

RAPPAHANNOCK EMS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Board of Directors

April 19, 2017

Board Members Present:

Eddie Allen, City of Fredericksburg
Jack Atkins, Rappahannock County
John Brandrup, At-Large
Dr. Jordan Crovatin, At-Large
Scott Davis, City of Fredericksburg
Susan Dietrich, Caroline County
Kevin Dillard, At -Large
Pat Fitzgerald, Town of Colonial Beach
David Garvin, King George County
Donald Gore, Rappahannock County
Mary Hart, Fauquier County
William Harrington, Spotsylvania County
Phyllis Hurlock, Culpeper County
Warren Jenkins, Culpeper County
Lori Knowles, Stafford County
Gregory Leitz, Spotsylvania County
Jake Marshall, At-Large
Fred Messing, At-Large
David Moody, King George County
Bud Moody, Orange County

Staff Present:

Vivian Delts, Regional Field Coordinator
Margot Moser, Office Manager
Wayne Perry, Executive Director

Excused:

Mark Crnarich, King George County
John Harkness, Orange County
Emmett Price, Stafford County
Dr. Tania White, Regional Medical Director

Guests:

Patricia Copeland, REMS CISM Team Coordinator
Michael Throckmorton, Orange County Department of Fire and EMS

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Dillard in Classroom B in the Rappahannock EMS Council Regional Training Center at 7:00 PM.

Approval of minutes:

February 15, 2017 minutes approved as presented.

Public Comments/Presentations from Guests:

Michael Throckmorton from Orange County Department of Fire and EMS offered an equipment demonstration of the ultrasound newly acquired by their department prior to dinner being served. Please contact Chief Harkness for more information.

Vivian Delts, Regional Field Coordinator, made a presentation to the board regarding the Code Green Campaign, an effort to promote awareness and education about mental health, PTSD, and suicide in first responders. Informational materials were distributed to board members, and Vivian noted that this may be a topic leadership wants to broach with their agencies.

Vivian also mentioned that the Regional Awards are coming up in June. The awards are going to be held at the National Marine Corps Museum on June 14, from 5-7 PM. Nominations are being accepted through the first of May.

President's Report—Kevin Dillard

Joe Sposa has retired from Spotsylvania County and has resigned from the board. The new Division Chief, Greg Leitz, has been selected by Spotsylvania County to fill his unexpired term. The board will need to ratify their nomination. John Brandrup made a motion to accept Greg Leitz's nomination to the Board of Directors, which was seconded by Susan Dietrich. With no further discussion from the board, the motion carried.

Grant Committee:

The Grant Committee met on April 6 and reviewed eight grants, for a total of more than \$334,000. Grades are being sent to the state and awards will be announced July 1.

Kevin and Wayne also met with representatives from Mary Washington Healthcare regarding funding and revenue stream options for the system to support the Council. MWHC agreed to increase their sponsorship of the golf tournament from Gold to Platinum, which is an increase of \$1,500.00. Wayne and Kevin plan to reach out to the other hospitals to discuss the possibility of contributing to the Council.

Kevin, Eddie Allen, and Wayne also met with the City of Fredericksburg's budget officer, Deidre Jett, to invite her to sit on the Council's finance committee. She graciously accepted.

The National EMS Memorial Service is in its second year back in Virginia. It will be held in Crystal City on May 20, at 5 PM. Kevin asked that people try to attend in person if at all possible, but the ceremony will also be livestreaming. The REMS CISM Team will also be participating in this year's service and meeting with the family of those lost in the line of duty. There are twenty-eight line of duty deaths being honored this year.

Vice President's Report—Donald Gore

No report at this time.

By-Laws Committee:

The By-Laws need minor updates. The board was presented with the requested changes, including changing the name of the Disaster Committee to Incident and Threat Mitigation; Quality Improvement to Performance Improvement; Stroke and Cardiovascular Committee to Heart and Stroke; and the removal of the Public Information and Education Committee at the February meeting. The By-Laws committee recommends adopting these changes as presented. With no further discussion from the board, motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—By-Laws Update

APPROVED

Treasurer’s Report—John Brandrup

John thanked Wayne for his work on streamlining the bookkeeping process at REMS, which has simplified his work as Treasurer. John also stated that the Council’s financials for the quarter were sent out prior to the meeting. There were no questions from the board.

