

RAPPAHANNOCK EMS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Board of Directors

August 16, 2017

Board Members Present:

Jack Atkins, Rappahannock County
John Brandrup, At-Large
Mark Crnarich, At-Large
Scott Davis, City of Fredericksburg
Susan Dietrich, Caroline County
Kevin Dillard, At-Large
Pat Fitzgerald, Westmoreland County
Donald Gore, Rappahannock County
John Harkness, Orange County
William Harrington, Spotsylvania County
Phyllis Hurlock, Culpeper County
Warren Jenkins, Culpeper County
Lori Knowles, Stafford County
Gregory Leitz, Spotsylvania County
Fred Messing, At-Large
David Moody, King George County
Maurice Moody, Orange County
Louise Rollins, At-Large
Joseph Williams, Fauquier County

Staff Present:

Margot Moser, Office Manager
Wayne Perry, Executive Director

Excused:

Eddie Allen, City of Fredericksburg
Mark Garnett, Caroline County
David Garvin, King George County
Mary Hart, Fauquier County
Tim Malanka, At-Large
Emmett Price, Stafford County
Dr. Tania White, Regional Medical Director

Guests:

Tiffany Clements, Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU, Outreach and Marketing Specialist
Stephen McInnis, Chief, Lake of the Woods Volunteer Fire and Rescue
Wesley Melson, President, Colonial Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad
Kelley Rumsey, Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU, Pediatric Trauma Program Coordinator

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Dillard at the Living Water Community Clinic at 7:00 PM.

Approval of minutes:

The June 21, 2017 meeting minutes were approved with three corrections: the date of the August meeting will be corrected, David Moody will be listed as representation from King George, and Bud Moody will be added to the list of board members present.

Public Comments/Presentations from Guests:

Kevin thanked Lake of the Woods Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company for sponsoring and hosting the meeting. Chief Steve McInnis gave a brief presentation about the agency: established in 1971, Lake of the Woods Fire and Rescue Company responds to hundreds of calls annually, both within the Lake and throughout Orange County. The agency's "First Due" spans from the Rapidan River to the north, the Spotsylvania County line to the east, just across Route 20 to the south, and Route 611 to the west. The agency is manned 24/7 with the help of some Orange County career providers who fill in at night. Much of their membership is older, and they are currently recruiting some younger members. They hope to host the board at their facility in the future, but it is currently being used by their EMT class.

After Chief McInnis spoke, Kevin introduced Kelley Rumsey and Tiffany Clements from the Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU. Ms. Clements, Senior Outreach and Marketing Specialist, distributed information regarding an upcoming continuing education event ("The Reality of Child Sex Trafficking in Virginia" – details may be found on the REMS Council website) and a VCU clinic at Lee's Hill. The clinic features physical, occupational, and speech therapists.

Kelley Rumsey, the Pediatric Trauma Program Manager, spoke next. The Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU is Virginia's only level one pediatric trauma center. VCU is also home to the only ABA verified burn center for children and adults. Ms. Rumsey reminded the board that 14 and under top tier trauma patients should go to the pediatric trauma center, and significant burns should also transport to VCU. UVA is no longer accepting patients with greater than 20% body surface area burns. Those interested in more information can attend the "Pediatric Trauma" EMS Night Out at Mary Washington Hospital on August 23.

Kevin next introduced Wesley Melson, President of Colonial Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad, to talk about their successful Junior program. Mr. Melson said that the most recent incarnation of the squad's Junior program began in 1993, and has produced many individuals that are now in the field of public health. The program has members that are from ages 8-18. Children aged 8-14 are called "Junior Cadets." This program has proven to be a valuable recruitment tool for the agency, and Mr. Melson gave several tips for a successful program, to include: keep the Juniors very active by finding ways for them to serve the community such as passing out water or running a first aid tent at public events; get community and agency buy in and support; establish a liability waiver; establish rules and parameters for members; secure funding; and join VAVRS for assistance.

President's Report—Kevin Dillard

The board has two new at-large members. Kevin introduced Louise "Wheezie" Rollins to the board. She said that she has been an ER nurse for thirty-eight years and is excited to be joining the Council's board as she knows what the Council does is important. Members of the board then introduced themselves.

Kevin also mentioned that the Council received a report regarding reporting compliance from the Office of EMS. The REMS Council staff is currently in the process of reaching out to partially compliant or noncompliant agencies to see if they can assist in improving ePCR reporting compliance.

