

RAPPAHANNOCK EMS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Board of Directors

June 15, 2016

Board Members Present:

Jack Atkins, Rappahannock County
Mark Crnarich, At-Large
Dr. Jordan Crovatin, At-Large
Scott Davis, City of Fredericksburg
Susan Dietrich, Caroline County
Kevin Dillard, At-Large
Pat Fitzgerald, Westmoreland County
David Garvin, King George County
Donald Gore, Rappahannock County
Mary Hart, Fauquier County
William Harrington, Spotsylvania County
Warren Jenkins, Culpeper County
Fred Messing, At-Large
David Moody, King George County
Maurice Moody, Orange County
Joseph Sposa, Spotsylvania County
Joseph Williams, Fauquier County

Staff Present:

Margot Moser, Office Manager
Wayne Perry, Executive Director

Board Members Excused:

Marianna Bedway, At-Large
John Brandup, At-Large
John Harkness, Orange County
Emmett Price, Stafford County
Dr. Tania White, Regional Medical Director

Guests:

Joey King, Pharmacy Committee Chair

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Dillard in the UVA Culpeper Hospital Board Room at 7:00 PM.

Approval of minutes:

April 20, 2016 minutes approved as submitted.

Public Comments/Presentations from Guests:

There were no public comments.

President's Report—Kevin Dillard

Kevin announced that Mary Hart, Emmett Price, Mark Garnett, William Harrington, David Garvin, and Eddie Allen have all been reappointed by their respective districts. He also welcomed Joe Williams, a new board member from Fauquier County.

Kevin also announced that there were two At-Large seats to be voted on, his own and Fred Messing's. Ballots were distributed, to be tallied by Donald Gore. No write-ins were made, and both candidates were unanimously reelected.

Kevin also thanked the Culpeper Office of Emergency Services for hosting the 2016 Regional Awards at their communications center. Turnout was excellent, with about seventy people in attendance. Kevin then announced the winners:

- Outstanding Contribution to EMS by a High School Senior: McKenna Reiter, Chancellor Volunteer Fire and Rescue
- Outstanding Contribution to EMS by a High School Senior (Runner-up): Alexa Tarallo, Mountain View Rescue Squad
- Outstanding Telecommunications/Dispatcher: Brandon Murray, LifeCare Medical Transports
- Outstanding EMS Agency: County Of Orange Fire & EMS
- Outstanding Contribution to EMS for Children: VAVRS District 10 Kid's Rescue Camp
- Outstanding Contribution to EMS Health and Safety: King George Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services
- Outstanding Contribution to EMS Emergency Preparedness & Response: LifeCare Medical Transports
- Outstanding Pre-Hospital Provider: Julie Belcher, Spotsylvania County Fire and Rescue
- Outstanding Pre-Hospital Educator: Rebecca Raines, Stafford County Public Schools
- Nurse with Outstanding Contribution to EMS: Eleanor Redmond, Mary Washington Healthcare
- Outstanding EMS Physician: Dr. Don Kauder, Mary Washington Healthcare
- Outstanding EMS Administrator: Phyllis Hurlock, Richardsville Volunteer Fire Department/Rescue Squad
- Excellence in EMS: Wesley Melson, LifeCare Medical Transports

Grant Committee:

The committee last met on April 7 and reviewed fifteen grants from the REMS service area. These recommendations were sent to the state for additional review. The Financial Assistance Review Committee met on May 3 and made preliminary announcements regarding grant awards. These are not official until letters are sent to agencies, and are effective July 1. OEMS received 158 grant requests, for a total of \$10,839,908.09. Available funds totaled \$4,180,869.00.

Agencies in the Rappahannock EMS Council service area will be receiving \$537,116.87, this includes \$171,190.40 to be awarded to Chester Gap Fire Department for the purchase of a new ambulance and \$53,225.60 to be awarded to both Amissville Volunteer Fire and Rescue and Richardsville Fire and Rescue for the purchase of LifePak 15s. Kevin commented that the quality of grants the Council is receiving has been superb, and to keep up the good work.

EMS Governor's Advisory Board:

A letter and three resumes were submitted to the GAB for the vacant regional council position. Lori Knowles has been chosen for the position; please be sure to congratulate her on her appointment. She will be attending the next meeting as the Council representative.

