

RAPPAHANNOCK EMS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Catlett Volunteer Fire / Rescue Department

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

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
David Garvin, King George County
Mike Grubb, Spotsylvania County
Mary Hart, Fauquier County
Phyllis Hurlock, Culpeper County
Mike Jones, City of Fredericksburg
Lori Knowles, Stafford County
Jeffrey McClure, Stafford County
Fred Messing, At-Large
David Moody, King George County
Maurice Moody, Orange County
Bill Ooten, Culpeper County
Louise Rollins, At-Large
Dr. Tania White, Regional Medical Director
Joseph Williams, Fauquier County

Board Members Excused:

William Harrington, Spotsylvania County
Mark Garnett, Caroline County
Donald Gore, Rappahannock County
Nathan Mort, Orange County

Staff Members Present:

Wayne Perry, Executive Director

Guests Present:

Leddyanne Dell, Virginia Department of Health, Office of EMS
Adam Harrell, Virginia Department of Health, Office of EMS
Jim Hurlock, Richardsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue
Joey King, LifeCare Medical Transports
Leonard Mascaro, Virginia Department of Health, Office of EMS
Ron Passmore, Virginia Department of Health, Office of EMS
Timothy Wilkening, Lake of the Woods Volunteer Fire and Rescue
Diana Wills, VAVRS District 10

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Dillard at 7 PM at Catlett Volunteer Fire / Rescue Department.

Approval of minutes:

Minutes for the August 21, 2020 meeting approved as presented.

Public Comments/Presentations from Guests:

None.

President’s Report—Kevin Dillard

The Continuity of Operations Plan is due for renewal with no suggested revisions. With no discussion from the board, action item approved.

ACTION ITEM—Continuity of Operations Plan **APPROVED**

Grant Committee:

Only 3 grants from the REMS region were submitted, with about 118 for the whole state. Results will be announced via e-Gift.

Regional Awards:

The Council recognized the High School Senior with Outstanding Contribution to EMS, Timothy Wilkening. Timothy is a recent high school graduate in Orange County, he is also a full active member of the Lake of the Woods Volunteer Rescue Squad (LOW Volunteer Fire & Rescue Co.) During his senior year in high school Tim contributed to the squad’s coverage working two eleven hour shifts (22 hours/month). With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic many of the older member/providers at LOWVRS stepped back from actively covering shifts. Tim is one of a handful of younger member/providers who have continued run duty shifts during this stressful period. In the first 5 months of 2020, Tim has committed over 240 hours of service to our community, while also continuing his EMS training and obtaining his Neonatal Resuscitation Program certification. During the past two years of volunteering, Timothy has been taking two heavy years of classes, successfully complicating one year’s worth of college classes while maintaining a 3.97 GPA.

The board also recognized Jim Hurlock, recipient of the Excellence in EMS Award. Jim Hurlock joined Richardsville Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc. (RVFDRS) as a 15-year-old junior member in 1970. He took Fire Fighting classes at Amissville Volunteer Fire Department and was among the first Culpeper County EMT-A certified providers in Culpeper County after completing the course offered in May 1975. Jim Hurlock is an outstanding example to young members of integrity, dedication, and of course hardwork. In July 2018, Jim Hurlock received a Culpeper Chamber of Commerce Valor Award. In March 2020, Jim was awarded an employment service award from the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors for his 20 years of Fire/EMS Service to the county. He is highly regarded for his exemplary Fire and EMS skills throughout the County of Culpeper and known for his medical acumen. He has an inherent authority

borne out of the immense respect for those who work with him at Richardsville VFD & Rescue. Jim addressed the board, expressing gratitude for the recognition and thanks to the Council.

Vice President—Donald Gore

By-Laws:

The updated by-laws were approved and previously distributed to the board.

Treasurer's Report—John Brandrup

Finance Committee:

Financials were sent out previously. The Council is still waiting on budget determinations from some localities.

Guidelines and Training Committee:

The ALS Preceptor Handbook has been updated. With no discussion from the board, action item approved.

ACTION ITEM—ALS Preceptor Handbook

APPROVED

Secretary's Report—Mark Crnarich

Performance Improvement:

VPHIB ReportWriter has started working again and producing report results. Wayne distributed a chart of success rates for Advanced Procedures. The PI Committee changed their 2021 calendar schedule to coincide with the 2nd Thursday of the 2nd Month of each quarter (Feb, May, Aug, and Nov). PI Committee presented the ongoing schedule of topics for the year. Approved without discussion.

Committee Reports

Medical Direction Committee:

Dr. White provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic.

Personnel Committee: Chief David Moody

The committee has nothing new to report at this time.

EMS Advisory Board:

No 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.
- We have a community service volunteer who is working to digitize our records and documents; we also have a Governor's School intern who is working on social media for MIH and preparing our Google Suite for regional committee activity.

