

## **RAPPAHANNOCK EMS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

County of Orange Fire and EMS

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

### **Board Members Present:**

Jack Atkins, Rappahannock County  
John Brandrup, At-Large  
Scott Davis, City of Fredericksburg  
Susan Dietrich, Caroline County  
Kevin Dillard, At-Large  
Pat Fitzgerald, Westmoreland County  
David Garvin, King George County  
Donald Gore, Rappahannock County  
Mike Grubb, Spotsylvania County  
Mary Hart, Fauquier County  
Phyllis Hurlock, Culpeper County  
Mike Jones, City of Fredericksburg  
Lori Knowles, Stafford County  
Jeff McClure, Stafford County  
William Ooten, Culpeper County  
Dr. Tania White, Regional OMD

### **Board Members Excused:**

Mark Garnett, Caroline County  
William Harrington, Spotsylvania County  
Fred Messing, At-Large  
David Moody, King George County  
Bud Moody, Orange County  
Nathan Mort, Orange County  
Louise Rollins, At-Large  
Joseph Williams, Fauquier County

### **Board Members Absent:**

RJ Arft, At-Large  
Mark Crnarich, At-Large

### **Staff Present:**

Margot Moser, Office Manager  
Wayne Perry, Executive Director

### **Guests:**

April Clark, Orange County Fire and EMS  
Rick Hooper, Lake of the Woods Fire and Rescue  
Len Mascaro, Office of EMS

### **Agency Presentation:**

Orange County Fire and EMS was founded in 1997 to assist the two existing volunteer squads (Lake of the Woods Volunteer Fire and Rescue and Orange Volunteer Rescue Squad) with daytime staffing. The agency has since become the primary EMS service provider for the county. The agency currently employs 41 individuals; all personnel are either Firefighter / EMTs or Firefighter/Paramedics, and each shift has one captain and one lieutenant on duty. All ambulances provide ALS service and all first out carry turnout gear and thermal imagers. Most transport is done to hospitals in Charlottesville, Fredericksburg, and Culpeper. The agency ran 7,000 calls last year.

The agency has a great relationship with their OMD, Dr. Alberts, and he has authorized the use of RSI and dual sequential defibrillation in the field. The County Board of Supervisors makes sure that Orange has the most up-to-date equipment for provider safety and patient service. The department owns eight ambulances and has in place a

progressive replacement policy. Since taking possession of the Berry Hill Road building, they've been working hard to bring it up to code. The county is in the process of building a public safety building that should be finished around Christmas of 2020.

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Dillard at 7 PM at County of Orange Fire and EMS.

**Approval of minutes:**

Minutes for the December 11, 2019 meeting approved as presented.

**Public Comments/Presentations from Guests:**

Kevin introduced Len Mascaro, a new OEMS program representative for the northern part of the Council's service area. Len explained he retired from Fairfax County after twenty years and has only been in the program representative position for a few months and is looking forward to working with everyone. He also expressed that members should feel free to approach him with any questions they may have. Kevin had the board introduce themselves.

**President's Report—Kevin Dillard**

Kevin thanked April for her presentation and for Orange County's provision of the meeting meal; he also welcomed Rick Hooper, Rescue Chief at Lake of the Woods Volunteer Fire and Rescue.

Grant Committee:

Kevin announced there will be a technical assistance webinar on Tuesday, February 25, from 1-2 PM. Information was sent out on February 12; if board members need more information, please check the OEMS website. Kevin encouraged everyone to participate if possible.

Kevin stated that grant cycle awards were announced in January. There were over \$14 million in requests; \$4.2 million of funding was awarded to 70 applicants. The spring cycle is now open and closes on March 16. Kevin encouraged all board members to go to the council for assistance prior to submitting applications. During the Fall 2020 cycle and both cycles of 2021, priority funding will be given to EMD. Agencies will be able to get up to 100% funding in this area.

Regional Office of EMS Update:

Kevin gave an update regarding the Regional Office of EMS project. In December, the board voted on an agreement with OEMS to go into effect on January 1; it was

subsequently signed and we are now anticipating up to a twelve month transition. The EMS Program Manager position has been announced and since closed, so the office is currently doing preliminary screening. Next week, panel members will be contacted with screening information and interviews will be done in the next few weeks. The Council will have two representatives on the interview panel (the Board President and the chair of Personnel), the Office of EMS will have two people, and there will be a human resources representative from the Health Department. Once the Program Manager is in place, the rest of the staff will follow. After staffing is in place, the focus will be on locating a new facility.

#### EMS Advisory Board:

Lori Knowles was unable to attend the last meeting and asked Kevin to give the report. The last meeting of the EMS Advisory Board was on February 7 and the next will be on May 8. The Board recognized the REMS CISM Team at the meeting, congratulating them on winning the Governor's EMS Health and Safety award. There was some discussion of expenditures, specifically mileage reimbursement. For those travelling long distances to state meetings, it was discussed that it may be less expensive for the state to pay for a car rental rather than reimbursing mileage.

Dr. Healey spoke regarding G3 initiatives ("Get Skilled, Get a Job, Give Back"). Healthcare positions present the number one challenge in Virginia.