Kevin gave a brief update:

- The state is working on revisions to their EMS plan; public hearings will be held in September.
- REPLICA was signed this past Thursday, and will be law on July 1.
- There have been some staff changes at OEMS, including an opening in compliance and five more throughout the department. Dennis Molnar will be leaving in June.
- New ambulance standards will be out in January of 2017. State-specific information is still needed and the Transportation committee will be meeting.
- Dr. Linbeck discussed an EMS fatigue study. Kevin encouraged the board members to go to emsfatigue.org to find more information about it. They are currently looking at whether or not it still makes sense for providers to serve 24 hour shifts, as call volumes have increased and opportunities for rest come less often.
- There was some discussion regarding the need to look at drug boxes and programs based on DEA legislation.
- FARC is updating their website to include radios in future cycles.

Kevin also mentioned that 2016 is the Council's 40th anniversary. Council staff is working on planning an event with a budget of approximately \$1,300 - \$1,500. This event is to be held in the fall, and board members will be invited to attend.

Secretary's Report—Mark Crnarich

Performance Improvement Committee:

The committee last met on May 12. The committee is one step closer to full access to state VPHIB data to help support the Performance Improvement Committee data assessments which may minimize the necessity of reporting from the actual agencies.

Treasurer's Report—Wayne Perry for John Brandrup

Finance Committee:

The Council is currently working on the FY 2017 budget, but it is not ready for approval at tonight's meeting. Wayne asked for a motion from the board to grant the Executive committee permission to establish the FY17 operating budget. Motion from Pat Fitzgerald to allow the Executive Committee to establish the operating budget for FY 17. Second from Fred Messing. No further discussion from the board. Motion carried.

Kevin mentioned that the Council would like to move away from applying for funding from county Board of Supervisors as an outside agency and toward becoming a line item in fire/rescue department budgets. He asked that board members please let either him or Wayne know if they need assistance approaching county staff about adding REMS as a line item.

Guidelines and Training Committee:

No action items or report at this time; the committee meets again on June 27.

Committee Reports

Kevin commented before committee reports began that if any board members are not currently on a committee, please let Kevin know in the next few weeks as this is a membership reevaluation year. All board members are encouraged to serve on at least one committee, more if possible. Most of the work for the board is accomplished at committee level, which allows such efficient board meetings.

By-Laws Committee: Donald Gore

No report at this time. Please bring any concerns regarding the Council bylaws to Don.

CISM Report: Kevin Dillard for Patricia Copeland

The team last met on May 9, and will meet again on July 11.

Cornerstone Baptist Church will be sponsoring a CISM seminar on June 21-24 and will offer free courses during that time, including Spiritual and Psychological First Aid and Understanding Suicide.

The team performed Outreach with Stafford County Parks and Recreation on May 26. There have been six callouts since the last board meeting; one for the National Park Service in Luray, two in Orange County, and three in Stafford County.

Disaster Committee: Kevin Dillard for Mark Garnett

Kevin stated that there was no report from the committee at this time. He also mentioned that this particular committee needs additional active participants. If anyone on the board would like to be involved or knows of someone who may be interested, please let Kevin know. This is one of the board's core committees and active membership really makes a difference.

Medical Direction Committee: Wayne Perry for Dr. Tania White

The committee last met on May 26. The committee is trying to ensure that they are receiving reports from other committees in order to keep the OMDs informed.

There have been some issues with medication errors; OMDs are encouraging providers to do their med math and be careful. No new HeartSafe applications at this time.

Nominating Committee: Don Gore

Don stated that it is time for officer elections, and distributed ballots. The nominees presented by the committee were Kevin Dillard for President, Don Gore for Vice President, John Brandrup for Treasurer, and Mark Crnarich for Secretary. Votes were tallied by Don Gore and Jack Atkins. There were no write-in nominations and each officer was unanimously re-elected.

Personnel Committee: David Moody

The committee last met in May of last year. There was a minor increase in the cost of employee health insurance, but no large changes were made or are expected.