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 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.
- The Mobile Integrated Healthcare project continues to move forward. We have had several focus groups and Heudia is analyzing call data for mental health, substance use, youth violence/injury, primary care/preventable incidents, and age-related incidents. Meeting minutes are available in the Drobox.
- Advanced Procedures data graph
- 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; additional resources are also included at the end of this staff report.
- Several current regional PI data reports are available in Drobox.
- The FBI and Virginia Fusion Center has continued to issue public safety, cyber, and other threats related to the COVID-19 pandemic. I will have copies of the various documents available for in-person review at the BOD meeting.
- 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.

There was also a COVID-19 clinical rounds discussion surrounding the death of clinicians, which occurred on September 1, 2020.

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.
- The Regional Training and Simulation Center continues to be used intermittently by hospital programs such as TNCC and ENPC, as well as community and EMS agencies for various testing and hiring processes. Enhanced cleaning measures are in place to comply with the current requirements for single-use between decontamination.
- The protocol sub-committee provided several train-the-trainer sessions for the agencies and protocol updates are in the process of being rolled out to the provide
- REMS has provided 31 National Registry test sites – We are holding off on scheduling dates for CY 2020 based on the COVID-19 situation; the requirements due to restrictions from Executive Orders are prohibitive at this point.
- The Guidelines and Training Committee has created a workgroup to review the potential options for obtaining and administering blood products
- Staff is participating on the EMS Advisory Committee for Germanna Community College's new goal of creating an EMS Education Program and we continue to work with the CAC for the Rappahannock Community College Paramedic Program.
- 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 Drobox. The Council also continues to offer Stress First Aid training. Please contact Wayne to schedule.

Executive Director Update

- The Regional Office and the State Office have begun using Monday.com as a project management system. This, coupled with the new online document management system through G-suite is aimed to improve the processes and efficiency of the regional EMS system. We are still in the process of creating the infrastructure, but we hope to have consolidated and real-time reporting of various projects that will be available in the near future.
- The REMS Council has started a process to build-out resources and include the topic of preventing human trafficking as an ongoing regional issue; if you have feedback or are interested in participating in this project please contact the REMS Council.
- Vaccination update - the CDC COVID-19 Interim Playbook is available in the DropBox; RAHD is also meeting to discuss the roll-out plan for the region.

- The Executive Committee was provided with an update on the Phase 4 COVID Relief Measure from the US Congress. The e-mail is available as a PDF in the DropBox.
- The Executive Committee was also presented with several minor changes to the patient care protocols which were agreed to by the regional OMD in order to maintain the timeline established at the last meeting.
- The REMS Council is participating with the Northern Virginia EMS Council and PEMS on a workgroup to review the DEA regulations and upcoming changes to the regional pharmacy program.
- We continue to operate under the previous Designated Council MOU. For that contact the quarterly report from 1Q FY21 is being finalized. We are currently in 2Q FY21 the report for which is due by the end of December. □ PLEASE don't forget the quarterly meeting requirements so that we don't have to pay a penalty.
 - PLEASE submit meeting minutes and related documents in a timely manner. We are not able to submit them and have them posted unless we receive them.
- The REMS Council applied for a CARES Act Local Government grant through Stafford County; it was not approved for funding.
- The NW Regional Healthcare Coalition August meeting minutes and September agenda documents are available in the DropBox. The coalition also shared information on the 3M TR-300 (Versaflo) hood with the 3M Breathe East PAPR. There is a 3M brochure describing these items in the DropBox as well as a COVID-19 AAR document that was discussed at the meeting.
- Community Relief Fund of the Community Foundation update
- The REMS building has had numerous roof leaks in the past. With the large amount of rain, we have had a return of leaks and water damage to the ceiling tiles. We are not investing any additional funding in repairs or trouble-shooting in anticipation of the upcoming move to a VDH facility.

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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 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 Drobox. They have also released an ASPR TRACIE Customer Needs Assessment to ensure the continued provision of tailored, timely resources. Please complete this survey as you have time.
- NHTSA has partnered with the team at the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center to create a [Resource Reporting Tool](#) that allows local EMS organizations to report personnel shortages and PPE supply status to State and Federal officials.

NHTSA and its Federal partners also continue to update the EMS.gov COVID-19 page with more resources for EMS clinicians and leaders.

