

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

Reva Volunteer Fire and Rescue

Wednesday, June 17, 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  
David Moody, King George County  
Maurice Moody, Orange County  
William Ooten, Culpeper County  
Louise Rollins, At-Large  
Joseph Williams, Fauquier County

### **Board Members Excused:**

Mark Garnett, Caroline County  
William Harrington, Spotsylvania County  
Lori Knowles, Stafford County  
Jeffrey McClure, Stafford County  
Fred Messing, At-Large  
Dr. Tania White, Regional Medical Director

### **Board Members Absent:**

R. J. Aft, Fauquier County  
Mark Crnarich, At-Large  
Nathan Mort, Orange County

### **Staff Members Present:**

Margot Moser, Office Manager  
Wayne Perry, Executive Director

### **Guests Present:**

Eileen Dohmann, Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer of Mary Washington Healthcare

Chief Billy Hamm, Reva Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department

Rick Hooper, Lake of the Woods Rescue Squad

### **Agency Presentation:**

Chief Billy Hamm presented information about Reva Volunteer Fire and Rescue to the board. The agency was established in 1995. It was originally run out of a member's garage until their building was built in 1996. The agency runs 600-700 calls annually with 40 active volunteers, 30 active support members, and 32 lifetime retired members.

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Dillard at 7 PM at Reva Volunteer Fire and Rescue. Kevin thanked Chief Billy Hamm and Reva Volunteer Fire and Rescue for hosting us and providing the meal.

**Approval of minutes:**

Minutes for the April 15, 2020 meeting approved as presented.

**Public Comments/Presentations from Guests:**

Kevin introduced Eileen Dohmann, Senior Vice President & Chief Nursing Officer at Mary Washington Healthcare. Ms. Dohmann addressed the board regarding the forensic nurse examiner program at Mary Washington. These professionals were previously known as Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners but their training and duties have expanded to include investigation and physical exams of all victims of violence. Every victim of violence is seen by a Forensic Nurse Examiner. Sexual assault victims are still a large portion of this patient population, but these examiners are available for any case involving violence. Volumes of prosecutions in our area have been successful because of the work of these professionals.

Mary Washington has been fostering important relationships in the community in order to increase the impact of this program. These relationships include agencies like EmpowerHouse, RCASA, victim advocates in the legal system, and law enforcement. Right now Mary Washington has the funding to have one Forensic Nurse Examiner on staff twenty-four hours a day. The goal for the program is to have all the Nurse Examiners certified to handle both adult and pediatric victims of violence.

Ms. Dohmann gave a brief update regarding Mary Washington's experiences with the COVID pandemic. Generally the number of COVID patients has remained steady. The volume of other patients at the hospital is down, however, due to fears of the pandemic. While the number of patients coming to the hospital for voluntary procedures is rising, the Emergency Department is still serving about seventy percent of its usual volume of patients.

**President's Report—Kevin Dillard**

Kevin thanked the board members for being willing to attend this meeting in person and expressed his desire to get the board back together in a safe manner in order to be able to conduct business. While information shared at the April meeting was useful, members were unable to vote officially due to the wording of the by-laws.

There were several updates to board membership. Several board members were reappointed by their localities and required affirmation by the board. These board

members included Scott Davis, Susan Dietrich, Donald Gore, Lori Knowles, David Moody, and Nathan Mort. Mike Jones made a motion to ratify these appointments; motion was seconded by Bud Moody. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM—Ratification of Reappointments**

**APPROVED**

The At-Large position currently held by Louise Rollins is expiring on June 30. As Louise was the only individual expressing interest in the position, Kevin opened the floor for nominations. With no additional nominees, Louise Rollins was re-elected. Kevin thanked her for her service and looks forward to continuing to work together.

**ACTION ITEM—At-Large Position Election**

**APPROVED**

Officer positions were also up for election this year. Kevin noted that there was one nominee for each position. Kevin opened the floor for additional nominations. Receiving none, the current slate of officers was reelected. Kevin Dillard will continue to serve as President, Donald Gore as Vice President, John Brandrup as Treasurer, and Mark Crnarich as Secretary.