Finance Committee:

The Council has received some updates regarding locality funding. Orange County has awarded \$9,902 for FY 2018, which is close to 100% of the Council’s request.

Guidelines and Training Committee:

The Committee has been working on a Mass Gathering Protocol, and recommends approval by the board pending formal approval by the committee at their upcoming meeting. Dave Garvin commented that there are a number of unresolved comments and notes in the draft that was presented to the board, and suggested those should be resolved prior to formal approval of the document. Kevin referred the document back to committee, and it will come back before the board after the items in question are resolved.

ACTION ITEM—Mass Gathering Protocol

POSTPONED

Committee Reports

CISM Report: Patricia Copeland

Trisha has been in contact with Civil Air Patrol regarding a working relationship with their organization. She has also been invited to teach at StarPoints Conference in August, and will be attending the Advance Group Instructor Class later this month in Maryland.

The team had two callouts in March. Some team members will be participating in the National EMS Memorial Weekend in May.

Free K-Love classes are to be offered in June of 2017; check crisisresponse.org/ for details. Trisha noted that people can take the training even if they are not going to join the team.

Trisha also distributed cards with the CISM hotline information and other resources printed on them. There are more available if leadership would like to have some for their agencies.

Incident and Threat Mitigation Committee: Jake Marshall

The ITM Committee has been working on a plan to create a functional exercise program to address the lack of provider familiarity with triage tag utilization. The committee has created a one page proposal with a strap schedule and standing schedule every Tuesday and third Saturday, to start July 1 and to last indefinitely. Mary Washington Healthcare and Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center are both aware and willing to participate.

At this point, several members of the board brought up the high cost of the tags. It was suggested that the committee inquire whether the vendor who creates the tags for the state would be willing to manufacture tags on different quality paper for a lower price; Jake said they have researched several options for tags, but have not directly asked the vendor about this particular option. Jake then stated that the committee would like to postpone voting on the exercise program until the tag source has been determined.

ACTION ITEM—Triage Tag Exercise Program

POSTPONED

Medical Direction Committee: Wayne Perry for Dr. Tania White

The committee last met on March 15. The committee discussed the opioid and overdose epidemic. The Protocol Subcommittee want to increase the amount of Narcan in the formulary. The committee is waiting for the Pharmacy committee to ascertain whether or not the hospitals find it feasible before approving an increase to 10 mg. The committee also approved the addition of ibuprofen and Tylenol to the med table for the proposed Mass Gathering Protocol, as well as the addition of heads up CPR, sepsis pearls, and double-sequential defibrillation for v-fib to the regional patient care protocols.

An OMD workshop was held at REMS on April 4. It was well-attended, and REMS plans to host more going forward. Each OMD needs to take two classes in five years, and the state will not approve variances or waivers.

The new National Registry testing process is now in place, with the integrated Out of Hospital scenario. The Education Coordinator process has also changed.

Personnel Committee: Chief David Moody

The Personnel Committee met in December and again after the February board meeting and have made revisions to the Council job descriptions, including the elimination of some older items and the correction of a few typos. The committee recommends approving the job descriptions as presented. With no questions from the board, the motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—Council Job Descriptions

APPROVED

Pharmacy Committee: Joey King

The committee last met on March 2 and will meet again on June 1. CLIA waiver forms have been sent out to all agencies to complete and return.

The committee was also made aware of an epinephrine auto-injector available for approximately 2/\$100.00.

The committee has been discussing the feasibility of adding Ancef to the regional protocols and medication formulary as suggested by Dr. Johnson of the Medical Direction Committee. This is still under review. The committee is also evaluating an increase of the amount of Narcan in the formulary.

Strategic Planning: John Harkness

No report at this time.

