

**MINUTES**  
**Rappahannock EMS Council**  
**Disaster Committee Meeting**  
**July 11, 2006**

**Members Present:** Tom McCoy, Dr. Joe Saitta, Paula Shaver, Wendy Shepherd, Bruce Sterling

**Others Present:** Tina Skinner (REMS), Glenda Gotshall (MWH), Ray Harvey (Quantico), Lori Knowles (Stafford), Elizabeth Lowrey (RAHD), Arva Priola (Disability Resource Center), Natalie Root (MWH), Lorie Ros (Rappahannock MRC), Jennifer Valentine (MWH)

**Excused:** Eddie Allen, Doug Boggs, Ed Fuzy, Kathy Hatter, Eric Lasky, Gene Monago, Glen Rudner, Billy Shelton

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. at Mary Washington Hospital 1<sup>st</sup> Floor West Conference Room. Tina Skinner presided over the meeting in the excused absence of the Chairman and other REMS Board members.

**Approval of minutes:** Motion made by Tom McCoy, seconded by Wendy Shepherd to approve the June 13, 2006 minutes as presented.

**REMS Report:** No Report.

**Jurisdiction/ Agency Reports:**

**a. Counties:**

- King George County has an upcoming Table Top Exercise on July 20, 2006.
- Stafford County – Lori discussed protocols recently with the Guidelines & Training Committee for supportive treatment with pandemic flu or other disasters where field providers will be operating in fixed facilities in the field. Will also discuss at upcoming Protocol Committee meeting scheduled for July 17<sup>th</sup>. Ultimately the Disaster Committee felt procedures should be outlined for coordinating “leave in place” situations like with Pandemic Flu.

Lori also announced that she discussed HazMat Awareness at the recent Guidelines & Training Committee meeting. That committee felt the Council should focus on educating our localities on the Federal OSHA requirements of having this training, as well as sponsor several classes a year.

Following discussion, motion was made by Dr. Saitta, seconded by Tom McCoy and carried to request the Council to send a letter to the Virginia Office of EMS expressing our concern on the issue of lack of HazMat training. Need more qualified instructors and should consider making part of the State’s EMT-B curriculum. (Action Item – REMS)

**b. Virginia Department of Health:**

- Elizabeth Lowery of the Rappahannock Area Health District gave an update on Avian Flu – H5N1: 221 cases, 131 deaths, 57% mortality rate, currently in 10 countries and showing a high attack rate in younger population.

**c. Hospital:**

- Tom McCoy announced that Mary Washington Hospital continues to look at surge capacity and is working on a plan for pandemic. HRSA spending has been finalized with most of the approximate \$280,000 being spent on surge items and a SIM Man Training mannequin. This coming year's funding will be handled regionally and not sure how we will fit in. No report on HazMat Forum. Hiring a new assistant who will have this project as a priority.
- Natalie Root of Mary Washington Hospital also gave an update on the Surge Planning committee meetings. They have been working with Materials Management and with the ED Pyxis System with regards to supplies and restocking in a surge situation. The committee is also working with instructors from Alabama on ED surge calculations – at what point can MWH ED no longer function. Also putting in place a “Code Black” policy for Disaster Mass Casualty situations. And finally, security is working with committee on Ham Radio options.

**d. Virginia Department of Emergency Management:**

- Preliminary assessments are being conducted on the severe flooding and rain being seen in the western part of Virginia. Shared damage figures and planned field support for local area. The State EOC is planning a full cabinet exercise as well as other exercises in the coming month. Reminder of November 16<sup>th</sup> Homeland Security Program Exercise being held at the Fredericksburg Expo Center. All 17 jurisdictions in Region 2 have been invited – with the target audience for this exercise being senior leaders / County Administrators. VDEM is currently filling the Region 7 Coordinator Position (Northern Virginia). The Deputy Operations Director and Radiological Planner positions are also open. Continue work on Shelter Survey that was sent to all localities and due back on July 31<sup>st</sup>, and work on a Homeland Security Grant.

**e. Others:**

- Arva Priola of the Disability Resource Center announced they continue work on an Emergency Preparedness Conference to be held March 3, 2007 at the Fredericksburg Expo Center. A planner meeting has also been set for July 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. to work on a people with special needs project.
- Discussed STARS – Statewide Agency Radio System; a \$360 million dollar project being done by State Police divisions. Hope to complete project by 2008.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** Motion was made by Dr. Saitta, seconded by Wendy Shepherd and carried to move future committee meetings to a new time of 1:30 p.m. Future meetings will also be held at the Rappahannock EMS Council Training Center as available to accommodate the large attendance.

**Pandemic Flu Work Group:**

Dr. Saitta shared an updated list of subcommittees and planned meetings. Several of these groups have already met. Encouraged attendance at any of the subcommittee meetings by the jurisdictions. A list of questions for each subcommittee/group was also reviewed. All groups should be working on this list to include our Fire & Rescue Pandemic workgroup.

**Action Item:** The group was asked to begin looking at the questions and be prepared to begin addressing at future meetings.

A Statewide Pandemic Exercise is being planned for October 23 – 25, 2006. It appears that localities will be asked to do a partial opening of their EOCs during the exercise on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Meeting Date:** August 1, 2006; 1:30 p.m.; REMS Council Training Center 2301 Fall Hill Avenue, Medical Arts Building 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

**MINUTES**  
**Rappahannock EMS Council**  
**Disaster Committee Meeting**  
**August 1, 2006**

**Members present:** Tom Mc Coy, Dr. Joe Saitta, Bruce Sterling, Billy Shelton, Edward Fuzy, Eddie Allen, Kathy Hatter, and Tina Skinner

**Others present:** Cathy Nowlan, Natalie Root, and Ray Harvey

**Excused:** Eric Lasky, Doug Boggs, Paula Shaver, and Wendy Shepherd

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:30 P.M. at the REMS Council Training Center by Billy Shelton. Each attendee introduced themselves.

**Approval of minutes:** Motion by Dr. Joe Saitta, seconded by Tom McCoy to approve the July 11, 2006 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously

**REMS Report:** Tina Skinner reported on the successful tabletop exercise conducted in King George County. The exercise was very informative and eye-opening for the attendees.

The REMS Council is moving forward with the recommendation of the Committee to send written correspondence to the Virginia Office of EMS regarding Hazardous Material Awareness Training and support as part of the EMT-Basic Curriculum. **This will be presented as an action item to the Board at their August meeting.**

**Jurisdiction/Agency Reports:**

**a. Counties:** Caroline County reported that it had also participated in the King George tabletop exercise and gained from the experience.

**b. City:** Chief Eddie Allen reported that the City of Fredericksburg will be conducting another CERT Class commencing September 13, 2006 during the day for Hospital Staff and VOAD personnel. Mark Bledsoe participated in the tabletop exercise in King George.

**c. Virginia Department of Health:** Dr. Saitta reported on the planned Pandemic Flu Exercise scheduled for next week in Stafford County. The program will include the County's Public Information Officer, Cathy Riddle.

**d. Hospital:** Tom Mc Coy attended the King George exercise and reported that the local officials had gained a better appreciation for disaster events/protocols.

