

RAPPAHANNOCK EMS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Amissville Volunteer Fire and Rescue

October 16, 2019

Board Members Present:

Jack Atkins, Rappahannock County
John Brandrup, At-Large
Susan Dietrich, Caroline County
Patricia Fitzgerald, Westmoreland County
Donald Gore, Rappahannock County
Mike Grubb, Spotsylvania County
Mary Hart, Fauquier County
Phyllis Hurlock, Culpeper County
Lori Knowles, Stafford County
Fred Messing, At-Large
David Moody, King George County
Maurice Moody, Orange County
William Ooten, Culpeper County
Dr. Tania White, Regional Medical Director
Joseph Williams, Fauquier County

Board Members Excused:

Kevin Dillard, At-Large
David Garvin, King George County
William Harrington, Spotsylvania County
Mike Jones, City of Fredericksburg

Board Members Absent:

RJ Arft, Fauquier County
Mark Crnarich, At-Large
Mark Garnett, Caroline County
Jeffrey McClure, Stafford County
Nathan Mort, Orange County
Louise Rollins, At-Large

Staff Members Present:

Margot Moser, Office Manager
Wayne Perry, Executive Director

Agency Presentation:

Jack Atkins gave a presentation regarding the history of Amisville Volunteer Fire and Rescue. Organized in 1952, Amisville Volunteer used to serve not only its current service area but also those now served by Little Fork and Salem. In 1964, the department added EMS. There are currently 42 volunteer members: 16 EMTs, 4 AEMTs, 2 EMT-I, 7 EMT-P. Rappahannock County is all volunteer and the agency holds an annual carnival, weekly bingo, and fundraising dinners to support the agency financially. The last of the fifteen original charter members passed away this past spring. JB Carter is the current Chief.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Donald Gore at 7 PM at Amisville Volunteer Fire and Rescue.

Approval of minutes:

Minutes for the August 21, 2019 meeting approved as presented.

Public Comments/Presentations from Guests:

None.

Vice President’s Report—Donald Gore

No report.

Treasurer’s Report—John Brandrup

Financial statements were sent out prior to the meeting. The Council is still seeking a firm to perform the 990 and the audit for FY2019.

Guidelines and Training Committee:

The committee will meet again on October 22. The ALS Release Handbook has been updated and the Guidelines and Training Committee recommends approving as presented. With no motion required and no further discussion from the board, motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—ALS Release Handbook

APPROVED

Committee Reports

CISM Team:

The CISM Standard Operating Procedures are up for their annual reaffirmation. Some revisions have been made to the policies, namely the addition of information regarding required training for members. The committee recommends approving as presented. With no motion required, and no further discussion, motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—CISM SOPs

APPROVED

Medical Direction Committee: Dr. Tania White

State Medical Direction met on October 3. The state has been working to update the scope of practice; currently, the national EMS scope of practice is considered the minimal education standard and the state scope of practice, which is much higher, is the provider’s practice maximum. Some changes have been made, including the addition of the ability of EMTs to maintain an IV for interfacility transfers.

There has been a major drug diversion in Lynchburg, so changes from the DEA and Board of Pharmacy should be anticipated soon. Ketamine is still under shortage; please only utilize it for psychotic patients requiring chemical restraint.

Personnel Committee: Chief David Moody

The committee was to meet today, but did not; they may meet after the board meeting. Chief Moody was able to speak with VRS and confirm some details regarding the system and the Council staff's transition.

Pharmacy Committee: Joey King

The committee met on October 10. The Restock Agreement has been circulated to the area hospitals for feedback prior to its renewal, and some minor changes were proposed. These include the addition of vasotec and labetalol in the medication formulary. These changes went to the medical Direction committee and are being added to the formulary in order to begin stocking the regional medication boxes in order for interfacility transports to have medication available. The concentration of Versed is being changed to be able to administer IM and IN. The committee recommends approving the Restock Agreement as presented. No second required, and no further discussion from the board. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—Regional Restocking Agreement (Sub-Exhibit A.2) APPROVED

Joey thanked Wayne for his work with the committee and said that the committee has been very effective and its membership is filled with great people. The next major project is anticipating DEA regulation changes.

Strategic Planning: Fred Messing

The committee's focus has been on the chair's participation in developing the Regional Office of EMS project. An ad hoc committee consisting of members of Strategic Planning, the Executive, and Finance committees has formed for this project. The group has had several meetings with representatives from the state.

A significant meeting took place in early September with the Director of OEMS and two members of agency leadership. The ad hoc committee's intention was determining the Office of EMS's intentions and ensuring current Council staff is well taken care of during the transition. The representatives from the state explained their intent is stabilization and financial security of the councils. The Office of EMS is obligated to follow state hiring procedures, which includes the use of a five-person selection committee for all positions. Two representatives will be from REMS, two from OEMS, and one from the state's department of human resources. Chief Moody and Wayne are to work towards finding a better understanding of personnel issues.

