

SEMTAC Meeting Summary

July 8-9, 2026

SEMTAC Chair Richard Cornelius called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Meeting minutes from April were approved as presented.

Dr. Angie Wright presented four letters of correspondence. Dr. Wright read a letter from the collective RETAC Councils requesting the SEMTAC to recommend an audit of the EMS Account and all financial statements involving the EMTS Branch. Three letters in support of continuing the Path4EMS program as it is currently provided were also read. Those letters were each from clinical providers for the program.

Upcoming SEMTAC dates

<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>
Oct 7-8, Granby	Jan 13-14	Jan 12-13
	Apr 7-8	Apr 12-13
	Jul 7-8	Jul 12-13
	Oct 13-14	Oct 11-12

Peter Myers provided an update on the SEMTAC's recommendation to reduce Path4EMS services approved during the last SEMTAC meeting. The recommendation would reduce the total number of visits from 15 down to 10 which equates to reducing financial support from about \$1800 to \$1200. Peter explained that the Branch will accept the recommendation and reduce the benefit starting October 1st. The current system will remain in place through September 30th. SEMTAC Member Michael Hassel asked why concern continues to be raised about who is eligible to access the Path4EMS resources. Michelle Reese explained that the Branch has interpreted that the legislation does not clearly define whether an individual has access to an EAP or not. Therefore, they have opened the resource to all licensed/certified EMS providers.

Richard Cornelius opened the floor for nominations to elect a new Chair of SEMTAC for the FY27 fiscal year. G Wagner and Marci Dowis were both properly nominated. The SEMTAC then completed a vote by paper. Marci Dowis was elected to assume the role of Chair. Nominations for Vice Chair proceeded with G Wagner being selected for that role. Carter Smith was selected to continue in the role of Parliamentarian for the year. Marci and G thanked the SEMTAC for their confidence.

As the new chair, Marci appointed Richard Cornelius as the SEMTAC representative to the EMS Sustainability Task Force. Richard accepted the appointment.

Martin Duffy presented Denver Health to the SEMTAC for a recommendation as a Level I Trauma Center. This was after a re-review due to several concerns with the last review. Denver Health had no deficiencies with this review and received a positive recommendation from the SEMTAC.

Martin Duffy presented the Positively Collaborative Award to Anita Rudder from Pioneers Medical Center and a Recognition of Service Award to Robyn Wolverton.

Amber Viitanen had a very good data presentation on the past year from the EMTS system in Colorado. The report is available on the state website in the SEMTAC Google Drive. Amber then presented the Excellence in Quality Care & Data Reporting award to Grand County ES

Michelle Reese presented the updates to the Chapter 1 EMS Rules for SEMTAC to consider. These rules update the ability of EMT, AEMT, and EMT-I to obtain endorsements as Community Paramedics. After discussion, the SEMTAC made a recommendation to approve the rule change.

Will Dunn provided an update on the work of the EMPAC

- The final version of the Chapter Two revisions is headed to the Chief Medical Officer of CDPHE for review in August. After that review and approval, the new rules will go into effect in October 2026.
- The EMPAC had recommended Ketamine for Pain control in the rules. CDPHE removed that addition for likely political reasons.
- The next meeting of EMPAC is scheduled for August 10th

Peter Myers provided an update on the potential effects of Proposition 175 and HB 1430

- He indicated that there are a lot of unknowns yet but it is believed that if 175 passes, it could remove all funding for EMTS to include the Branch, RETACs, Grants, etc.
- If 175 passes, HB1430 is immediately in effect but will likely face a court challenge just as quickly.
- Commissioner Weaver stated that CCI believes that EMS is exempt from the 175 proposition. Their bigger concern is what happens when HB1430 is in place.
- Still many unknown issues and concerns.

Kent Collins provided an update on the work of the Designation Review Committee

- Several facilities were reviewed in the last quarter
- Pikes Peak Regional Hospital completed their Level IV triennial review with no deficiencies
- St Francis Interquest completed their initial Level IV review. The team was pleased and the facility will undergo another review in one year.

Carter Smith provided an update on the work of the Education Committee

- A quorum was present after a couple meetings without so several minutes were considered and approved.
- The EMS Education document which describes how to apply continuing education will be opened. The goal is to define how to apply continuing education courses for Mental Health and Resiliency.

Marci Dowis provided an update on the work of the Prevention Committee

- Several presentations were given which included state data, CARES data, Pulsepoint, and an OHV safety video from the Foothills RETAC

Dr. Feeney provided an update on the work of the Pediatric Care Committee

- I was not able to attend this meeting in person.
- COPPER continues to expand across hospitals in Colorado

Richard Cornelius provided an update on the work of the Public Policy and Finance Committee

- Caroline Furman updated the CREATE education grant program. Encouraged agencies to apply for the EMSAC conference early
- Mike Bateman provided an update on the EMS Account financial documents. There was no person from the fiscal office available so questions could not be answered. One of the questions was where the funding for the ambulance inspectors is coming from; no answer. The PPF committee was not pleased with the continued lack of answers. Mike suggested that the Branch is working on a new format so the information can be more understandable. The committee insisted on having input into what that format will look like. With the continued confusion, the PPF requested a special meeting to spend specifically on learning more about the financial information.
- In addition to the previous bullet point, the PPF committee requested SEMTAC to recommend a full audit of the EMS Account. The SEMTAC then approved the request and recommended that a financial and functional audit be completed on the EMS Account and all financial data/programs with the EMTS Branch.
- Tim Pietre reported that with the June 30th deadline for the FY26 EMTS Provider grants, there was still approximately \$3M outstanding which will be reimbursed.
- Tim noted that the timeline shift has benefited the FY27 process. There are 77% of PO and SOW out for signature as of July 9th. This is much better than previous years.
- Val Peaslee updated the work of the Grant Improvement Task Force. As noted, the timeline shift has helped. The TF has completed reworking the grant questions and scoring tool. They will be moving to support updates to the CREATE program so they align with the Provider Grants. The TF will also begin work on the Grant Guidance document hopefully in time for the FY28 cycle.
- Scott Fitzgerald indicated that the Path4EMS task force will be disbanding fairly soon but that work to find appropriate funding will continue.
- The 11 RETAC Biennial Plan updates were reviewed and approved by the PPF
- Tim Dienst updated the group on legislative issues.

G Wagner updated the group on the work of the Safety Committee

- Heard a report from Jessica Nelson with the Path4EMS program
- Good discussion about how to best promote the Interfacility Task Force work. After hearing the options, the group decided to request that the SEMTAC recommend a Department Committee for the IFT group. This will allow for more subject matter experts beyond simply the SEMTAC membership. SEMTAC approved the request.

Dr. Josh Poles provided an update on the work of the Statewide Trauma Advisory Committee

- I was unable to attend this meeting

- It appears that there may be a request to require a certain amount of staffing specific to the trauma program for facilities with trauma programs. I will attempt to learn more and update.

Peter Myers provided an update on the work of the EMS Systems Sustainability Task Force.

- Phase Four is complete and the document should be available.
- Phase Five begins right away with a final report scheduled to be presented to the Legislature by January

These are my summary notes and should not be considered as minutes. Please contact me with any questions. Kim Schallenberger