Tom reported that the Hospital is recruiting for a Health Education position funded jointly by the Virginia Department of Health and Mary Washington Hospital. The position will be responsible for Pandemic Flu training in the area.

**e. Virginia Department of Emergency Management:** Bruce Sterling reported that Page County will be conducting an exercise on August 2, 2006 emphasizing Emergency Operations Plans and Emergency Management 101. Bruce reported that Bruce Hopkins had been hired to replace Cindy Causey in Division 7 as the Planner.

**f. Others:** Ray Harvey MCB Fire Department reported that progress is being made on converting from a Basic Life Support to an Advanced Life Support EMS Program on the base. There are some recruiting issues that have slowed down the process.

**Counter Terrorism Task Force:** No report

**Unfinished business:** Discussed the need for Hazardous Materials Training in the EMS Curriculum. Pandemic Flu subcommittee meetings have been scheduled and attendees were provided a list of dates and times by Dr. Saitta. Cathy Hatter reported that Culpeper Health District held a successful Pan Flu Summit in June 2006 and has also planned an N-95 and Personal Protective Equipment Training Session on September 12, 2006. Hatter also reported that a Health Educator is being considered for Culpeper District.

**New business:** Billy Shelton reported on the recent Disaster Meeting for First Responders sponsored by Congressman Robert Scott (D) Virginia in Newport News. Scott encouraged Virginia jurisdictions to be prepared for sheltering and evacuation in the event of a major category 3 Hurricane in the Tidewater Region to include areas north and west of Richmond as potential shelter sites. Scott and VDEM stressed preparation in advance.

The Disaster Committee needs to update its goals and Committee Charter for the next two years. Each attendee was provided a copy of the 2004 goals for guidance.

Chief Allen reported that the City of Fredericksburg has an N-95 fit-testing program if anyone needs assistance.

Tom Mc Coy suggested that consideration be taken on using school bus drivers with Commercial Drivers License (CDL) to drive ambulances when schools are not in session or out for major storms or events.

Mary Washington Hospital is re-considering a weather radio system.

Bruce Sterling mentioned that the STARS program for state-wide interoperability is progressing with amenities such as patching capabilities. The Commonwealth is scheduled for completion by 2008.

**Next meeting date:** September 5, 2006 at the REMS Council Training Center at 1:30 P.M.

**Rappahannock EMS Council  
Disaster Committee  
September 5, 2006**

**Call to order:** Billy Shelton called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. at the REMS Council Training Facility.

All of the attendees were welcomed to the meeting. Each attendee introduced himself or herself.

**Members Present:** Billy Shelton, Glen Rudner, Ray Harvey, Paula Shaver, Dr. Joe Saitta, Tom McCoy, Eric Lasky, and Gerald Jaskulski.

**Guests:** None

**Excused:** Ed Fuzy, Gene Monago, Tina Skinner and Bruce Sterling was unable to attend due to conducting damage assessments as a result of TD Ernesto in the Northern Neck.

**Minutes:** On a motion by G. Rudner with a second by Dr. J. Saitta the minutes were approved as e-mailed. Passed unanimously

**REMS Executive Director Report:** No report – Tina Skinner excused from the meeting.

**Jurisdictional Reports:**

Spotsylvania County reported the County's Fire & EMS Commission had endorsed the Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA) requirement for all EMS providers and the first county-wide class has already been conducted for staffers. All future EMT Classes will incorporate the HMA Class. Some discussion ensued on an annual refresher class using drills, emergency response guides (ERG's) etc. at the local jurisdictional level. Dr. Saitta motioned to form a HMA refresher protocol committee with Rudner, Lasky, J. Watters (MWH) and Saitta. Rudner offered the second to the motion. Passed unanimously.

Stafford County opened its Emergency Operations Center during Hurricane Ernesto and completed an Incident Action Plan (IAP) and established two operational periods for the two day program. Gerry Jaskulski reported that he had assumed the duties of the Emergency Manager for Stafford County and was pleased to be part to the group.

No representatives from King George, City of Fredericksburg, or Caroline Counties were present.

Dr. Saitta presented the report from the Virginia Department of Health relative to the Pandemic Flu Preparedness: What Every Community Should Know Program offered September 29, 2006 on a national live satellite broadcast. Online registration is available at [www.PublicHealthGrandRounds.unc.edu](http://www.PublicHealthGrandRounds.unc.edu).

Dr. Saitta provided a detailed report on the meeting schedule of the Pandemic Flu Working Group subcommittees. All meetings are held at VDH's Office at 608 Jackson Street Fredericksburg unless noted otherwise. In addition, a comprehensive listing of upcoming events in the REMS Area was provided to each attendee including NIMS Classes, EOC Activations, CERT Classes, VOAD Meetings etc.

Three candidates will be interviewed soon for the jointly funded Health Educator by VDH and MWH.

Mary Washington Hospital reported that it will be conducting a surge drill during the period October 23-27, 2006 the same time as the state-wide pandemic flu exercise. Tom Mc Coy also reported that MWH's Surge Plan is still a work in progress with a Mock Exercise on October 29<sup>th</sup> testing the phased process of discharging patients at the 24 and 48 hour levels. In addition, Mc Coy reported that the Northern Virginia Hospital Association has purchased laptops for the MWH EOC, fully loaded and operational wireless.

Virginia Department of Emergency Management reported that Hurricane Ernesto had tested the new VEOC and all went very well. Glen Rudner reported that Bruce Hopkins is the new VDEM Region 7 Coordinator.

Paula Shaver reported that the American Red Cross had no shelters opened during Ernesto and that they stood by.

Quantico Assistant Fire Chief Ray Harvey reported that the MCB had two operational Advanced Life Support units in service and that two additional paramedics were being recruited. The opening of the Marine Corps Museum is still scheduled for the November 9-12, 2006. Harvey reported that all attendees would be bused to the museum from designated points. 15,000 attendees are anticipated on the main day.

**Counter Terrorism Task Force (CTTF):** Included in the information above.

**Unfinished Business:** The Disaster Committee Goals were approved with one additional goal/expected outcome:

**# 7.To increase preparedness for non-MCI disasters.**

**New Business:** None

**Next Meeting: October 3, 2006, 1:30 p.m. at the REMS Training Facility.**

**MINUTES**  
**Rappahannock EMS Council**  
**Disaster Committee Meeting**  
**October 3, 2006**

**Members Present:** Mark Bledsoe, Ed Fuzy, Ray Harvey, Gerald Jaskulski, Eddie Peck, Wendy Shepherd, Bruce Sterling

**Others Present:** Tina Skinner (REMS), Elizabeth Lowrey (RAHD), Jimmy Watters (MWH)

**Excused:** Doug Boggs, Rob Fines, Eric Lasky, Dr. Joe Saitta, Billy Shelton

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. at the REMS Council Training Center. Ed Fuzy presided over the meeting in the excused absence of the Chairman.

**Approval of minutes:** The September minutes were approved as amended.

**REMS Report:**

Announced new committee appointments as made by President for 2006-2008. Introduced new Disaster Committee members Mark Bledsoe, Gerald Jaskulski, and Ray Harvey.

