who has the calendar, and gave us the dates last time. And have her advise us which date would be best, that we can get the most membership to attend. So, I would recommend that we think about having March. And I will try to get that date from Gunther and advise you, sir, of what we came up with. And if you think it will be okay, we will start reaching out.

MR. PARRISH: Thoughts? Comments?

MS. SAGENDORPH: I really think that's probably good timing, Albee, to get it done before the --

MR. BOCKMAN: Before the other one would be best.

MR. PARRISH: Do you have sufficient help on the committee? Do you need help?

MR. BOCKMAN: If I remember correctly, Israel said that he would assist. I think the two of us would be sufficient for what we have to do.

MR. PARRISH: If you need more let us know.

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MR. BOCKMAN: If I need more I will reach out.

MR. BIGG: If you need assistance, Senator Skoufis, who on the left, is awesome with EMS. He gave us lots of grants. I spoke to him last week and I did tell him about the issues with New York State and democrats really assisting us. And he said anything he could do to help. And he's given New Windsor lots of grants.

And I'm very close friends with Chuck Schumer -- don't hate me for that. I'm Republican, so -- but he would come, he said, to anything. Because I did tell him it's bad because of Medicare and everything else. So, we have some support connections through our area.

MR. BOCKMAN: Who is the assembly person?

MR. BIGG: Assemblyman --

MR. BOCKMAN: The one that you're close to.

MR. BIGG: Oh, Senator Skoufis. He was assemblyman. Now he's a Senator. The guy

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who took his job was chief of staff at New Windsor Republican assembly. He's also on board with anything we need. If we need them to come they will come.

MR. BOCKMAN: So, if you don't mind, I will include you. It will take a little work just to reach out.

MR. BIGG: Yeah.

MR. BOCKMAN: As far as Schumer is concerned --

MR. BIGG: He will help get the same democrat guys to come and state senators to come --

MR. BOCKMAN: My Court Reporter is going to scream because we're talking at the same time.

We have to confine it to our region. So, Schumer being senate and state doesn't help us at this time, that's federal level.

MR. BIGG: I understand. He can get some of the democratic state senators to show up to it he said.

MR. BOCKMAN: Okay.

MR. BIGG: If that's helpful let me

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know.

MR. BOCKMAN: We will discuss that between now and then, the three of us, to see what would be most helpful.

The demographics have changed with the democrats taking over, and the support has changed. So, if we can get them to listen to us and help us that would be wonderful.

MS. SAGENDORPH: A good Republican you can contact is Sue Serino, from the other side of the river. She's very good and I will let her know.

MR. BOCKMAN: We will be reaching out to all of the assembly and senators in our district. And I will reach out also to our new congressman. Period.

MR. PARRISH: Okay. Anything else? Zero?

MR. BOCKMAN: Not legislatively. On old business, yes.

MR. PARRISH: Okay.

E-PCR? No report.

Any paramedicine? Any updates on that? Nothing.

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You got here just in time to adjourn.

MR. CUOMO: I'm good with it.

MR. PARRISH: State EMS Council, there was no meeting. The next meeting is in January. So nothing to report on that.

Old business. Transfer of Internal Funds Policy. Nick?

MR. RUSIECKI: I got a question for Bill, but I will bring one up for January.

MR. PARRISH: All right.

Awards Committee, written policy and procedure. Karen, you're working on that?

KAREN: I'm trying to get Kim to help.

MR. PARRISH: Kim. Okay.

And we took care of the expiring delegates.

You got anything else, Albee, on old business?

MR. BOCKMAN: I do.

Take us back to the TAG committee on mutual aid. If you remember the last time I had spoken, I told you that I was not going to make a report until we get a legal opinion from counsel at EMS. His name is Mr. Tardy

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[ph]. I have been after him for that legal opinion now for over a year.

In the month of September at the United New York Ambulance Network meeting Mr. Greenberg attended. He and I spoke for about a half hour on the plight that we have on mutual aid. I gave him the history that we had a couple of meetings with all of the EMS coordinators. We reached out to the 9-1-1 coordinators as well, a few of them did attend, to discuss DOH policy 12-06.

He was well aware, as you mentioned in your opening remarks. He did tell me that he was going to be traveling around the state of New York, and that this will be coming up at the State level, also, as you mentioned. He said nothing will take place until after vital signs, and after the month of October. He wanted me to write, not only after our discussion, he wanted me to write to him, e-mail him everything we had spoken about. I did that in a three-page letter, which he has.

Mr. Greenberg called me three to four

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weeks ago, and we had a 20-minute discussion on the phone about all of this. He told me that it's going to be discussed at the state level very soon. And, as you mentioned, it's going to happen in the next few weeks. He e-mailed me today, so I wanted to get some report for us here.

If I could remember exactly what his words were, he -- I was glad that I refreshed his recollection. And that within a three-week period, it's going to be discussed at the State, there is a major discussion up there. And looking forward to resolve.

I told him I my disappointment in Mr. Tardy. He said he was going to reach out and talk to him, and see why an opinion wasn't rendered. But he said, leave it be for now. Because it will be a major discussion in the next few weeks.

Thank you.

MR. PARRISH: Okay. Any questions for Albee? Good.

Any other old business?

Any new business?

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MR. TRIO: Move to adjourn.

MR. RUSIECKI: No. That's Rob's job.

MR. TRIO: Sorry.

MR. CUOMO: Motion to adjourn.

MR. TRIO: Second.

MR. CUOMO: That was my big action for
this meeting.

MR. PARRISH: Glad you made it.

(Time noted 7:30 p.m.)

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THE FOREGOING IS CERTIFIED to be a true and correct transcription of the original stenographic minutes to the best of my ability.


Debra Boggs