**ACTION ITEM—Officer Elections**

**APPROVED**

Kevin also brought before the board a service agreement with Heudia for the AccessMeCare app. This is a 3 year service agreement. The first year has been funded by the Community Foundation. The Office of EMS has agreed to fund the other years of the contract. Wayne stated that the concept of a software program or database came up at the Mobile Integrated Healthcare meetings as a means to provide resources to patients. AccessMeCare is like Facebook for social services. Heudia maintains information about agencies and the services they provide and the end user may narrow down their search results with specific criteria. The responsibility of the Council will be to create the base list of resources. Kevin mentioned that the program being fully funded was a great thing and asked for a motion from the board to approve this service agreement. Motion by John Brandrup, seconded by Donald Gore. With no further discussion from the board, motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM—Heudia Service Agreement**

**APPROVED**

Grant Committee:

FARC met on June 12. This was the committee's first virtual meeting. Funding was recommended for 105 items with a total of \$3,587,388.40 granted. Normally approximately \$4.2 million is awarded, but funding significantly decreased during this cycle due to the decrease in the amount of money collected by the DMV. Kevin reminded board members that agencies may reach out to the Council for help with their grants prior to submission, and announced that the next cycle will open August 1 with a deadline of September 15.

### Regional Awards:

The deadline for Regional Awards has been extended to June 26. Kevin asked that board members please send nominations to Vivian Delts at the Council. If a name and category are provided, Kevin said he will be happy to follow up and get the rest of the required information.

Kevin asked the board to consider how we can revamp the Regional Awards Program. The desire is for the Regional Awards to be prestigious. Please come to him if you have ideas for getting the younger generation of EMS providers interested and engaged in the program. How can we bring more people and more pride to the program?

### Regional Office of EMS Update:

Kevin announced that Symposium has officially been cancelled. The state is looking at what can be done moving forward and the board will receive an update when more information is provided.

Wayne Perry is officially an employee of the Office of EMS. His new title is Regional Program Manager. He started this new position on the first of May and directly reports to Scott Winston with indirect reporting to the REMS Board President. Wayne commented that as of right now, the direction he's been given is to maintain the status quo, so the Council will be moving forward with business as usual as we work out what the future looks like.

The Virginia Department of Health sent out an update saying that there will be free community testing in Caroline County on June 19. Please visit the VDH website for details; they may be found under the Corona Virus section. This testing will be held at Mount Zion Baptist Church from 10-2.

### By-Laws Update:

Kevin read suggested changes to the By-Laws which may be found in the attached memo. The updates are regarding the Executive Director position and voting during online or virtual meetings. The suggested changes will be voted on at the next meeting, per current by-laws.

Kevin announced that some on the Board of Directors are working with Germanna Community College on a Paramedic program; this may soon be a training option for agencies in the region.

The Council applied for an SBA loan and was approved for about \$52,000. The staff remains on modified assignment, but the Council does have a COVID protocol in place at the office. A staff member is in the office each day from 9-12.

**Vice President**—Donald Gore

No report.

**Treasurer's Report—John Brandrup**

Finance Committee:

Financials were sent out previously. A draft audit and a draft 990 have been received and were posted for the board's approval. John asked if there were questions and received none. The board needs to approve the final drafts. Motion to approve the audited financials by John Brandrup, seconded by Susan Dietrich. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM—FY2019 Audit Final Draft**

**APPROVED**

John Brandrup made a motion to approve the 990 as presented. This was seconded by Donald Gore. With no further discussion from the board, motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM—FY2019 990 Final Draft**

**APPROVED**

Guidelines and Training Committee:

The committee last met virtually. The AEMT protocols were put into place as well as the newly developed AEMT Preceptor test. The committee is hoping to hold a preceptor course in mid-July. The committee also voted on one extension of precepting time; if agencies have members in a situation where the completion of hours at this time is impossible, please contact the committee so that some flexibility may be considered. The next meeting of the committee will be September 8.

**Committee Reports**

Medical Direction Committee: Wayne Perry for Dr. Tania White

The State Medical Direction committee has been meeting weekly and updates are being funneled through the Council.