The Council office received notification from the Governor's office that they are making progress to get Virginia's first responders and public safety personnel to shift to common language instead of using 10-codes in day-to-day operations and mutual aid events. The common language protocol will be formally announced at the 2006 Virginia Interoperable Communications Conference this week. Bruce Sterling will be in attendance and share any information gained at our next meeting.

Shared the VDH Weekly Pandemic Influenza Report for the week of October 2<sup>nd</sup> with committee. Members asked that this report be emailed to them in the future.

**Jurisdiction/ Agency Reports:**

**a. Counties:**

- Caroline County – Ed Fuzy reported they are preparing for the 2008 State Fair and impact on County and emergency services.
- King George County - No report from Wendy Shepherd.
- City of Fredericksburg – Mark Bledsoe reported their CERT training classes are going well. Rewriting City Emergency Operations Plan to become NIMS compliant. Plan to make presentation to all City Department Heads on Pandemic Flu with the Health Department.
- Quantico – Ray Harvey advised they are continuing their planning and mass casualty preparations for the museum opening in November (9-12<sup>th</sup>) with confirmed attendance of up to 14, 000. Prince William County will support event for EMS staffing and response.

- Spotsylvania County – Eddie Peck reported a follow up was conducted on the recent drill at Germanna Community College to include looking at lessons learned. Their Departments were encouraged to work on their Continuity of Operations Plans. Also preparing for the North Anna drill.
- Stafford County – Gerald Jaskulski reported that they are working on revisions to their Emergency Operations Plan to ensure they are NIMS compliant. Hope to have completed by February 2007. Several of their departments will be moving into a new facility in the near future and working on updates to the EOC. Also working on developing a CERT program for Stafford County citizens.

**b. Virginia Department of Health:**

- Elizabeth Lowery of the Rappahannock Area Health District gave a report in the excused absence of Dr. Saitta. A Health Educator has been hired through a unique partnership between Mary Washington Hospital and the Health District. Liane Sowinski will begin work on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**c. Hospital:**

- Jimmy Watters has been hired as an Emergency Preparedness Consultant with Mary Washington Hospital and will be working with Tom McCoy. He reported that last week the hospital conducted a table top and surge capacity exercise as it relates to pandemic flu planning. Will be working on lessons learned from exercise. Also working on hospital communications and capabilities.

**d. Virginia Department of Emergency Management:**

- Announced a regional exercise to be held November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Fredericksburg Expo Center for Region 2 – Senior Leader seminar which will be a small table top with modules that cover VDEM / State EOC, NIMS, and emergency planning. Target audience is senior elected officials. Also inviting hospitals and Health Districts.

**Counterterrorism Task Force**

The Virginia Community Policing Institute (VCPI) is offering Anti-Terrorism training which will be held on 11/9/2006 at the Rappahannock Regional Criminal Justice Academy. Classes have limited seating capacity. More information may be obtained by calling Pat Conwell at 804-644-0899.

**Pandemic Flu Work Group & Subcommittees**

The subcommittees continue their work and scheduled meetings were announced to include Special Needs, Social Services, Education, Public Information and Media, Law Enforcement and Hospitals. The Fire & Rescue subcommittee will continue to meet through Disaster Committee.

**Unfinished Business:** Committee continues to look at charter for 2006-2008 goals. It was noted that there are still goals from their last charter that have not been met. Want to consider adding planning and committee's work on Pandemic Flu to the new charter.

The committee discussed the progress made to date on pandemic flu planning. With the loss of Don Taylor as the EMS representative to the work group, it was recommended that the Chair look at making a replacement for this position to the workgroup to ensure Board's request for a draft guidance document for a regional response is completed.

**New Business:** None

**Next Meeting Date:** November 7, 2006; 1:30 p.m.; REMS Council Training Center 2301 Fall Hill Avenue, Medical Arts Building 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

**Rappahannock EMS Council  
Disaster Committee  
November 7, 2006**

**Call to Order:** Billy Shelton called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. at the REMS Council Training Facility. All of the attendees were welcomed to the meeting. Each attendee introduced himself or herself.

**Members Present:** B. Shelton, Dr. J. Saitta, M. Bledsoe, E. Fuzy, E. Haas, E. Lasky, D. Boggs, G. Rudner, P. Shaver, G. Jaskulski

**Members Excused:** Dr. Fines, R. Harvey, B. Sterling, W. Shepherd, E. Peck

**Guests:** Liane Sowinski, Ruth Lovelace

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by G. Rudner and seconded by Dr. Saitta to approve October minutes. Passed unanimously

**REMS Executive Director Report:** Excused Absence – No Report.

**Jurisdictional Reports:**

**Counties:**

Spotsylvania County reported conducting a shelter evacuation drill at North Anna Power Station. A full scale drill is scheduled for December 5, 2006 with field monitoring teams.

Caroline County reported participating in the successful evacuation drill.

Stafford County reported that a new recruit school is scheduled for Dec 4, assembling a budget for the EOC, new building is planned for 2009 for Public Safety, and the county is officially accepting some grants at the next Board of Supervisors Meeting. The County has filed for a CERT Grant through VDEM, Fire Corps has four active members, 400 people were successfully inoculated for flu at a Drive-in Clinic conducted at the Courthouse, and Mike Neuhard will become the Deputy County Administrator in February.

The new Marine Corps Museum Opening will necessitate increased activity at the Stafford Airport, ALS staged units, HM pre-positioned units this weekend from 0600-2030. The HOV lanes will be closed for bus traffic from the Pentagon for the opening exercise.

City of Fredericksburg's Haz Mat Team participated in the recent drill in Spotsylvania County, Pan Flu training has been conducted in the city, tabletop

exercise is scheduled for November 16 as a Region 2 drill, and working on the COOP.

**Virginia Department of Health:** Completed simulated potassium iodide exercise at Courtland High School on November 1 and at Caroline High School on November 2. A special needs conference is tentatively scheduled for March 3, 2007; vendors are needed.

**Hospitals:** No attendees

**Virginia Department of Emergency Management:** VOPEX Drill was very successful. New HM Technician Class will commence in December. G. Rudner reported working with the IAFC HM Chairman Tim Butters on ethanol issues on training and transport. A new guideline for firefighters will be published in the next six months. Dr. Saitta motioned that the Disaster Committee discuss Haz Mat in general in light of the increase in ethanol movement by road, rail, and barge. 2<sup>nd</sup> by G. Rudner. Passed unanimously. Consideration should be given in requesting a density study by CSX.

**American Red Cross:** Paula Shaver reported that the ARC has a new feeding truck/canteen for service in the Fredericksburg Area; it is available for extended operation by fire departments (fires/HM). If you need ARC services after hours please call **877-873-3651**. Do not leave a message on the office phone since it is not monitored after hours and on weekends. **Please notify the 911 Centers.**

**University of Mary Washington:** UMW has a new facility on Warrenton Road in Stafford County. UMW has received HMGP grants for Homeland Security recently on a 95/5 basis. UMW is working on its COOP. UMW has concerns on the ever-changing requirements from DHS on NIMS and its potential impact on federal grants. Everyone was encouraged to take IS 700 as a minimum for all governmental employees; first responders will need higher levels of training.

