

**Rappahannock EMS Council
Guidelines & Training Committee
January 14, 2008**

Present: John Brandrup, Mike Brewster, Heather Calhoun, Doug Found, Mark Garnett, Lori Knowles, Keith Moore, Dave Morris, Ray Tricarico. Guest – Tina Skinner, REMS Executive Director

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ray Tricarico in the excused absence of Chairman Kelly Southard at the REMS Council Training Center.

It was announced that Keith “Doc” Moore, a medic with Quantico, and Wayne Green, Training Officer with Culpeper have been appointed to the committee by the REMS President Kevin Dillard.

Motion was made by Mark Garnett, seconded by Dave Morris and carried to approve the minutes of November 19, 2007 as presented.

Staff Report:

Heather Calhoun reported that the Council has hired Ryan Fines as Regional Education Coordinator. Ryan will also be serving on the committee as an ad-hoc staff member.

The Council’s EMT-Basic class will end on February 9, 2008 and currently still has 20 students enrolled.

The Evening Intermediate class going good with 24 still enrolled in program. The Daytime Intermediate class started on January 3, 2008 with 17 students enrolled.

The council began an ALS Required Topics Course on January 3, 2008. The class will meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the Regional Training Center.

Upcoming REMS sponsored training includes an EMT Required Topics class to be held March 1, 2 & 22nd, an ITLS class in March and a PEPP class in the works.

ALS Release Extension Requests: None

ALS Instructor/Coordinator Requests:

1. Chance Kimble – Recertification (expires 02/08). Attended update in October 2007 and is currently coordinating ALS courses for Fauquier County. Has received approval from Dr. Sitta for renewal. Motion made by Dave Morris, seconded by Doug Found and carried to approved.
2. Darryll Grimes – Extend Endorsement Area / Recertification (expires 02/08). Is planning to attend the update scheduled for April 2008. He is the new EMS Training Lt. with Stafford County and comes with a recommendation from Lori Knowles. He also has a recommendation from Debbie Akers, Education Coordinator with Western Virginia EMS Council where he is a coordinator. Motion made by Mark Garnett, seconded by Doug Found and carried to approve.

3. John Brandrup – Recertification (expires 04/08). Attended update in November 2006 and is currently coordinating ALS courses in Spotsylvania and Fredericksburg area. Motion made by Ray Tricarico, seconded by Dave Morris and carried to approve.

Exemption Requests: None

Sub-Committee Reports:

ALS Release Sub-Committee - The group has conducted several meetings and are looking at several key areas of the current release policies for recommended revision. They are looking at other release programs for input. Will be identifying possible changes to preceptor qualifications and addressing those that are not active, change to patient contacts required, change to skills, and evaluating how we endorse release for providers coming to our system from outside the region. Forms will be updated. Committee considering a panel for release interviews as well as a protocol release test. There was discussion on whether an Intermediate should be allowed to precept a Paramedic. The knowledge base for the Paramedic is much greater, however the skills which are permitted in the REMS region for both the Intermediate and Paramedic are mostly the same. Could consider a requirement that the Lead Preceptor must be a Paramedic and the Secondary Preceptor an Intermediate for the paramedic candidates. The sub-committee will provide an update on their progress at the next meeting.

Unfinished Business:

1. Protocol Roll-Outs have been conducted with a go live date of January 7, 2008 for implementation of the new regional protocols. The old protocols are null and void and ALL providers must be practicing the new protocols. Any providers not trained on the new protocols have lost their ability to practice as a released provider under their OMD until they have completed the roll-out. There are still some providers looking for a class. Any agencies or trainers planning a class are asked to notify the council so we can announce to others that have a need. Heather suggested that the council host a Protocol Roll-Out should one of our Trainers be willing to coordinate. Keith Moore and Dave Morris expressed an interest if there was a need. Ray Tricarico indicated that Fauquier County has several roll-out classes scheduled.
2. There was discussion on new providers being released under the new protocols. Motion was made by Dave Morris, seconded by Lori Knowles and carried requiring at a minimum that the agency provide a letter to the Council/OMD signed by the Chief or Training Officer stating that the provider has been trained and is proficient in the current Regional Protocols at the BLS and ALS level.
3. Drug Box exchanges should have been completed last week through Mary Washington Hospital to include the new drugs from the protocols. There are a couple of agencies that were unable to make the exchange last week and they should be completed this week. The Mary Washington Hospital Pharmacy is not available to exchange boxes (except for the ones that have been used on a call or are expired) during evening, nights or weekend hours. Should there be any questions, agencies should contact the REMS Council.

New Business:

1. **EZ-IO System:** The committee would like to see the use of the EZ-IO device in the REMS region. Discussion ensued whereby a recommendation was made to seek endorsement by the Regional Medical Director and apply for a RSAF Grant to support funding for implementation. Motion was made by Lori Knowles, seconded by Dave Morris and carried to apply for a regional grant to request full funding to provide one EZ-IO on every ALS ambulance in the REMS region. The next RSAF Grant Cycle deadline is March 17, 2008.
2. Discussion ensued regarding the need for additional new protocol books. Motion was made by Lori Knowles, seconded by Dave Morris and carried to recommend that the REMS Council apply for a grant to support additional printing of protocol books.
3. **Critical Care Designated Site License for Regional Training Center:** Heather Calhoun made a presentation to the committee regarding the council seeking to become licensed to conduct critical care training programs. The staff recently met with the Cleveland Clinic EMS Academy who is seeking to endorse a site in our area and were impressed with our new Regional Training Center. A sample Certified Intensive Care Paramedic (CICP) Designated Site License Contractual Agreement and budget were discussed. The committee recommended that we talk to Mary Washington Hospital to inquire whether they had future plans to offer critical care programs for EMS and pursue a possible partnership which might be more cost effective. The committee did not want to make a recommendation to the Board of Directors until information from the hospital had been obtained. Dave Morris indicated he would contact Mary Jane Bowles at the hospital and follow up with the committee members. Motion was made by Dave Morris, seconded by Lori Knowles and carried to table the item until additional information can be obtained from the local hospital as to whether they plan to conduct such programs. The committee agreed to call a special meeting or conference call before the next regular meeting to keep the item moving forward for the February Board of Directors meeting.

ALS/EMT-Basic Program Audits:

Heather reminded all members that the audit forms must be submitted to the Office of EMS by the council on a quarterly basis. Please be sure to forward your completed audit forms to the council office in a timely manner. John Brandrup agreed to audit the REMS Council EMT-Basic course. Doug Found to audit the Caroline High School EMT-B program and Greg Leitz scheduled to audit one of the council's Intermediate classes.

For the Good of the Order:

Due to a manufacture shortage, Mary Washington Hospital will only be placing 2 vials of Lopressor in the EMS medication boxes until the shortage is over. This information was announced to all agencies. The hospital will also provide a baggie with 5 bags of saline to mix the cardizem. Once the baggie has been opened, the bags of saline will expire in 30 days. If you use one, please mark the other bags with the new expiration date and let the pharmacy know when you need additional bags.

Motion was made by Doug Found, seconded by Dave Morris and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on March 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. with location to be announced.