The Council is required to revise and reapprove the protocols triennially. Tonight the protocols are up for reaffirmation with a completed revision anticipated in August. Bud Moody made a motion to approve the existing protocols which was seconded by Susan Dietrich. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM—Regional Medical Protocols**

**APPROVED**

Personnel Committee: Chief David Moody

The committee met prior to the board meeting but has nothing new to report at this time.

Pharmacy Committee: Kevin Dillard for Joey King

The committee is currently updating its charter and plans to have it available for action at the next board meeting.

Strategic Planning: Kevin Dillard for Fred Messing

Fred was unable to attend but did state the committee will be meeting in the next 2-3 months to discuss revisions to the plan.

Heart and Stroke Committee: Kevin Dillard for Lori Knowles

Kevin announced that Lori Knowles will be stepping down from the Heart and Stroke Committee and Greg Leitz will be chairing that committee effective immediately. Kevin commended Lori's hard work. An update has been made to the Heart and Stroke Committee Charter and is before the board for approval. Motion from John Brandup to approve the charter as presented; seconded by Susan Dietrich. With no further discussion, motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM—Heart and Stroke Committee Charter Update      APPROVED**

EMS Advisory Board: Kevin Dillard for Lori Knowles

The EMS Advisory Board meeting was cancelled by the Governor; 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.
- The Council's annual golf tournament will be held on Monday, June 22. This year it is at Fawn Lake. Precautions are being taken due to the pandemic which will limit the tournament's size. We will be the only tournament at Fawn Lake this summer and are still accepting registrants, so please spread the word.

Regional EMS System

- The REMS Council implemented their COOP on April 1 due to the recommendation from OEMS for staff to work remotely; we continue to operate under the COOP based on guidance from OEMS with REMS Council staff in the office during the week for scheduled appointments.

- 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 Delts at [ydelts@vaems.org](mailto:ydelts@vaems.org).
- The RAHD community health assessment for Caroline County has been postponed due to changes and shifts in manpower due to COVID-19. The REMS Council attended the initial planning meeting and will be participating in the process once the health department resumes the project.
- Various documents from Northern and Northwest Hospital Coalition events and meetings are available in the drop box.
- The door access codes at MWHC facilities have been updated as of June 2. If you use those facilities and don't have the updated information please contact the REMS Council.
- The telephone numbers, visitor, and door policy for HCA SRMC have also been updated.
- Staff will be participating in a Pediatric Surge Annex training offered through the NW Regional Healthcare Coalition on June 18.
- We have sent out and posted numerous updates on COVID-19. We have been in regular communication with VDH, OEMS, and the VHHA coalitions. Recommendations from the state, CDC, and WHO are available on their websites.
- Several current regional PI data reports are available in DropBox.
- The FBI has issued a public safety announcement regarding cyber actors taking advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, Virginia Fusion Center announced the creation of a Virginia Coronavirus Fraud Task Force (see Drop Box) and has continued to provide multiple updates, including scams and various nefarious events related to COVID-19. I will have copies of the various documents available for in-person review at the BOD meeting.
- Northern Virginia has shared an EMS PPE Donning and Doffing document which is included in the DropBox.
- There is a draft planning guide for continuity of EMS operations during COVID-19 resurgence that was offered from NASEMSO in the DropBox.
- Staff participated in a workforce advisory meeting through GCC – information from the presentation is available through a link in the staff report.
- 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.

### 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.
- There will be a Ashes2Art Summer Art Activities Camp for First Responders and their Children in June, July, and August. You can register online. The flyer is



available in the DropBox and information is also on the REMS website. Contact VDelts@vaems.org for further information.

- National Registry has agreed to allow psychomotor testing to resume in June. There will be limitations on how it may be conducted that are prohibitive. The Council is going to wait to resume holding exams until restrictions are relaxed. Consolidated Testing has been canceled for the remainder of the year and the Office of EMS is reconsidering the program. It may not be resumed.
- Given the current state of affairs and all of the activity and stress related to COVID-19 we encourage agencies to re-affirm their efforts to support the mental health and wellness of their employees. The CISM team has provided documents on stress management and resilience, which are available in the DropBox. The Council also continues to offer Stress First Aid training. Please contact Wayne to schedule.
- The Council participated in a national HeartSafe conference call. They are currently seeking ideas for the implementation of virtual training and what people can do in their homes. One issue that came up was the lack of access to public AEDs with business closures.