Dec 1 in Charlottesville shelter options for state agencies meeting.

**Counter Terrorism Task Force (CTTF):** Anti-terrorism course will be conducted at the Rappahannock Criminal Justice Academy on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Spotsylvania County will conduct a Utilities Exercise on November 21.

**Pandemic Flu Working Group Subcommittees:** Liane Sowinski was introduced as the new Health Educator. Dr. Saitta reported that the drive through clinic in Stafford County on October 25 was very successful. A lengthy discussion ensued on the Proposed Regional Pan Flu Plan based on Fairfax/Spotsylvania/Fredericksburg plan. Questions arose on whether an annex to the MCI Plan should be included based on the plan; suggestions were to use local annexes to the master plan that is 108 pages. VDH will draft a template for Planning District 16 and ask PD 9 to do the same that will include infection

control. Coordination will be made with the infection control officer and VDH Epidemiologists. Doug Boggs also requested to see the Mary Washington Hospital Surge Plan since his calculations for Spotsylvania indicate a need for 581 beds. **Tasking: Tom Mc Coy, can you plan on discussing the Hospital Surge Plan in January.**

Pan Flu brochures were provided based on Cathy Riddle's (Stafford County's PIO) compilation from other jurisdictions. Additional copies are available from the VDH and later from the local school systems.

There is a new DHS-CDP course entitled "Pandemic Influenza Planning and Preparedness" being piloted in Anniston, AL.

**Unfinished Business:** VOAD had a successful NIMS presentation.

**New Business:** Discussed the 2006-2008 goals for the Committee. All members were asked to provide input on how to achieve the goals at the January Meeting.

Upcoming events:

- VDEM Region 2 HSEEP program, Nov. 16 at the Fredericksburg Expo
- Special Needs Sub-committee, Nov 27 noon at 409ZProgress Street
- Fredericksburg City Officials, Nov 28,6 PM at the City Council Meeting Room
- Public information Sub-committee, Dec. 8,1100 at RAHD

**Next Meeting: January 9, 2007**

**MINUTES**  
**Rappahannock EMS Council**  
**Disaster Committee Meeting**  
**January 9, 2007**

**Members Present:** Mark Bledsoe (Fredericksburg), Ray Harvey (Quantico), Dr. Rob Fines (MWH – FEMA) Gerald Jaskulski (Stafford), Eric Lasky (Spotsylvania), Tom McCoy (MWH), Dr. Joe Saitta (Rappahannock Health District), Paula Shaver (Red Cross), Bruce Sterling (VDEM)

**Others Present:** Tina Skinner (REMS), James Hill (Stafford), Liane Sowinski (RAHD)

**Excused:** Doug Boggs, Ed Fuzy, Eric Haas, Eddie Peck, Glen Rudner, Billy Shelton, Wendy Shepherd

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. at the Rappahannock EMS Council Training Center. Dr. Saitta presided over the meeting in the excused absence of the Chairman and other REMS Board members.

**Approval of minutes:** Motion made by Tom McCoy, seconded by Eric Lasky to approve the November 7, 2006 minutes as presented.

**REMS Report:**

The Committee's annual review of the Regional MCI Plan must be completed by May 1, 2007. Members were asked to begin looking over the document and be prepared to discuss at a future meeting. The current plan is available to committee members on the council's website.

**Jurisdiction/ Agency Reports:**

**a. Counties:**

- Spotsylvania County reported they continue their work on the County's Pandemic Flu Plan.
- Fredericksburg reported their Continuity of Operations Plan is almost complete.
- Quantico thanked Stafford County for their assistance with the recent large scale event of the U.S. Marine Corp Museum opening in November. Noted one lesson learned is to share Incident Action Plans early in your planning process for such events. No major incidents to report from event. Quantico is still making progress in working towards an ALS Plan and coverage.
- Stafford County – No report.

**b. Virginia Department of Health:**

- The Rappahannock Area Health District reported they have a new Acting Director, Dr. Tom Franck
- Developing a Risk Communication Training Program with Lucy Caldwell
- Researching the purchase of medical translation devices. Might be useful to pre-hospital providers as well. (Speech Guard/Hand held)
- on an upcoming Community Based Emergency Response Seminar targeting citizens with special needs during a disaster or event. The Seminar is open to the Public Safety Community and will be held March 3, 2007 at the Fredericksburg Expo. REMS will assist in getting the flyer out to all EMS and Fire agencies.

- Upcoming Events: Fredericksburg CERT Training scheduled for every Wednesday night. Also CDP “Pandemic Influenza Planning and Preparedness Course reviewed by Dr. Saitta – a very good program to consider (<http://cdp.dhs.gov/resident/pipp.html>)

**c. Hospital:**

- Tom McCoy announced that Mary Washington Hospital’s Surge Plan has been finalized. Shared copies with committee members.
- In addition he shared a copy of the RHCC Activation Procedures for Hospitals. This plan outlines process for how they will be activated during a major event. Mary Washington belongs to the Northern Virginia Hospital Region which has two centers fully operational to support 12 hospitals during a disaster.
- The hospital is also planning a Fair through their Human Resources Department geared towards self preparedness. Will be conducted in the next 60 days.

**d. Virginia Department of Emergency Management:**

- November exercise was conducted in VDEM Region 2 which included 17 jurisdictions and 15 participants. The After Action Report will be published in the next few weeks. Also had a successful Pandemic Flu Regional Exercise in December. Are looking to identify a location for the next exercise with consideration of Fauquier and surrounding counties.
- A new ICS independent course is now available for hospitals.

**e. Pandemic Flu Work Group:**

- The Rappahannock Area Health District 2007 Pan Flu Goals have been adopted (Attachment 1) and were reviewed by group.
- In an effort to keep our region updated on Pandemic Flu Lianne reported that a recent “Weekly Tips” publication which is distributed to area schools was sent out on Pan Flu. There is a list serve available for this weekly publication and all are welcome to join.
- Work group member Elizabeth Lowrey from RAHD is working to meet with our region’s EMS Infection Control Officers on Pandemic Flu. Will work through REMS Council.

**f. Counterterrorism Task Force:**

- Dr. Saitta reported that a Terrorism Utilities Exercise is being planned for Spotsylvania County on January 10, 2007.

**Unfinished Business:**

Committee discussed Goals for the Regional Disaster Committee for the coming two years. Motion made by Tom McCoy, seconded by Mark Bledsoe and carried to approve the goals as discussed. (Attachment 2)

**New Business:**

Discussed ICS Training and the committee and councils potential role in preparing our localities, agencies, hospitals and other health care partners in this area. Would like to be a resource to assist our localities as well as offer NIMS Training Courses. VDEM is already offering the program. Localities must currently certify that they have taken steps to become NIMS compliant. Committee questioned

whether our localities have exposure to NIMS or real idea of what it is. In some of the recent table top exercises conducted in our area, there appeared to be a lack of understanding from County officials in this area. Eric Lasky and Gerald Jaskulski agreed to research the topic further and report back on some potential regional initiatives at a future meeting.