There may be some opportunities that will be afforded to the Council as a state agency (e.g. purchasing) that may not currently be possible. Realigning with other agencies or Councils is also a future possibility, but specific details were not discussed at the time of this meeting.

The ad hoc committee is looking for authorization to move forward with negotiations and the full, final agreement will come to the board for approval. The hope is for a mutually acceptable agreement within several months, with the possibility of the state picking up some expenses in January.

Fred Messing made a motion: Motion to formally enter into negotiations with the Office of EMS to transition to the Regional EMS Office concept with the Office of EMS, with a soft target date of January 1, 2020 for OEMS to takeover the financial responsibilities if that date is workable, otherwise an agreed upon date as soon as practical after that date. Motion carried, with one abstention: Dr. Tania White.

ACTION ITEM—Regional OEMS Project Negotiations **APPROVED**

Heart and Stroke Committee:Lori Knowles

The committee has two action items for approval. The Regional Stroke Plan has been updated, removing Culpeper Hospital from the stroke centers listed as their status could not be confirmed; all other changes indicated in red and on the summary of changes on page four. The committee recommends approval as presented. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—Regional Stroke Plan **APPROVED**

There is also the first HeartSafe Business application up for approval: LifeCare Medical Transports. The committee recommends approving as presented. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM—HeartSafe Business Application (LifeCare Medical) APPROVED

State EMS Advisory Board: Lori Knowles

The board met in August. The state is planning to renew the trauma triage tags, incorporating both SALT and START. EMS for Children is still offering restraint systems for agencies and will be sponsoring some registration for Symposium. Problems have been reported with recording patient age ranges on prehospital care reports.

Provider Health and Safety continues to work on issues with decedent blood exposures. The committee has asked the Legislative Committee to work with the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to possibly codify a solution.

Virginia has been listed as an outbreak state for Hepatitis A – it is recommended that providers start immunization series.

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 submitted a contract mod requesting funding to OEMS. REMS received \$479.00 for the CISM team.

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 MCI drill for 2019 is being hosted by Fredericksburg Fire Department and will occur in November. We would like to see a parallel event for PD9! If you are interested in hosting an event or participating, please let Wayne know. The Council will be performing moulage and patient management for the drill, which is to be an improvised explosion at a 5k. Currently planning for 65 patients on scene and 15 self-transport.
- Various documents from Northern and Northwest Hospital Coalition events and meetings are available in the drop box.
- Continued focus on provider health and safety warrants a reminder about appropriate vaccinations and protective equipment. The RAHD has several immunization clinics which can help with providing information and vaccination.
- 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 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.
- REMS has provided 30 National Registry test sites – CY 2019 remaining schedule is October 26, and December 7.

- We continue to offer Stress First Aid training. Please contact Wayne to begin the process of scheduling this opportunity.
- EMS World has provided a document for tactics at MCI and high-stakes incidents. It is available through a link in the staff report.
- 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.
- VHHA is hosting an Ebola Virus and Emerging Infectious Disease Summit in Richmond on October 28. The flyer and agenda is available in the dropbox.
- The REMS Council has received approval to host the PER-211 course from Texas A&M which we discussed at the December meeting. Stafford County will be partnering with the REMS Council to host the training on December 7 & 8, 2019. Minimum attendance is 30 – PLEASE pass along the information to the agencies

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 House and Senate passed H.R. 776, the EMSC Program Reauthorization Act of 2019, which extends the funding for the program until 2024. This legislation is awaiting signature by President Trump.
- Effective September 17, 2019 The Medicare Prior Authorization Model for Repetitive Scheduled, Non-Emergent Ambulance Transport has been extended. The new expiration is December 1, 2020 (based on date of service).
- The NHTSA OEMS has released a RFI regarding modification of HIPAA Rules and is conducting a survey regarding emergency communications technology.
- NAEMT recently reported that 1,442 messages were received by the Senate Appropriations Committee in September regarding the SIREN Act. \$5,000,000.00 was included in the Senate Health and Labor Appropriation Bill.

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 available in the staff report attached to the agenda.
- Regional Director's Group met in Richmond the first week of August. Our next regular meeting will be at the beginning of December. 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 here. One of the main topics of discussion was the OEMS quarterly report and the information surrounding the EMS CEU program – Appendix A. The RDG has prepared a response to the Quarterly Report. Both are available in the dropbox.
- The REMS Council is participating on the Medical Direction Committee – MIH-CP workgroup; the next meeting will be October 23. Previous meeting minutes are available

OEMS Updates:

- State Medical Direction Committee met on October 3. Their agenda and previous meeting minutes are 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.

Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business.

New Business:

No new business.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:16PM.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on December 11, 2019, at Spotsylvania County Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Management.