Grant Committee:

The deadline for RSAF grants is September 15. FARC has changed the way they are administering the RSAF program. In the past, agencies have been able to submit their grant applications to the state and the state would send the applications to the Council for regional review and feedback before final submission. With the new process, any feedback from and revisions assisted by the Council must occur before submission to the state. Kevin encouraged the board members to submit grants to the Council early. Review sessions will be held on August 29 beginning at 1:30 PM and agencies should contact Carolyn Marsh for an appointment.

Kevin also noted that the regional Grant Committee can no longer submit comments with the grant grades. Wayne explained that FARC wants to be able to grade grants upon their contents, and that information that would previously have been submitted in the committee's comments should be included in the grant application.

Kevin also mentioned that he will be representing the REMS Council on FARC as the Peninsulas EMS Council representative resigned early.

Thank you letters for the Regional Awards dinner were sent to Vivian Delts and Carolyn Marsh.

Vice President's Report—Donald Gore

No report at this time.

By-Laws Committee:

The Council's By-Laws need another update. This is the first reading: the Trauma Systems committee is to be removed from the list of committees. There were no questions from the board and it will vote on this change at its next meeting.

Secretary's Report—Mark Crnarich

Performance Improvement Committee:

The committee last met on August 10 and will meet again on November 16. The committee has been working on a number of projects, to include standing reports about medications administered and procedures performed. The committee is also researching whether or not providers are capturing the Medical Record Numbers for patients they

transport to the hospital. Capturing the MRN results in quicker turnaround times and also allows agencies to go back and find out about a patient's disposition after the transport.

The committee has combined the Trauma Performance Improvement Plan and the Performance Improvement Plan into one document. The document has also been updated to reflect the new method of information gathering being employed by the Council. The committee recommends approving the document as presented. Kevin opened the floor for questions and discussion. Hearing none, the board voted to accept the document as presented.

ACTION ITEM—Performance Improvement Plan

APPROVED

Treasurer's Report—John Brandrup

The finances for the fourth quarter were sent out, and there was a question from one of the board members that John asked Wayne to address. Some of the financials appear incorrect at this time because he is currently restructuring the mapping system in Quick Books, and accounts that were previously considered separate are now combined. Wayne plans to review with the accountant he has been consulting to come to a fix.

Finance Committee:

All of the funding information has come in, with the exception of Fauquier County. Wayne is currently working on the FY18 budget.

Guidelines and Training Committee:

No report at this time; the next meeting is on August 22.

Committee Reports

CISM Report: Greg Leitz

The team has currently been put on standby for response to agencies involved in the events in Charlottesville. Trisha Copeland has been teaching classes across the state, and will next be teaching at VAVRS Conference and in Loudon County. Chris Jett is currently working on a business plan for the team. The team has two new members: one mental health professional, and one representative from VDOT.

Greg asked that board members please make sure that agencies are aware that the CISM team is willing to come teach CISM awareness classes. Chris Jett will also be the presenter at November's EMS Night Out at Stafford Hospital.

Incident and Threat Mitigation Committee: Billy Harrington

The committee has made updates to its membership and fleshed out the details of the Triage Tag program. The committee did find out that the triage tags are not protected by copyright, so agencies may make copies of them if they wish. The Triage Tag Program will begin on September 16, 2017, and will be executed from 0700-1900 hours on the third Saturday of every month. Lori Knowles asked whether or not there is a plan to review the tags for quality and completeness, as the review of the tags is very time consuming and needs to be approached methodically to get the most benefit from the program. Billy said he will take this back to the committee for discussion. Phyllis Hurlock asked if there will be a memo explaining the process prior to its implementation and Billy confirmed that Council staff will issue a memo.

There has been a rumor regarding a Mass Casualty/Active Shooter drill at Kings Dominion. There is no exercise planned. Wayne mentioned that the Council is planning to do Mass Casualty tabletop exercises in the fall, and is developing an MCI Plan presentation review

Medical Direction Committee: Kevin Dillard for Dr. Tania White

No committee report at this time. Kevin stated that the Regional Medical Director contract is due for its annual reapproval. No changes have been made to the document. Lori Knowles made a motion to approve the existing Regional Medical Director contract with no changes, which was seconded by Susan Dietrich. With no questions or discussion from the board, the motion was put to a vote; motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—Regional Medical Director Contract

APPROVED

Personnel Committee: Chief David Moody

No report at this time.

Pharmacy Committee: Kevin Dillard for Joey King

The committee last met on June 1 and has three new members, Lori Knowles, Erin Cox, and David Farmer.

Nothing new to report; Joey asked that Kevin inform the board that the next VAVRS District 10 meeting is to be held on August 27 in Westmoreland.