**Next Meeting Date:** February 6, 2007; 1:30 p.m.; REMS Council Training Center 2301 Fall Hill Avenue, Medical Arts Building 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

**Attachment 1**  
**Rappahannock Region Pandemic Work Group**

**Rappahannock Area Health District 2007 Pan Flu Goals**

1. Add a pan flu component into area CERT classes
2. Complete a Regional Pan Flu Plan
3. Complete and distribute a family home care pamphlet
4. Offer a risk communication course to PIOs and other related professions
5. Brief Fredericksburg Public Relations Society on Pan Flu
6. Sponsor a special needs conference (including coverage on pan flu issues)
7. Offer area Infection Control Officers training and consultation on Pan Flu preparedness
8. Distribute Pan Flu preparedness brochures through area schools
9. Conduct a RAHD staff update on District's pan flu activities
10. Conduct a drive-through clinic in Fall, 2007 (free seasonal flu vaccine permitting)
11. Assist jurisdictions, bases, colleges, VOAD, etc. with Pan Flu exercises
12. Offer at least two Pan Flu classes to the Rappahannock MRC
13. Work through REMSC to determine future actions on issues (mass care, surge, etc.)
14. Develop and implement a full public education campaign plan
15. Develop a system for conducting influenza surveillance in area schools
16. Prioritize new groups to begin working on the pan flu planning process (i.e. area businesses, daycares, senior citizens)

**Rappahannock EMS Council  
Disaster Committee  
2006 - 2008**

<b>Committee Charter:</b>	
<p><b>Mission:</b> How does this committee relate to the mission or purpose of the organization?</p>	<p>To assist in the development, planning, and execution of regional disaster preparedness.</p>
<p><b>Purpose:</b> What do we expect to accomplish?</p>	<p>To provide, and improve communications and coordination between jurisdictions as it relates to disaster preparedness and training, with an emphasis on establishing regional plans and basic training for disaster preparedness.</p>
<p><b>Membership:</b></p>	<p>Committee feels membership should be a combination of disciplines and localities in order to meet their purpose. REMS President should consider this when making appointments.</p>
<p><b>Key Customers/Stakeholders:</b> Who are the "critical" customers of this process?</p>	<p>Agencies in the REMS Council area, state and federal agencies,</p>
<p><b>Resource Support:</b> What (internal/external) administrative, technical, human and financial resources are anticipated to complete the committee's goals?</p>	<p>REMS support and funding. It is essential to secure group buy-in to the program.</p>
<p><b>Decision-Making:</b> How will decisions be made between the Committee and Board of Directors?</p>	<p>Bi-monthly reports to the Rappahannock EMS Council Board of Directors</p>
<p>What level of authority will the committee have to make independent decisions?</p>	<p>Advisory group to the REMS Council Board of Directors.</p>
<p><b>Goals/Expected Outcomes:</b> Identify goals and intended results for the next two years ?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Outline basic training needs for EMS providers.</li> <li>2. Promote disaster exercises for the regional agencies.</li> <li>3. Establish and maintain a Regional Mass Casualty Incident Plan.</li> <li>4. Provide and/or promote standardized training and education programs.</li> <li>5. Assist with the establishment of regional protocols for MCI</li> </ol>

	<p>response and training.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>6. Support Boy Scout Jamboree EMS Operations and other large-scale events.</li><li>7. To increase preparedness for non-MCI disasters.</li></ol>
<b>Proposed Meeting Schedule:</b>	Monthly

**Submitted 1/9/2007**

**MINUTES**  
**Rappahannock EMS Council**  
**Disaster Committee Meeting**  
**March 6, 2007**

**Members Present:** Ray Harvey (Quantico), Gerald Jaskulski (Stafford), Tom McCoy (MWH), Dr. Joe Saitta (Rappahannock Health District), Paula Shaver (Red Cross), Wendy Shepherd (King George), Bruce Sterling (VDEM)

**Others Present:** Tina Skinner (REMS), Thomas Franck (Rappahannock Area Health District)

**Excused:** Mark Bledsoe, Doug Boggs, Dr. Fines, Ed Fuzy, Eric Haas, Kathy Hatter, Eric Lasky, Eddie Peck, Glen Rudner, and Billy Shelton

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. at the Rappahannock EMS Council Training Center. Dr. Saitta presided over the meeting in the excused absence of the Chairman and other REMS Board members.

**Approval of minutes:** Motion made by Tom McCoy, seconded by Paula Shaver to approve the January 9, 2007 minutes as presented.

**Special Presentation:** Salamander Technologies

Mark Raker of Salamander Accountability Systems and Gary Stick, Sales Executive with Capital Card Systems, Inc. gave a presentation on a public safety accountability and tracking system which included tags, manual and electronic products. Such a system is important to emergency management in situations as mass care or vaccination events, MCIs, or other special events. For those interested, a live demo of the products are done every Friday at 3:00 p.m. on the company website ([www.salamandertechnologies.com](http://www.salamandertechnologies.com))

**REMS Report:**

Tina Skinner reminded the committee that their annual review of the Regional MCI Plan must be completed by May 1, 2007. Members were asked to continue looking over the document and be prepared to discuss at the April meeting. The current plan is available to committee members on the council's website. Email Tina with any comments prior to the next meeting. (Action Item)

**Jurisdiction/ Agency Reports:**

**a. Counties:**

- King George – No Report
- Quantico reported on an incident last month involving an explosive accident and a delay with medevac services due to the incident being on a military base. Will be working closely with LifeEvac on proper maps and GPS devices for emergency vehicles. Want to make sure in the event of such calls or larger scale events like a disaster that we are prepared.
- Stafford County – Conducted a Pan Flu Tabletop exercise with senior leadership recently. In two weeks the County's first recruit class will graduate. Looking at putting Paramedic Engines in place to support the system. The new Public Safety building is

progressing. Stafford will also be receiving 8 sets of respirators for animals courtesy of the local Animal Club to support animal rescue needs.

**b. Virginia Department of Health:**

- Special Needs Conference held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> with 130 registrants.
- Cipro/Doxy pre-distribution offered to area jurisdictions. Will have a shelf life to 2009. Giving to localities will allow the meds to be pushed forward to public safety personnel so they would not be required to stand in line at mass public distributions. To date only Caroline County has responded as interested. Dr. Saitta will send out again to local Emergency Managers. Both King George and Stafford indicated they would also be interested.

**c. Hospital:**

- Tom McCoy announced again that Mary Washington Hospital's Surge Plan has been finalized and distributed.
- The hospital is also planning an Emergency Preparedness Fair on May 18<sup>th</sup> with support from VDEM, Health Department and the Red Cross. The Council, all localities and Emergency Managers were encouraged to participate with static displays or booths. Email Tom if interested.

**d. Red Cross**

- The local Red Cross will be receiving cots, mats, and drink dispensers that will be pre-positioned in our localities during April – May to support disaster needs.