Heart and Stroke: Kevin Dillard for Emmett Price

The committee last met on March 1, and will meet again on June 7. The committee discussed the upcoming update of the Regional Stroke Triage Plan and will be updating the plan concurrently with any Virginia State Stroke Task Force. A detailed outline of recent committee discussions is available in the committee minutes on the REMS website.

The committee has also reviewed an application from the City of Fredericksburg to be considered a HeartSafe Community. The committee recommends that the board approve the application as presented. With no further discussion from the board, the motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—City of Fredericksburg HeartSafe Application

APPROVED

Trauma Committee: Susan Dietrich

No report at this time. The committee will meet again on June 13.

EMS Governor's Advisory Board: Lori Knowles

No new report since the last board meeting. Lori mentioned that there is a town hall being held in Manassas on Tuesday, April 25, regarding the future of Intermediate in Virginia.

Staff Report—Wayne Perry

Training Updates

- REMS has provided 23 National Registry test sites so far including five during FY2017. We have another one scheduled for May 20 and it is a paramedic ONLY test site. Based on the new integrated out of hospital scenario we held several training sessions for the new NREMT testing process. It was well attended and the first site ran without any issues. We plan to have at least five NREMT sites per year moving forward. It will depend on how many intermediate candidates we have as to whether this testing level continues.
- There have been changes to NCCR and LCCR requirements; depending on an individual's expiration date, he or she may have different recertification requirements for National Registry. Please see the e-mail that was distributed with the meeting materials for details, and encourage providers to double check their requirements for recertification.

Events and Funding

- Margot worked very diligently to make the 2016 REMS Council Golf Tournament a success. We are in the final planning for this year's tournament and it will be held on Saturday April 29, 2017. Included in the dropbox are the registration forms. If you have thoughts or ideas please let Margot know.
- We have joined Amazon Smile. It allows for 0.5% of eligible purchases to result in a donation to the REMS Council. The staff has added this information to their signature lines.
- The regional awards program will be held on June 14 at the US National Marine Corps Museum. We are excited to try out this new venue, and we are seeking table sponsors to help defray the costs. We are actively seeking nominations throughout the year and currently accepting applications for 2017. GMAC is having an event on base that day, so it is possible that people could come out for a tour of the base then to see the museum at the awards ceremony. If you have someone who would be a worthy candidate, please e-mail Vivian at vdelts@vaems.org.
- Virginia Department of Health Office of Minority Health and Health Equity grant is going well and we are looking at continuing it for an additional year. We have invoiced for the balance of the grant, and may expand the program beyond Caroline County.

Regional Systems and Programs

- We have received approval from UVA, who is conducting the research project on stress in EMS, to move forward with a digital version of the survey. Once the survey has been completed we can provide the training, as of this writing 46 EMS providers have completed the survey. Please help us to get the word out about this! I would like to offer a leadership briefing to any agency that is interested in incorporating the Stress First Aid model. So far, Orange County is the only jurisdiction that has implemented the training in the REMS Region. Please contact Wayne to begin the process of scheduling this opportunity.
- The American Heart Association and International Stroke Committee has released new EMS Severity-Based Stroke Triage Algorithms. These will be incorporated into the regional plans and protocols as necessary, and we are asking for the state to take a position on a single preferred assessment tool rather than having several different options.
- The council is working on some table-top disaster and interagency drills that will eventually culminate in a large-scale multi-agency event. If you have an interest in guiding this process or participating, please let Vivian know as she is the POC for the project.

Website/Technology

- The new website re-design seems to be cost prohibitive. We are considering moving to a less-expensive host in order to make updates or perhaps even have the staff receive additional training in WordPress to make the updates. We have many more things that we would like to get added to the site, but staffing and time is an issue. If you see anything that needs to be updated, or if you have any suggestions or comments please let us know.
- There are other things that we are also participating in so we have a presence in social media, on YouTube, Twitter, FaceBook, GuideStar, LinkedIn, etc.