Strategic Planning: John Harkness

The committee last met on July 28, at which time the committee did a one year review of the Strategic EMS Plan. The committee reviewed the currently listed strengths and challenges for the Council and agreed that the Council staff remained a strength and financial resources remained a challenge. A good amount of time was spent discussing

methods of increasing revenue. The committee also worked on evaluating the current plan's goals and the Council's progress towards achieving them. The first goal listed in the Strategic Plan concerns the development and utilization of partnerships with healthcare/EMS providers, governments, and communities. The focus of discussion regarding this goal was improving and strengthening relationships with area hospitals.

The second goal in the Strategic Plan concerns the coordination of and assistance in regional emergency and disaster planning. The committee discussed ways of making the MCI Plan more user friendly, including training videos.

The third goal is to strengthen regional EMS providers supply, education, and training. With the changes to EMS training funds and other educational developments, the committee agreed that any changes to strategy should wait.

The fourth goal is to strengthen the Council's resources and infrastructure: the committee agreed that the Board of Directors and Council staff are doing a good job, but the council needs to become less reactionary and develop a capital improvement plan.

The fifth and final Strategic Plan goal is to coordinate and actively participate in community emergency preparedness and selected related health initiatives. Currently, two programs that will improve the health and safety of the community are identified as smoking cessation and healthy eating. The committee agreed that the Council's focus would be better shifted to Stop the Bleed and CPR.

The board will be kept updated as the committee makes progress on updates to the plan.

Heart and Stroke:

No report.

EMS Governor's Advisory Board: Lori Knowles

The EMS Governor's Advisory Board met on August 4. The quarterly report is available to the board in the Drop Box. Lori explained that there were two action items before the EMSGAB at its last meeting; the status of intermediate level in Virginia, and the state stroke plan.

The recommendation from the Training Committee was that the state of Virginia not certify any new Intermediates after January of 2020. Existing Intermediates may maintain their certification through CE as long as they do not go into reentry. The board voted to accept this proposal.

The recommendation of the state Medical Direction Committee was that the State Stroke plan include VAN assessment for emergent large vessel occlusion. The board voted to accept this. The REMS stroke plan has already been updated to incorporate this assessment.

Staff Report—Wayne Perry

Training Updates

- REMS has provided 24 National Registry test sites so far including six during FY2017. We have another one scheduled for August 26; the Council received a request from Fauquier County to accommodate their AEMT candidates and it has been opened to include Intermediate and AEMT candidates.
- Orange County Fire and Rescue is offering a Basic Public Information Officer class in November.
- The Council received and agreed to a request from Spotsylvania FREM to allow their EMT students to complete clinical rotations under our agreement.

Events and Funding

- The staff has scheduled meetings with the different hospital organizations to discuss the potential for funding for the regional EMS system. The meeting with HCA SRMC has already occurred and they were receptive to the possibility. More discussions are planned and additional meetings with the other facilities are on the schedule. A poll of the other councils' funding from similar sources was also conducted.
- Virginia Department of Health Office of Minority Health and Health Equity grant update: we are in the process of applying for a renewal. We have added an additional component to the program, a vegetable garden. Staff has been delivering vegetables to patients when we take them to their appointments. We have received letters of support from the local hospitals, and our two primary patients have seen a 92% reduction in hospital admissions.
- Registration is open for 38th Annual EMS Symposium
- The Council received a new MOU from OEMS which has been signed and returned, but we have been informed that it needs to be updated and the new document will arrive soon.

Regional Systems and Programs

- There will be an informational session regarding FirstNet (Public Safety Broadband) at the Culpeper Germanna campus on August 17.
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has a new requirement for emergency planning and preparedness for facilities that receive Medicare funding. Many nursing home and rehab center plans consist of "call 9-1-1" in case of a need for emergency evacuation. The Council's staff has been reaching out to facilities to find out what area facility plans look like and how the Council can assist in the formulation of better plans.
- Orange County has implemented the Stress First Aid Training, and Wayne has done presentations in Fauquier and the City of Fredericksburg. Please contact Wayne to begin the process of scheduling this opportunity.

- The American Heart Association and International Stroke Committee has released new EMS Severity-Based Stroke Triage Algorithms. These will be incorporated into the regional plans and protocols as necessary, and had asked for the state to take a position on a single preferred assessment tool rather than having several different options, and they have decided to narrow the list, but not make a single recommendation.
- The council is working on some table-top disaster and interagency drills that will eventually culminate in a large-scale multi-agency event. If you have an interest in guiding this process or participating, please let Vivian know as she is the POC for the project.
- Wayne recently received information that medication shortages are soon going to impact EMS significantly. Increased length shortages are anticipated (14-16 months) and will impact the lower-cost, more common items. Higher cost items are likely to get manufacturing priority.