**e. Virginia Department of Emergency Management:**

- Community Based Emergency Response Seminar targeting citizens with special needs during a disaster or event was conducted March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Seminar went well. A March 27<sup>th</sup> follow up meeting has been planned to work on identified issues.
- STARS radio being installed in VDEM vehicles in March.
- November exercise conducted in VDEM Region 2 which included 17 jurisdictions and 15 participants will have its After Action Report announced on March 20<sup>th</sup> tentatively.
- There will be a VERTEX Annual Hurricane Exercise April 24 – 26, 2007. Looking to set up Point of Distribution Centers for a POD drill in each locality for the event. A POD drill will be conducted in Spotsylvania County.
- Announced the Virginia Emergency Management Conference to be held April 18 – 20, 2007 at the Williamsburg Marriott. Information available on the VDEM website.
- A Fall Regional Exercise still being planned for Fauquier and Stafford.
- Looking at a Weather Radio Transmitter for Fredericksburg – working with Mary Washington Hospital.

**f. Pandemic Flu Work Group:**

- Weekly Health Tip created by Health Educator and is being submitted on a weekly basis to the local United Way and WIC program's clients
- A Pan Flu presentation was given to the Rappahannock Area Community Services Board
- Emergency Services Coordinator and Epidemiologist participated in the National Response Pan Flu Tabletop Exercise at Marine Corps Base Quantico
- Emergency Services Coordinator and Health Educator attended a Public Relations Committee meeting at Mountain View High School for avenues of Pan Flu information dispersal
- Director gave a Pan Flu presentation for Medical Grand Rounds at Mary Washington Hospital
- An article about the region's Health Educator was printed in the Free Lance-Star newspaper, which was generated by a Hospital press release
- Ten thousand brochures were given to the King George school district for distribution
- Ready to schedule Infection Control training with ICOs through REMS
- Draft Regional Pan Flu Plan distributed at January REMSC meeting. Discussed that locality Pan Flu plans should be similar from a regional approach. To date, Stafford and Quantico have reviewed the draft with positive input. Workgroup will meet on final plan after the April meeting.

**g. Counterterrorism Task Force:**

- Public Safety Response to Terrorism: Management Considerations, March 14-15, at RRCJA. Contact VDEM for more information
- Marine Corps National Capital Region Command Antiterrorism/Force Protection Seminar March 30 at Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Va. – Counterterrorism Overview. This quarter MCNCRC will host an FBI facilitated Counterterrorism program focusing on (1) Islamic Law as it relates to terrorism doctrine and (2) the Islamic Movement, specifically the ideological and jihadist activities within the United States as it relates to classic insurgencies. Contact Lt. Col. James Mead at james.mead@usmc.mil

**Unfinished Business:**

Regional Initiatives on NIMS – (Eric Lasky & Gerald Jaskulski): No report.

**New Business:**

Discussed the need to consider a new time and/or day for regular meetings of the committee. The group identified 10:30 a.m. as an alternate time to current meeting date; followed by the Emergency Mangers meetings. REMS facility is still open for day meetings. Will review suggestions with Chairman Billy Shelton.

**Next Meeting Date:** April 3, 2007 at the REMS Council Training Center 2301 Fall Hill Avenue, Medical Arts Building 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

## Rappahannock EMS Council Disaster Committee Minutes

April 3, 2007

**Call to order:** Billy Shelton called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M.

**Members Present:** L. Sowinski, E. Lasky, E. Haas, P. Shaver, M. Bledsoe, Dr. J. Saitta, T. Skinner, E. Peck, J. Watters, E. Fuzy, R. Harvey, and B. Shelton.

**Members excused:** Boggs, Rudner, Jaskulski, Sterling, Dr. Fines, and Hatter.

**Guests:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Dr. Saitta and seconded by E. Haas to accept the minutes as submitted. Approved unanimously.

### **REMS Executive Director Report:**

- Infection Control Officer Training is being planned with Elizabeth Lowery, VDH, Date is to be determined later.
- Culpeper VDH will be conducting Dispensing Drills April 13-14, 2007 for the Rappahannock-Rapidan Medical Reserve Corps.
- REMS New Office will be located at 435 Hunter Street with twice the floor space, an expanded regional training center, and a simulation center. Projected opening will be July 2007.
- April 25, 2005 Annual REMS Golf Tournament at the Meadows Golf Course. Sponsors and donations are needed.

### **Jurisdictional Reports:**

#### **Counties:**

- Spotsylvania- Lt. Eddie Peck encouraged fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement personnel to enroll in the Public Safety Institute at VCU. This is an intensive six-week course for Masters or Doctorate students on Homeland Security issues facing today's first responders. Peck is also seeking information on the mutual aid frequencies employed in the Fredericksburg Area for narrow banding requirements. Spotsylvania is also working with drone aircraft (Buster) for search and rescue, sniper events, and other events where live video may be beneficial. This is a coordinated effort with NSWC Dahlgren. A total of four aircraft may be available. This is a new role for the drones who have primarily been a military resource.

- Stafford-Eric Haas reported that the first recruit class graduated with 23 new firefighter/EMT; all new recruits will be re-assigned pending completion of the preceptor program. Stafford is scheduled to receive a 500 gallon foam concentrate trailer from VDFP as part of the DHS Grant program.
- Caroline- Ed Fuzy reported that three (3) MCI trailers capable of accommodating 30 people will be deployed soon. In addition, a rehab unit converted from an ambulance is being fabricated. Caroline is seeking additional career employees with advanced life support credentials. The two fire officers burned recently in a fire are progressing well; one has returned to work. Caroline is seeking information on an All Hazards Emergency Management Plan for a facility within the county. The plan should meet or exceed the Joint Council on Hospital Accreditation. Ed was recommended to call Steve Ennis and David Pierce, MWH, for suggestions.

**City:**

- Mark Bledsoe reported that the City is completing its Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) has been submitted for review and approval to VDEM. The City's Flu Task Force is establishing and setting goals. FFD has been training with Quarles Petroleum which has six (6) one million gallon tanks on-site and a 550 gallon 3 % AFFF foam concentrate POD.

**Quantico Marine Corps Base:**

- Ray Harvey reported heavy ALS training for the month of February 2007 to prepare its providers to assume more advanced roles. Life Evacuation Helicopter has been reviewing potential landing zone sites on the reservation and establishing GPS coordinates. Harvey reported that Fire Chief Hensel is retiring soon. Hensel expressed his appreciation to the REMS for its assistance in setting up the EMS program. A new tactical response unit has been added to the fleet for heavy and technical rescue support (HTR) with an air supply and lights.

**Virginia Department of Health:**

- Dr. Joe Saitta reported that only Caroline County and the City of Fredericksburg have expressed an interest in the CIPRO/DOXY pre-distribution offer. Other jurisdictions need to act quickly to ensure a supply. The antibiotic program is also established. Liane Sowinski is continuing to conduct educational programs. Caroline County has been added to the Richmond MSA area with the remainder of jurisdictions in the Northern Virginia Area.

**Hospitals:**

- Jimmy Watters, Emergency preparation Consultant for MWH, reported that he is conducting MCI Training for the Emergency Department at MWH. A new weather station is being installed thanks to the MWH Foundation on the NOAA Sterling System. This will serve the entire community to better the reception with a repeater system.

**Virginia Department of Emergency Management:**

- VDEM Conference in Williamsburg is scheduled for April 18-20, 2007
- VERTEX Exercise is scheduled for April 24-26, 2007

**American Red Cross:**

- Paula Shaver had to leave the meeting for an emergency prior to making any report.