Pharmacy Committee: Joey King

The committee last met on June 2 and will meet again on August 4. There is one action item from the committee before the board: the Ambulance Restocking Agreement. The committee recommends approving it as presented. Items changed include: the addition of "federally based agencies" to the document in order to enable those agencies to participate in the program; and changes to the medication descriptions—instead of listing specific dosages et cetera, the medications are now described as "neb," "tablet," "bag," and so on. This revision was made because not all of the hospitals carry the same medication in the same packaging.

Motion by Susan Dietrich to approve as presented; seconded by Bud Moody. No further discussion from the board. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—Medication Exchange and Restocking Agreement APPROVED

Joey stated that each year there is some discussion about combining the narc pack with the medication box. There are some logistical difficulties involved and this probably will not occur in the near future. The committee hopes to have more examples at the August meeting from their partners in Spotsylvania County of what to do regarding security measures and what their agency is currently doing. Board members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Strategic Planning: Fred Messing for John Harkness

The committee last met on April 22 and should be meeting again soon to finish up the Strategic Plan. The current plan meets the Office of EMS's requirements, but it not a truly functional document as far as guiding the course of the Council. The updated version should be more user friendly and meaningful.

Heart and Stroke: No report

Trauma Committee: Susan Dietrich

The committee last met on April 19 and will meet again on July 19. Dr. Crovatin mentioned that committee membership is currently being evaluated and the committee is looking to build a more active membership.

Staff Report—Wayne Perry

HR/Personnel Updates

- The council continues to use the electronic timesheet program. Details are also included in the Council's OEMS quarterly report to identify areas of work and quantities of manpower devoted to specific projects. If you have questions about a specific project or work that we do for your jurisdiction please talk with Wayne.
- The Council has advertised three times for the Regional Field Coordinator vacancy. Council staff received between thirty and forty applications, but did not find a good fit. We are currently using a temp agency and have Vivian Delts in the position. She is doing a great job thus far and this may turn into a temp-to-hire position.

Training Center Updates

- There will be a rail car incident response training course in July 2016 in Orange County—information is available on the REMS website.
- REMS has provided eighteen National Registry test sites so far including six during FY2016. Many have been full some with a waiting list. We have another one scheduled for July 16. We are planning to have at least five per year moving forward.
- The basic DICO class was held at the REMS Council as part of our RSAF grant. It was well attended and some interest in an advanced DICO class was expressed.

- Training announcements are listed on the REMS website and FaceBook page, as well as provided in updates via social media. Please encourage providers to follow us on Twitter, like us on FB, and check the website periodically.

Events and Funding

- Margot worked very diligently to make the 2016 REMS Council Golf Tournament a success. We will be starting the planning for next year soon. If you have thoughts or ideas please let Margot know.
- The regional awards program was held on June 9 in Culpeper County. We are actively seeking nomination throughout the year and accepting applications for 2017.
- RUW has continued to refer volunteers to the council. We are working with everyone that contacts us to identify projects that they are able to accommodate.
- The Council has received a grant from the Virginia Department of Health Office of Minority Health and Health Equity. This is for a rural healthcare program in Caroline County. Wayne has been meeting with stakeholders including the health department, social services, Moss Free Clinic, and hospital representatives. A business plan should be finalized soon and will be for one year.

Regional Systems and Programs

- The NREMT re-certification process is changing! The new process of NCCR 50%, LCCR 25%, and ICCR 25% starts in 2016. The Virginia OEMS CEU categories have been changed to match up with the national changes, as previously reported.
- [2015 AHA Guidelines](#)
- The last train-the-trainer class was held in April. Agencies should be receiving training and information from their representatives in preparation for the 2016 protocol updates.

Website/Technology

- The new website is up and running, but it is certainly not complete. 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, please let us know.

Executive Director Update

- Quarterly report from 3Q FY16 was submitted and a copy is attached to the e-mail. Currently working on the quarterly report for 4Q FY16 which will be due next month.
 - PLEASE don't forget the quarterly meeting requirements so that we don't have to pay a penalty. We are potentially going to have to pay a penalty AGAIN for this quarter since all of the committees did not meet as required in the contract.