Website/Technology

- The new website re-design seems to be cost prohibitive. We are considering having the staff receive additional training in WordPress to make the updates.

Executive Director Update

- The national database for sentinel and near-sentinel EMS events is up and ready to receive information. Reports are accessible through the REMS Council website.
- Wayne attended NEMSAC and FICEMS August 14-15. The 2 year report was issued. A recommendation is going to be made to NHTSA that in future documents, what is currently called “EMS” would be called “paramedicine.” This will be incorporated into the EMS education agenda as well. This is part of the effort to use language to create for the general public a recognizable profession. There was also a presentation on a study regarding the role and benefits of the use of lights and sirens explaining that there has only been a one to two minute time difference in arrival demonstrated by data. More detailed recommendations are forthcoming.
- Research from the EMS fatigue study are going to be published in trade journals. Draft recommendations will soon be submitted for how to manage EMS fatigue.
- The FDA is currently seeking volunteers for a trial of the Anthrax vaccination
- There will be an EMS Agenda 2050 meeting on September 25 in Silver Spring, Maryland. Details available on the REMS website training calendar.
- There will be a PulsePoint Grant competition at the Emergency Cardiovascular Care Update Conference in New Orleans. Applications are due September 1, 2017; details are available at pulsepoint.org
- Regional Director’s Group:
 - There was a presentation from Nonprofitability regarding funding and building donor resources for non-profits.
 - There was a discussion about the new EMSTF funding process. One concern that was voiced was regarding the requirement that each jurisdiction receive 2 CEU programs. A county of 100,000 would receive 2 programs the same as a

City of 5,000 people – which is a disparate allocation of funding options. There was also a concern about having to front the money or requiring people to wait up to 4 months for payment and also a concern about not having a signed MOU back from the state. Most councils said that they were not comfortable moving forward with creating a sub-contract without having a main contract. OEMS reported they are working on it, it is coming soon.

- There was a discussion about the upcoming RSAF process, most councils said that they were not comfortable moving forward with new procedures since we don't yet have a new contract. OEMS reported they are working on it, it is coming soon. As far as our operations, per OEMS we are still working under the last approved contract until a new one is executed.
- There was a discussion about the Narcan grant. It was clarified that it would be for 2 doses of Narcan per permitted EMS vehicle. The agencies that apply do NOT need to have a CSR, even though that was previously reported to be a requirement. The only limitation is that they cannot bill for the medication, and they must document the use of the med appropriately in the ePCR. There is currently not a mechanism to replace the medication once it is used. The exception that created the project approval was based off a one-time use tool. It was also explained that this, like Epi Pens, do NOT need to be secured or stored in the same manner as other medications. It can be stored in the jump bag "with the other BLS medications".
- Office of EMS Update:
 - Currently fingerprint card processing is about five weeks behind.
 - Vaccination training for EMS providers is currently live; one board member has started the process.
 - EMSTF are going away. The Council received an MOU for the new process, which staff signed and returned. We have not received the final document from OEMS. The RFP process began on August 15; Wayne asked the board whether they are comfortable with the Council entering into a subcontractor agreement with no final, official MOU from the state. Kevin opened the floor to discussion, and noted that it would most likely be best for the Council to move forward in the direction of the agreement as it is likely to become official soon. General consensus from the board was that the Council should proceed with the process under the assumption that we will receive a final, executed contract soon.

New Business:

Wayne mentioned that one of the items that has changed under the new MOU with the Office of EMS is that the Council may either offer mental health services or a CISM team. Previously we were required to have an accredited CISM team; the board needs to decide whether they wish to continue to provide this service. John Brandrup made a motion to continue to offer the CISM team, which was seconded by Pat Fitzgerald. With no further discussion from the board, the motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—Continuation of CISM Team Services

APPROVED

Greg Leitz mentioned that he has been on the Protocol Subcommittee of Guidelines and Training for many years and that there are many levels that any recommendations from that committee must go through before they can enact any changes. Greg suggested that the subcommittee be removed from the umbrella of Guidelines and Training and placed immediately under Regional Medical Direction for more efficient turnaround time on suggested revisions. Kevin said that that change can be made, and that letters will be sent to committee members informing them of the change.

John Harkness stated that he just returned from the Pinnacle EMS Conference and recommends members of the board attend it for insight into the business side of the industry.

Wayne noted that we received a call from a provider who was unaware of some revisions to a regional plan that had been announced and distributed, and reminded directors to please be sure to assist in the dissemination of information when it is sent out.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on October 18. The location will be Planning District 9, specific location to be determined.