**University of Mary Washington:**

- **No attendee**

**Counter Terrorism Task Force (CTTF):**

- Islamic Law Class at Quantico was quite informative in March. Additional training is planned on April 13 for the Joint Information Center and May 10 for Incident Response to Terrorism.

**Pandemic Flu Working Group Subcommittees**

- Pan Flu is working on the final draft, but it needs an annex from the MWH. Jimmy Watters will advise Tom Mc Coy of the need. Program in the regional jails have been very successful according to Dr. Saitta. Germanna Community College is also working on its Pan Flu Plan with assistance.

**Unfinished Business:**

- NIMS sub-committee of Lasky and Jaskulski are communicating the need for the programs region-wide.

**New Business:**

- The Regional MCI Plan update was discussed in-depth with some recommendations for revision already received. The plan needs to be forwarded to the state for review by May 1, 2007. Some areas of consideration are primary reference document for region, resource document, IC checklists, NIMS compliance, JUMP START inclusion, interoperability and communication information, complete listing of hospitals and emergent centers in the region today. The following will work on the revision will e-mail edits: Dr. Saitta, Lasky, Watters, Fuzy, and Harvey. Please ensure that the timeline for revisions is met.
- Invite HCA to future meetings. The POC is Lisa Seay, Director of Development for Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center.
- Future meetings will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 1330 in the REMS Training Facility.

**Next Meeting: May 8, 2007 @ 1330**

**Rappahannock EMS Council  
Disaster Committee Minutes  
May 8, 2007**

**Call to Order:** Billy Shelton called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. at the Rappahannock EMS Council Regional Training Center.

**Members Present:** Eric Lasky, Eddie Peck, Eric Haas, Ray Harvey, Mark Bledsoe, Doug Boggs, Dr. Joe Saitta, Paula Shaver, Tom McCoy, Dr. Robert Fines, L. Billy Shelton.

**Members Excused:** Doug Boggs, Ed Fuzy, Glen Rudner, Wendy Shepherd, Bruce Sterling

**Members Absent:** Gerry Jaskulski

**Guests:** L. Sowinski, Rappahannock Health District

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Dr. Saitta and seconded by Eric Haas to accept the April minutes as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**REMS Executive Director Report:** No report. Tina Skinner excused from meeting due to illness.

**Jurisdictional Reports:**

**Counties:**

- Doug Boggs, Spotsylvania County EM, reported that it had participated in the VERTEX Drill and had successfully deployed a drone aircraft for live feed in conjunction with the drill. The drones will be available for future search and rescue, surveillance, and other related functions. Two (2) drones are assigned to the County and two (2) are assigned to NSWC Dahlgren. Spotsylvania is completing its Pandemic Flu Plan this week and copies will be available for use by any jurisdiction, please contact Doug Boggs.
- Eric Haas representing Stafford County reported that they are involved in a promotional process for Lieutenants (Lt's) for the department. Recently a minor hazardous materials spill was successfully handled. The County is donating an ambulance to the REMS Council for training purposes.

**City:**

- Mark Bledsoe reported that the City is involved in a promotional process too. The University of Mary Washington is purchasing the Roam Secure Alert Network (RSAN) and evaluating an audible alert system for evacuation purposes. The SETT (SWAT equivalent) is requesting two (2) medics for raids in the City. The

City, Spotsylvania County, and King George County have applied for grants for a drafting pit and a cascade system at the new training center. In addition, interoperability is being explored with the communication system, but no grant has been approved. The Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) has been forwarded to VDEM for review and approval. Capt. Bledsoe announced that the Flu Task Force will meet in the near future.

#### **Virginia Department of Health Report:**

- L. Sowinski announced that Pandemic Flu Survey will be conducted in the near future (July) with a reporting date of 31 August 2007. Elizabeth Lowery and Dr. Saitta were instrumental in the development of the scientific survey which will be sent on a randomized basis.
- Cipro/Doxy pre-distribution offered to area jurisdictions. All five area jurisdictions responded as interested.
- Rappahannock Medical Reserve Corps sponsoring Smallpox class on June 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

#### **Hospital Reports:**

- Tom Mc Coy reported that the FEDS will not provide grant assistance for the NOAA Weather System at the hospital, but Mc Coy is seeking assistance from the MWH Foundation to fund the project. On May 18, 2007, MWH will host an Emergency Preparedness Fair geared to the hospital employees commencing at 0630 in the morning to catch all shift workers. Mc Coy reported that the CIPRO/DOXY supply is expiring and MWH is going to give the supply away potentially outside the U.S. Additional training will be offered soon on the Triage System at the hospital.

#### **Virginia Department of Emergency Management:**

- Excused

#### **American Red Cross:**

- Paula Shaver reported that the ARC is moving to Southpoint Shopping Center off U.S. 1. Additional cots and mats have been purchased and some have been pre-positioned in the jurisdictions.

#### **Quantico Marine Corps Base:**

- Ray Harvey reported that Fire Chief Hensel has retired and the Base is recruiting a replacement. The recently scheduled tactical drill was canceled due to the Line of Duty Death (LODD) in Prince William County, but will be re-scheduled.

**University of Mary Washington:**

- No one present to report

**Counter Terrorism Task Force (CTTF):**

- Initial Response to Terrorist Bombings, May 10<sup>th</sup>, at RRCJA. Contact VDEM at [www.VDEM.virginia.gov](http://www.VDEM.virginia.gov)
- School violence meetings will be scheduled with Germanna Community College and University of Mary Washington.

**Pandemic Flu Working Group Subcommittees:**

- April 3: Planner attended the Mary Washington Hospital Disaster Committee meeting, recommending that the hospital work with the City of Fredericksburg to add hospital pan flu annex to the City's plan.
- April 5: Planner presented a pan flu program to the Germanna Community College's senior staff. The College will work with the Health District and the appropriate jurisdictions to develop its pan flu plan.
- April 11: Planner attends VDEM after action report meeting in Warrenton to capture improvement areas from the VDEM Region 2 pan flu tabletop held earlier this year.
- April 9: Planner, Epidemiologist and Health Educator met to discuss current pandemic flu budget and district needs.
- April 13: Planner and Regional PIO present a "virtual" Joint Information Center (JIC) program to area PIOs.
- April 13: Planner, Epidemiologist, and Health Educator met to review a community survey on pandemic flu preparedness currently under development.
- April 20: Planner and Epidemiologist attended the Caroline County School's Health Advisory Council meeting who are working on a pan flu plan. The Planner and Epidemiologist gave a presentation to 10 members.
- April 24: Planner, Epidemiologist and Health Educator meet to discuss community assessment and survey development.
- April 26: Epidemiologist and Health Educator attend pan flu planning meeting of regional jails group at Pneumansend Creek Regional Jail.
- April 26: Planner makes "Pandemic Flu and Public Information" presentation to 50 school PIOs having state-wide meeting in Fredericksburg.
- April 27: Planner, Epidemiologist and Health Educator meet with District's Pan Flu PIO group.