- Based on a survey of EMS officials in nearly every state and territory, the [2020 National EMS Assessment](#) provides a national overview of EMS systems across the U.S., building on the previous 2011 national assessment. The study, conducted by the National Association of State EMS Officials through a cooperative agreement with NHTSA, includes information such as the number and types of EMS organizations across the country and who staffs them.
- Members of the EMS community have been hard at work on several efforts to advance evidence-based EMS systems, including revising the field trauma triage guidelines, updating the [National EMS Education Standards](#), and developing evidence-based guidelines for airway management and treating pain in the prehospital setting.
- Staff participated in the August NEMSAC Meeting and the agenda and related documents are available in the DropBox.
- There is a research study flyer on the EMS Sleep Health Study available in the DropBox for any agencies or providers who may be interested in participating or following the event.
- For the first time, NHTSA and its partners at the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center are releasing a mid-year dataset, with information from nearly 20 million EMS activations in 47 states and territories. The data is being released at this new interval due to overwhelming interest from researchers reviewing the EMS response to COVID-19. Obtain a copy of the 2020 Mid-Year Public-Release Research Dataset [here](#).
- The National EMS Management Association has released a 2020 EMS Trend Report, which is available in the DropBox. The Council is adding this as a discussion item to nearly all of the regional committees. If there are topics or issues that you feel would be a priority, please let the staff know.
- H.R. 1309 (Workplace Violence) passed in the House of Representatives on November 21, 2019. It's now currently pending action in the Senate where it has been read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, education, Labor, and Pensions.
- Staff participated in the NAEMT BOD and EMS Workforce Committee Meeting. The agenda and related documents are available in the DropBox.
- The NAEMT is on record as supporting FirstNet and they hold a seat on the FirstNet PSAC, supporting the effort to protect the public safety bandwidth that FirstNet created to administer. The FCC Chair has issued an order to transfer this bandwidth to the states for commercialization and had frozen all new licensing on the frequencies involved in public safety 4.9 GHz. NAEMT has submitted a letter to protect the 4.9 GHz via the PSSA (see 4.9 GHz document in the DropBox).
- The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) launched a [website](#) in July with data on the COVID-19 response at federal, state, and local levels. The hub includes estimated and reported hospital capacity by state, with numbers updated daily.

- 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.
- Staff has been participating in the HEARTSafe Community Champion webinars which are held each month. The October meeting discussed the [effect of optimized versus guidelines-based AED placement on OHCA](#).
- Please invite your colleagues, mayor, boss, friends and anyone who wants more information on creating a HEARTSafe Community. o Learn more and register at <https://citizenpr.org/heartsafe-community-webinars/>
- Use this presentation to **help local leadership envision a HEARTSafe Community**. [HEARTSafe Community Local Presentation](#)

EMS at the State Level

- There will be an Executive Committee meeting of the State EMS GAB in December for new member orientation and to elect officers and committee chairs.
- Here is a link to the latest VPHIB data submission and validity score reports, including [agency compliance with VPHIB data reporting](#).
- Opioid data reports for March are available in the Drop Box
- Additional N95 Fit Test Train-the-Trainers have been scheduled throughout the state. These are the sessions being taught by the Va. National Guard. Information on the sessions can be found here: • Anyone looking for a session to attend can find info here <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-preparedness/n95-respiratory-fit-testing-train-the-trainer/>
- Details on how to schedule a session can be found here <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-preparedness/n95-respiratory-fit-testing-train-the-trainer/how-to-schedule-n95-respiratory-testing-train-sessions/>
- The next regular RDG meeting scheduled for November has been cancelled due restrictions from the pandemic; the RDG is meeting virtually bi-weekly with OEMS and with the RDG on the opposing week. A copy of the last Office of EMS Quarterly report is included in Dropbox and previous reports are available [here](#).
- The legislation on PTSD probably won't take effect until 7/1/2020, the GA have members in quarantine in a number of areas.
- The REMS Council staff is now included in VDH weekly updates and reports to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources (SHHR) – updates are included both in the staff report and also in the Drop Box for your review.
- On August 27, 2020, Congresswoman Abigail Spanberger hosted a roundtable with maternal and community health professionals. According to a press [release](#), they discussed the challenges maternal and community health care providers have been facing during the pandemic and the additional support they would like to see in a federal relief package.

- Staff participates in the VDH partners' weekly conference calls; meeting notes from the events are available in the drop box and/or through this [link](#). Updates can also be found on <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus>
- The meeting minutes from the various state committees – although meetings are currently on hold due to the pandemic – are [available here](#).

VDH and OEMS Updates:

- Isle of Wight County Emergency Services has changed the official name of their agency to Isle of Wight Fire-Rescue.
- As a reminder, there is access to online CEU through TrainVA.
- There is NO RE-ENTRY PATHWAY for EMT-Intermediate certifications that expire. If providers do not obtain the necessary CEU prior to their expiration date, they will NO LONGER BE AN ALS PROVIDER.
- You have been sent (also available in the dropbox) OEMS Special Session Legislative Reports and Grids, among which the legislation Includes: • HB 661 - Workgroup to improve response to exposure prone incidents and the ability to perform post mortem testing for infection with HIV, HBV, HCV.
- HB 727 and SB 720. Telecommunicator CPR and EMD. Karen Owens and Rich Troshak are leads.
- HB 1332 - Develop statewide telehealth plan. Dr. Carol Pratt is lead.
- SB 301 - Develop regulations for transporting patients to 24-hour urgent care facilities in medically underserved areas (MUA). Ron Passmore is lead.
- SB 386 - Disclosure of certain confidential data in EMS Patient Care Information System. Cam Crittenden is lead.
- Sections were added into the infectious disease presumption section for COVID-19 – the draft language is posted in the Drobox.
- There has been [legislation](#) introduced regarding the penalty for assault and battery on law enforcement, fire, and EMS providers.

Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business.

New Business:

No new business.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on December 9, 2020, at Fredericksburg Fire Department.