Transportation Committee representatives will be going out in the field to look at vehicles funded by RSAF grants.

The Governor's Outstanding EMS Awards will change some this year; "Outstanding Administrator" is now "Outstanding Leadership" and a new award for "Innovation and Excellence" will also be given. The criteria for this award is on the Office of EMS website.

The National EMS Memorial Service will be held on May 16 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center. This will be the last year it is held in Maryland; next year it will be moving to Northern Virginia.

#### **Vice President's Report—Donald Gore**

No report.

#### **Secretary—Mark Crnarich (absent)**

#### Performance Improvement:

The committee will meet again on April 9. The Regional Trauma Triage Plan is up for renewal. There are no revisions to be made at this time. Susan Dietrich made a motion to

approve as presented; seconded by John Brandrup. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM—Trauma Triage Plan**

**APPROVED**

Incident and Threat Mitigation: Margot for Billy Harrington

The committee will meet again in May. There were some issues with the use of triage tags during the MCI Drill. Some hospital representatives came to the Council with concerns and asked Council staff to stress the importance of the proper use of tags.

The Regional MCI Plan is up for renewal. There are no revisions at this time. John Brandrup made a motion to approve the plan as presented; seconded by Lori Knowles. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM—MCI Plan**

**APPROVED**

**Treasurer’s Report**—John Brandrup

Finance Committee:

Financial statements were sent out previously. We are currently waiting on the auditor to finish the FY 2019 audit and 990.

Guidelines and Training Committee:

The ALS Release Subcommittee met and discussed adding AEMTs to the preceptor list. Some changes to the ALS release process and tests were proposed that would further accommodate AEMTs. Revisions were made to the release handbook that are now before the board for approval; the Guidelines and Training Committee gave the ALS Release Subcommittee permission to move forward. Pat Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the handbook as presented which was seconded by John Brandrup. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM—ALS Release Handbook**

**APPROVED**

**Committee Reports**

Medical Direction Committee: Dr. Tania White

Dr. White announced that we are currently in the crux of flu season, with a seemingly equal amount of cases of flu “A” and “B.” The amount of pneumonia being seen is no more than usual.

It is important to ask patients coming in with a respiratory fever-like illness about recent travel with the current developments regarding the Novel Coronavirus. There are limited cases in the US, but testing is very limited and not much is known regarding transmission

other than airborne. Hopefully flu season and the virus will end around the same time before it is a true problem in the US.

Personnel Committee: Kevin Dillard for Chief David Moody

Chief Moody was unable to attend, but Kevin announced that the committee has been working on a transition plan for the staff as they transition to state employment.

Strategic Planning: Fred Messing

The Strategic Planning committee had a teleconference last month to be briefed of the ad hoc committee's progress on the Regional Office of EMS process. Kevin thanked the ad hoc committee for their work, and Fred thanked Kevin and the staff from OEMS.

Pharmacy Committee: Wayne for Joey King

Ketamine has been on shortage for quite a while, but is now off of shortage and available as of January 9. As agencies restock, they should be receiving ketamine. Supervisor kits will be left in place until most of the kits are replenished. Following March 2, they will be recalled.

There have been some changes to the medication kits. The committee approved the addition of glucagon to the stat kit. It will still be available for one-for-one exchange, but will also be available in the stat kits. Diltiazem is still on shortage and dopamine pre-mix is unreliable. Lobetalol vials have been added to the regional drug box to support interfacility stroke transfer with tPA infusing.

Sodium bicarb, epi, and lidocaine injectables remain on shortage and in alternate packaging until this shortage is resolved.

Strategic Planning: Wayne for Fred Messing

The committee will meet again on Tuesday, February 25.

Heart and Stroke Committee: Lori Knowles

The committee has not met since December and there is nothing to report.

**Staff Report**—Wayne Perry

HR/Personnel and Funding Updates

- The council continues to use the electronic timesheet program. Details are also now included in the Council's OEMS quarterly report to identify areas of work and quantities of manpower devoted to specific projects. If you have questions about a specific project or work that we do for your jurisdiction please talk with Wayne.