- PLEASE submit meeting meetings and related documents in a timely manner. We are not able to submit them and have them posted unless we receive them.
- Wayne attended EMS on the Hill and it went fairly well. Pending legislature includes the Veteran EMT Support Act and the Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act. Because it is an election year, it's unlikely the latter will move forward during the current session.
- The first stake-holder meeting of the EMS Fatigue study was held earlier this year with a follow up in April. If you have any comments or suggestions that you would like to provide in this process please let me know.
- Wayne has been appointed to and attended the most recent Trauma Systems and Oversight Committee Pre-Hospital Trauma Care Task Force meeting in Richmond. They are one of several groups working on the recommendations from the ACS trauma survey and they will be meeting on a regular basis until the feedback is provided back to the TSOM committee.
 - The group has identified which protocols they wish to include in a statewide version of trauma care protocol minimums, and will issue recommendations. These will be minimum requirements which may be built upon regionally.
 - There was much debate regarding the Trauma Triage Decision Scheme; the committee wants to add pediatric and geriatric criteria, and change the decision scheme from saying level 1, 2, 3, etc. to saying "the closest appropriate hospital". There is concern among the Level 2 and 3 facilities about patients always being directed to the highest level of care and unnecessary transport to Level 1 centers.
 - There was also some discussion regarding hospitals in southwestern Virginia wanting EMS agencies to perform critical care transport. There are no commercial agencies to do this in the area. This led to a discussion of defining "critical care," etc. That debate is to be continued.
- If you have any feedback or updates on the customer service initiative please let me know. I have not heard of any problems, so I feel confident that the changes that we made are making a positive impact. This continues to be a priority and a standing agenda item for our staff meetings.
- I previously reported that I am attending accountable care community regional meetings through the Virginia Center for Health Innovation. They are still working to establish programs and funding for improving the health of the community under triple aim and other state/local imitative and programs. This is a grassroots program to improve the quality and health of Virginia. If you have any suggestions or questions please let me know. We have also applied for and received a grant for addressing the needs of rural healthcare. I have met with hospital representatives and we continue to collaborate on the best way to identify and tackle regional and local healthcare challenges.
- The REMS Council will be attending the Virginia Public Health and Healthcare Preparedness Academy next month.
- The previously reported change regarding building access at the REMS Council has been implemented. The building is now locked and access is provided by the

staff remotely unlocking the door after first making verbal contact through the phone system.

Legislative Updates

- Several bills that are being introduced or are pending include:
- Lots of changes to the LODD Act, including the requirement for initial training as well as biennial training and triennial benefit reviews
- EMS compact bill is being sent to the Governor's office, and should have been received on February 17. The act will expire on July 1, 2021 if it hasn't been adopted by 10 member states; there is also a stipulation that the EMS GAB shall review decisions of the interstate commission for emergency services personnel practice and if there are any increases in the cost of the burden for Virginia allows for withdrawal from the compact
- A bill related to the ACS trauma survey is being introduction in order to put into regulations information about trauma center designation, need to have authorization in code to establish regulations related to trauma center designation
 - The RDG originally approved a taking a position to support the submission of this legislation. Upon further discussion, and having seen the actual language for the change, it appears to be more extensive that originally described. This is a topic for the upcoming meeting in May.

Office of EMS Updates

- OEMS has issued a reminder that any person affiliated with an EMS agency has to have a background check, regardless of whether or not they have had one for their place of employment or other reason.
- The state is moving away from using a written exam for Education Coordinator toward using the National Registry EMT exam.
- The state is also attempting to improve EMT completion rates by making students complete their written exams first, then the practical.
- Dennis Molnar is leaving the Office of EMS; Adam Harrell will be the new Business Manager.
- Designation site visits have been postponed as OEMS is having trouble with the new eVa system. A 90-day extension to the current contract has been issued with the date of our site visit to be July 6. That means no change in funding, AND we still don't know what the funding will be for the new 3-year contract.
- Don't forget that the deadline for transition to Version 3 data in VPHIB is December 31, 2016. There is no longer a Virginia (read flexible) staircase deadline as everyone is now on the same deadline for national compliance.

New Business:

No new business.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on August 17, 2016, at the Rappahannock EMS Council. Dinner will be served at 6:30.