Executive Director Update

- We have received a contract modification for the remainder of the current FY17 and it has been executed. There are changes which will be pushed out through the committee structure.
- We received our annual insurance renewal and had a meeting with the insurance representative to review the documentation. We met with the finance committee chair to review the adequacy and completeness of our insurance coverage. Hopefully additional information can be obtained at the upcoming meeting with the regional director's group to make a decision about including VA Risk 2 coverage.
- Central Shenandoah's Director of EMS Programs, Matt Lawler, has left the council and they are currently working to fill his position.
- The Northern Virginia EMS Council has hired a new Executive Director, Craig Evans, to begin on April 24.

- The Pre-hospital trauma task force met and completed the HRSA document. There is now a discussion about continuing this as a standing workgroup.
- Wayne will be attending the EMS 3.0 event during the annual EMS on the Hill Day at the end of April.
- The latest meeting for the EMS Fatigue project was February 28-March 2 at the NASEMSO Headquarters. This was to be the final gathering of the full expert panel to review the findings of the literature review, and there will be recommendations coming from this group in the coming months.
- Wayne also attended a Health and Human Resources subpanel meeting regarding emerging pathogens and other public health issues on April 7.
- There will be a training event through VHHA at the Fredericksburg Expo Center on May 31 and June 1, details should be coming soon on www.vhha.mci.org
- The training session at the next RDG meeting in May will be on insurance products and the VA Risk 2 plan. The Board Members are encouraged to attend for the training and/or the meeting.

Office of EMS Updates

- *Mike Berg, Regulatory:*
 - OEMS has been tasked with participating in 15 vaccination programs across the Commonwealth. Anyone who is involved in the VDH-sponsored program must complete a 4-hour online training program. Any EMS provider who receives the training needs to be tracked and OEMS is working on determining how and who will be doing this. OEMS is asking for support for building and strengthening relationships between the health districts. The councils have asked to assist with information sharing with EMS agencies about vaccination clinics, training, and other news related to vaccinations and the contract modification includes a greater involvement with public health/health departments.
- *Adam Harrell, Finance:*
 - The EMSTF contracts are coming next now that the regional council contracts are completed. This process has changed slightly, and the piece that is missing from this is funding for initial education. All of the initial education funding is going to be provided through a scholarship program. There will be an option for everything up-to a full-ride for all levels of EMR through Paramedic. The funds are provided to the students on a semester basis, and the money will be sent directly to the students. There are ties to the funding related to successful course completion, but it is a proactive payment, not a reimbursement.

- This leaves the councils with the responsibility for auxiliary and CEU programs. This does diminish some of the harsher requirements of bidding that were expecting to be included in the contract. There is still a desire to have councils determine funding based on needs. The auxiliary funding will be based on the last year's funding that was requested for the council's service area. The Office will provide funding for a full CE (NCCR NREMT Paramedic) class for every city or county within the Commonwealth. The hope is to have contracts available for regional councils that take effect January 1, 2017. There is also going to be another special initiative grant cycle that will begin December 15 which will cover initial training expenses for the last two quarters of FY17.
- *Tim Perkins – RDG*
 - Some of the anticipated contract changes include
 - The addition of a social media reference in addition to the website.
 - Trauma and medical QI which have been combined into a single entity. (included in the contract mod)
 - There will now be a set amount of funding that will be the baseline, and there will be an opportunity for pay-for-performance incentives.
 - An emphasis on being more collaborative within public health. While they aren't looking for the council to do 100% of the work, there should be an invitation to the public health side of the equation (included in the contract mod).
 - A recommendation to get involved with hospital preparedness and medical reserve corps.

New Business:

Dave Garvin mentioned that the process for revision of documents by the Council needs to be reviewed, as was evident in the draft of the Mass Gathering Protocol that was postponed until the next meeting. Kevin noted that committees need to make sure that documents are as complete as possible before coming to the board. Wayne said that the challenge lies in the cycle of meetings that documents must pass through, and that the staff was willing to take a look at the process.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on June 21, 2017, in the dining room of the UVA Culpeper Medical Center.