## Regional EMS System

- The regional awards program is seeking nominations throughout the year and currently accepting applications for 2020. If you have someone who would be a worthy candidate, please e-mail Vivian at vdelts@vaems.org. The Regional Awards ceremony will be held June 16, 2020 at the John F. Fick Conference Center.
- The RAHD is performing a community health assessment in advance of creating a community health action plan. The REMS Council attended the initial planning meeting and will be participating in the process.
- The regional MCI drill for 2019 was hosted by Fredericksburg Fire Department and occurred November 3. The AAR and documentation for lessons learned are being compiled and will be available soon. We would like to see a parallel event for PD9! If you are interested in hosting an event or participating, please let Wayne know.
- Various documents from Northern and Northwest Hospital Coalition events and meetings are available in the drop box.
- We have sent out and posted several updates on the novel Coronavirus. We have been in communication with the RAHD and are following the recommendations from the state, CDC, and WHO. Several documents and recommendations are available in the drop box.
- We have received a few questions regarding the new field print submission process for OEMS. Per OEMS regulation and compliance .... “should the FieldPrint location be too far away or the hours are inconvenient for the agency these instructions on how to obtain a paper card can be found on the Regulation & Compliance section of the OEMS website located on the criminal history record subtab.”
- A safety and awareness warning was issued regarding alterations in the packaging and preparation of Fentanyl products and derivatives. The REMS Council encourages you to participate in the Virginia Fusion Center Network to receive timely safety updates.
- Several current regional PI data reports are available in DropBox.
- The Virginia Fusion Center has reported that ransomware malware with signatures consistent with Clop (aka CloP) has been observed infecting networks in higher education organizations in Louisiana.
- The staff is participating in the Virginia Opioid Addiction and Virginia Palliative Care ECHO Tele-clinics sponsored by VCU, UVA, and Carillion. The goal of the bi-weekly sessions is to present evidence-based methods to support recovery from opioid use disorders and relate how to integrate these methods with medication therapy. Some of the presentations and materials are included in the Drop Box.
- The Council’s MIH Committee met with some agencies from PD16 today to develop consensus regarding a strategy to move forward. There was a presentation from a hospital-based program in Lynchburg. The state has approved a new “Intent to Offer MIH” application which will be completed for a proposed regional program.

## Training and Program Updates

- Training announcements are listed on the REMS website and FaceBook page, as well as provided in updates via social media. Please encourage providers to follow us on Twitter, like us on FB, and check the website periodically.
- REMS has provided 31 National Registry test sites – CY 2019 schedule is complete and we are evaluating dates and needs for CY 2020.
- There will be several offerings of the Resilient Responder: Self-Care for Responders Before, During, and After and Emergency. The flyer for this training is available in the drop box.
- We continue to offer Stress First Aid training. Please contact Wayne to schedule.
- EMS Officer 1 will be taught at the Central Virginia EMS Expo in March – the flyer is available in drop box.
- The Council is interested in partnering with agencies on stop the bleed courses. If you have personnel or events please let us know; we have training equipment and supplies.
- The REMS Council has partnered with the Virginia Center on Agency, Geriatric Education Center at VCU with plans to provide EMS providers with POST, DDNR, and end-of-life education.

## EMS at the National Level

- The national database for sentinel and near-sentinel EMS events is up and ready to receive information. There is information about the E.V.E.N.T. program in an attachment on the e-mail and the reports are accessible through the REMS Council website as well. The 2nd quarter 2018 Patient Safety Report and Violence Against Paramedics Report is published on their site, here is the link to the Third Quarter Patient Safety Event Report.
- The strategic and regional approach to critical medication shortages webinar video, put out by HHS ASPR and ASTHO is available online and a link to the slides for the presentation are available. Updates from HHS ASPR are available in their TRACIE communication, and several ASPR newsletters have been posted in the staff report and Drop Box.
- The NAEMT annual report is linked in the staff report. Earlier this year, NAEMT conducted a survey of members to understand what agencies were doing to prevent and respond to acts of violence against their personnel. The results of this survey have just been published in the NAEMT National Report on Violence Against EMS Practitioners. This report provides a very clear picture of this ongoing challenge and provides recommended actions that EMS agencies can take to protect and support practitioners.
- H.R. 1309 (Workplace Violence) passed in the House of Representatives on November 21. It's now moved over to the Senate for action.
- The NHTSA Office of EMS has published the EMS Agenda 2050 and the Education Agenda for the Future. This document portrays a vision for the future of EMS along with companion documents of the updated National EMS Scope of Practice Model and the National Model EMS Clinical Guidelines. These documents will be woven

into the regional committee structures as well as the strategic planning moving forward.

- National Registry has eliminated IV therapy and IV bolus skill station – these are now two independent skills. AEMT skills now total 9 instead of 10. Seated KED and supine were also eliminated.

#### EMS at the State Level

- A link to the latest VPHIB data submission and validity score reports, including agency compliance with VPHIB data reporting, is included in the staff report.
- The Health and Human Services Sub-panel met January 7, 2020 in Henrico.
- OEMS has concerns that some agencies are not yet compliant with data submission requirements through VPHIB. The deadline for compliance is June 1; if any agency is not compliant for any reason, OEMS will begin issuing citations.

#### OEMS Updates:

- There is a new map depicting the EMS Program Representative coverage area available in the drop box.
- 2019 Educator Updates have been scheduled. The schedule may be found on the OEMS website and the REMS CE calendar.
- The JLARC findings/report for the Virginia Worker's Compensation System and Disease Presumptions is available for review.
- The next regular RDG meeting will be at the beginning of May. The meeting minutes from our last meeting are available in DropBox. A copy of the last Office of EMS Quarterly report is included in dropbox and previous reports are online.
- Budget information for the Virginia Office of Health and Human Resources is available for review.
- The REMS Council is participating on the Medical Direction Committee – MIH-CP workgroup; the next meeting will be March 2020. Previous meeting minutes are available online.
- The meeting minutes of the various state committees are available online.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

No unfinished business.

#### **New Business:**

No new business.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on April 15, 2019 at a to be determined location.

# EMD in Virginia