#### 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.
- Staff participated in the latest FICEMS meeting which was held June 10. Included here are links to the FICEMS Strategic Plan White Paper, the FICEMS Strategic Plan and Resources for Civil Unrest Response/Management. The other documents referenced in the meeting are available in the DropBox. In addition, the latest information is available online
- 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 were 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.
- A summary of appropriation discussions for Phase 4 is included in the DropBox. This includes numerous topics included below in the summary information  
FEMA has shared information on medical care costs eligible for public assistance due to COVID-19f
- The US Senate has approved legislation to include LODD benefits for first responder deaths related to COVID-19 if they meet certain reporting criteria. Recent ASPR TRACIE updates are available in the DropBox.
- CMS has updated their position and EMS can now be reimbursed for transport to alternative destinations. They have 205 agencies representing Government-owned, Fire-based, Private for-profit, Private non-profit, and Hospital-based EMS operations

in 36 states included in the ET3 pilot program but they have altered the timeline given all of the pandemic issues.

- H.R. 1309 (Workplace Violence) passed in the House of Representatives on November 21, 2019. It's now currently pending action in the Senate.
- 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.

### 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.
- Opioid data reports for March are available in the Drop Box
- Our next regular RDG meeting that was scheduled for the beginning of August has been cancelled due restrictions from the Executive Order/Governor. 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 available online.
- The legislation on PTSD probably won't take effect until 7/1/2020, the GA have members in quarantine in a number of areas.
- Governor Northam has appointed Curtis Brown to lead Virginia Department of Emergency Management.
- The Board of Health has approved the State EMS Plan.
- The staff is now included in VDH weekly updates and reports to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources (SHHR) – updates are included in the Drop Box for your review.
- There was a COVID-19 Healthcare Coordination Committee meeting on May 27 and the meeting minutes are available in the DropBox.
- Staff participates in the VDH partners weekly conference calls – meeting notes from the events are available in the drop box.
- Results of a recent mass fatality management survey are available in the DropBox.
- Draft legislation has been introduced concerning coverage of EMS providers and other from COVID-19. The document is available in the DropBox – please let me know any feedback that you'd like to be passed along.
- The REMS Council is participating on the Medical Direction Committee – MIH-CP workgroup; the next meeting is TBD as the July 2020 meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19. Previous meeting minutes are available here. The meeting minutes of the various state committees are available online.

### OEMS Updates:

- The REMS Council participates in a weekly conference call with OEMS and other VDH stakeholders to share information related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Keep in mind this is a rapidly changing and evolving situation. Everything is very fluid and subject to change.

- Karen Owens is the POC for ANYTHING related to COVID-19. If the request or question involves another department, such as ACE or regulation and compliance, she will coordinate that communication and provide a collaborative response. Please direct anyone with questions for OEMS to Karen Owens.
- As a reminder, there is access to online CEU through TrainVA.
- Effective Monday March 16, 2020, all psychomotor skills testing in Virginia has been suspended. There will be NO CTS testing scheduled through the end of 2020. Testing deadlines will automatically be extended and program directors with courses close to completion will NOT need to apply for a variance. If you have any questions, please e-mail the ACE division.
- All OMD certifications due to expire between now and June 30 will be automatically extended to December 31, 2020.
- Tim Erskine is no longer with OEMS as of May 5, they will be recruiting for his position.
- OEMS has cancelled the annual EMS symposium for 2020.
- Regulation and Compliance will resume agency inspections for temporary permits on June 15; regular scheduled inspections have been postponed and will be scheduled later in the year. Until then agency expiration dates will be automatically extended to December 31, 2020.
- OEMS has extended trauma center designations for one year (document in DropBox)..
- OEMS has received a request from Mr. Joe Hilbert, Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs, VDH to prepare an implementation plan for studies approved during the 2020 session of the Virginia General Assembly. Plan should include objectives of study, timeline, etc. No specific template was provided to prepare this information. Plans are due in July 2020.

**Unfinished Business:**

No unfinished business.

**New Business:**

No new business.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on August 19, at Port Royal Fire and Rescue.