**Unfinished Business:**

The MCI Plan has been updated and additional comments will be accepted until Friday May 11, 2007 at the REMS Office. The Plan will be finalized and reported out at the next REMS BOD Meeting. Eric Lasky reported that the law enforcement comments received provided a whole

new spectrum to the plan. Lasky reported that the ICS 300 requirement has been delayed until 2008 and that an effort is on-going to seek standardization of the curriculum at the federal level. There are some changes forthcoming at DHS.

**New Business:**

No new business.

**Next Meeting:**

June 12, 2007, 1:30 p.m. at the REMS Council Training Center

**Rappahannock EMS Council  
Disaster Committee Minutes  
June 12, 2007**

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. Billy Shelton welcomed the attendees and each attendee introduced themselves.

**Members Present:** B. Shelton, P. Shaver, R. Harvey, Dr. J. Saitta, M. Bledsoe, B. Sterling, G. Rudner, W. Shepherd, D. Boggs, E. Fuzy, G. Jaskulski

**Members Absent / Excused:** Robert Fines, Kathy Hatter, Eric Haas, Eric Lasky, Tom Mc Coy, Gene Monago, Eddie Peck

**Others Present:** T. Skinner (REMS), J. Boyd, R. Lovelace, L. Knowles, B. Yeatman, J. Watters

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of May 8 2007 were approved as distributed.

**REMS Executive Director Report:** Tina Skinner reported the CIPRO/ DOXY storage requires an application/warehouse agreement via the Pharmacy Board. REMS is compiling the application and forwarding it to the jurisdiction for signature. Each locality will have to pay a \$270 fee with the application. The one for one exchange fee for those seeking that approval is an additional \$ 90.00. Each application must reflect a responsible party from the jurisdiction. It was suggested that Tina coordinate a representative from the Pharmacy Board attend the July meeting to clarify some questions.

There was some concern expressed over the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) stored on the Mary Washington Hospital property reference access and availability. Jimmy Watters will follow-up with Tom Mc Coy.

**Jurisdictional Reports:**

**Counties:** Doug Boggs, Spotsylvania, reported that its Human Resource Department is exploring how to mandate NIMS for its employees.

Lori Knowles reported that Stafford County is moving forward positively.

Wendy Shepherd, King George County, expressed some concern over the lack of notification from the recent sewage spills on the Rappahannock River and the impact on King George. Dr. Saitta reported that Virginia Department of Health (VDH) will send out e-mails in the future using the virtual joint information center (JIC).

Ed Fuzy, Caroline County, reported on numerous incidents in Caroline County recently on the Interstate. Fuzy stated that Caroline County will begin revenue recovery for ambulance calls in July.

**City:** Mark Bledsoe reported on the recent sewage spill in the Rappahannock River that resulted from a rupture in Stafford County's Falls Run Area. Bledsoe reported that the COOP is still a work in progress. Fredericksburg will be sponsoring a Citizen's Academy for fire, EMS, and law enforcement soon. The City has begun its planning for the Heritage Festival.

**Virginia Department of Health:**

- All five area jurisdictions in PD16 responded as interested in Cipro/Doxy distribution
- Rappahannock Medical Reserve Corps has openings for volunteers
- Status of pan flu plans requested from area jurisdictions

**Hospitals:** Jennifer Boyd, MEDICORP, discussed the successful in-house program at Mary Washington Hospital where 1500 employees were contacted on Prepare to Care.

**Virginia Department of Emergency Management:** Bruce Sterling reported that on June 26<sup>th</sup> VDEM will be conducting its Surry Exercise. VDEM has started its conversion to the STARS (Radio). Sterling reported attending the West Virginia Evacuation Summit last week where WV anticipates large numbers of Virginians will evacuate to WV in a disaster. The Virginia plan is to consider sheltering in place for most events. Virginia is considering using state facilities for its state sheltering plan; many facilities have already been contacted.

Glen Rudner reported on changes in the NFPA 472 (Haz Mat) Standard for 2008; there will be a core curriculum plus seven individual competencies. The Haz Mat Conference will be in Hampton this year from 15-19 October 2007. Rudner would like to sponsor a CAMEO Program in the future, but there will be a minimum attendance required. Rudner discussed the Decontamination Work Group that is trying to increase the awareness of the dangers of contamination from fires, EMS calls, automobile accidents, and law enforcement events. A comprehensive Power Point Program is being formulated to address all Public Safety First Responders by Rudner.

**American Red Cross:** No report

**Quantico Marine Corps Base:** New Fire Chief is T. Kevin King.

**University of Mary Washington:** The University is under-going reorganization under a Public Safety Umbrella. UMW is completing its COOP. The Pan Flu annex has been completed and will be forwarded to VDH. The Mitigation Plan

should be completed by December 2007. The ROAM Secure contract is in place and the system is operational; UMW will work with surrounding jurisdictions to perfect the system. An Alert System/Notification Contract is also in place with AT & T. Rich Hurley is the Acting President for an indefinite period of time. Construction is booming campus-wide.

**Counter Terrorism Task Force (CTTF):**

- Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings July 12, in Richmond. Contact VDEM at [www.VDEM.virginia.gov](http://www.VDEM.virginia.gov)
- A school violence meeting was held at GCC May 29<sup>th</sup>. UMW is interested in hosting one of its own with local first responders.

**Pandemic Flu Working Group Subcommittees:**

- May 2: Epidemiologist and Emergency Services Coordinator attended Coalition on Emergency preparedness and Vulnerable Population Meeting. Topics included pan flu preparedness.
- May 15: Rappahannock Area Health Advisory Council Meeting; Health Educator presented on public health disaster initiative, focusing on pan flu planning
- May 18: Epidemiologist, MRC Analyst, and Rabies/WNV Coordinator staffed a table at a Mary Washington Hospital health fair. Approximately 1200 people were able to access VDH emergency preparedness and pan flu materials.
- May 21: Epidemiologist and Emergency Services Coordinator meet with other RAHD staff to discuss pan flu brochure development
- May 23: Planner, Epidemiologist, and Health Care Educator met for a final preparation on pan flu community assessment pilot test
- May 23: Emergency Services Coordinator and Regional Planner participated in the assessment of University of Mary Washington as a shelter site.

Registration is now open for the upcoming live web cast, "Pandemic Influenza Information for First Responders: The Basics" This program will be broadcasted on Thursday July 19, 2007 from 12:00-1:30 PM Central Time. To register for this program and to view all upcoming programs, visit our website [www.adph.org/alphtn](http://www.adph.org/alphtn) Offered by the Alabama Public Health Training Network.

**Unfinished Business:** Dr. Joe Saitta provided a draft copy of the Protocol for Jurisdictional Storage and Usage of Cipro/Doxy in the VDH District. Comments are due back by June 18, 2007.

**New Business:** Tina Skinner reported that the revised MCI Plan will be submitted to the REMS Board on June 20, 2007 in Culpeper. The MCI equipment and training requirements will be added. Thanks to Eric Lasky and the committee for their hard work on the document.

Prince William County is offering ICS 300 & 400 for anyone interested.

**Disaster Preparedness:**

- VDEM is offering a “CERT Train-the Trainer” in Stafford County later this year.
- VDEM is offering “Campus CERT Train-the-Trainer” in Richmond, July 31-August 2, 2007

**Next Meeting:** July 10, 2007, 1:30 p.m. at REMS Training Office