

Public Hearing Officer's Report  
March 2, 2026  
Application of Natural Bridge Vol Ambulance

I, Daniel Broedel, was the impartial adjudicator for the North Country Regional Emergency Medical Services Council (REMSCO). This Hearing was conducted at the Harrisville Central School March 2, 2026 at 7 PM. The purpose of the hearing was to listen to testimonies regarding the application for expansion of territory application of the Natural Bridge Ambulance service, as required by Public Health Law.

The Public Hearing was captured by stenographic minutes. Attendees signed in and speakers signed in separately. Two written statements from Watertown and Croton Fire Depts. both in favor of the application were read into the minutes.

- Brad Pinsky esq (spoke via zoom as agreed to by REMSCO Chairperson) he spoke in favor of the Application. Mr. Pinsky provided an overview of the process and provided Natural Bridge Ambulance 2025 data.
- Molly Manuel, from Natural Bridge Ambulance had no statement to make, she was questioned by REMSCO Chair in regards to "scratch rates" and provider responses.
- Herb Frost Lewis County legislator district 1 spoke in favor of the application.
- Josh Levesque, Lewis County Search and Rescue, questioned the sustainability and availability of the applicant. Suggesting a mutual aid situation in place of expansion.
- Bob Bellinger, Harrisville Fire spoke in favor of the application, discussed response times related to ambulance services and transport times.
- Bryant O'Mera, Town of Wilma spoke in favor of the application.
- Paul Jackson Councilman from Pickett spoke in favor of the application, he reports no complaints have been presented to or discussed by the town.
- Steve Shanan esq representing law firm, Shanan and Taddeo, spoke as attorney for Lewis County Search and Rescue. Mr. Shanan questioned several sections of the application including missing signatures, notarization, and absence of proof of need. Also discussed was Basic Life and Advanced Life care, dispatch issues and contracts.
- Matt Pierce spoke briefly questioning the group about general issues related to the current situation. No responses were made.
- Brad Pinsky clarified issues related to application submission.
- All in attendance were given opportunity to present additional testimony REMSCO members were offered questions or comments and had none.

After all speakers presented their testimony, the Hearing was closed at 7:27

It is the opinion of this hearing officer, based on the testimony presented, including officials elected to represent the area, to approve the expansion of territory of the Natural Bridge Ambulance application.