

# Rappahannock EMS Council

## Guidelines & Training Committee Minutes

December 08, 2020

### REMS Training & Simulation Center

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by the Chair, John Brandrup at 1900 hrs.

Roll Call and Recognition of Guests: Since this was a virtual meeting the following members were on the phone: Maurice Moody, Linda Harris, REMS staff, Wayne Perry, REMS Staff, Pat Fitzgerald, Lenore Halkowich, Kelsey Rideout, David Smith, Richard Hooper, John Brandrup, Tim Jeter and Mark Garnett

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from the September 8, 2020 meeting were emailed to the committee. There being no changes the motion was made by Maurice Moody to approve, seconded by Lenore Halkowich. Motion passed.

Staff Report:

ALS Coordinator Requests: none

Sub-Committee Reports:

ALS release Sub-Committee –

The Rems Board approved the change to the ALS Preceptor Handbook that was voted on at our last Meeting.

Unfinished Business: none

Old Business

EMS Agenda for the Future 2050 - Per Wayne this is to be discussed as a regular recurring topic. He wants annual committee goals around a distinct movement towards the future of EMS. Something that we can lay as a foundation now and build upon in the coming years. This was to be reviewed and discussed at the April meeting and compile a memo/list to send to agencies incorporating this information. The component that was selected was selected was Inherently Safe & Effective. One topic was already covered in this meeting in the Mental Health issues among First Responders. There are 2 other topics the committee would like collect data on: they are radio coverage in our region-Are there still areas where the coverage is weak or non-existent, and Pediatric medication errors. The committee would like to see this sent out thru survey monkey. Kelsey volunteered to write 5-10 questions for each topic and they were posted. The survey results were emailed to the committee and since there were only a few responses it was suggested they be reposted again on Facebook and hopefully there will be a few more responses before the next G & T meeting in March

Update on the Cell phone app— They want to be able to link it to our website. Then it will be sent out to agencies and providers once completed. Update from Wayne Perry-This is still a work in progress. We are going in a different direction with the access me care app.

Color coded syringes for BLS providers- Update from Wayne Perry.- still waiting on a response from the Hospitals in our region on how they will be supplied to agencies.

For BLS Testing

From OEMS all Consolidated Test Sites have been cancelled through June 2021.

2020 EMS Trend Report

Whole Blood Program for EMS Units workgroup- update from Kelsey Rideout. After the last G & T committee meeting a workgroup was formed to look into the possibility of conducting a trial in our region. Kelsey reported that there are 6 members in this workgroup with Matt Russell from King George as the chair. King George F & R will be the pilot location for this program. Data and documentation has been

collected from both Arlington County, Loudoun County and AirCare on their programs. They have also be working with Marc Crnarich from the REMS PI committee to compile data on possible patients that could have been provided whole blood in the field. A possible protocol has been created and will then proceed to the Protocol Committee for approval. It will then move on to the Medical Direction Committee before moving forward.

Vaccination by EMS Providers- Just attended a WebEx meeting with our Division of Immunization. The presenter will make the slides available later today and I will forward them to you. On vaccination for what is now being called Phase 1 (old term "Tier 1") there is reference to "healthcare" as top priority along with nursing home residents and staff. Many of us asked for a specific clarification as to whether the term "healthcare" was inclusive of EMS. They'll 'get back' to us. As you know, our opinion is that, yes, EMS should definitely be considered as healthcare and be a top priority. But, we are bound by CDC and VDH guidance. As soon as I hear more I will let you know. There is a current effort to pre-locate vaccine at hospitals with ultra-cold capabilities, to include MWH. Things are picking up. If we are given the requirement of vaccinating EMS we would probably opt to do it as closed Points of Distribution. No action needed on your part at this point. But I wanted to keep you in the loop (I'm sure you're also receiving information through OEMS and I hope it meshes with what I've just covered). Update from Wayne Perry- The local Health Departments have been actively involved with this vaccination program. The state is supposed to receive 72,000 doses this week. One local facility is MWH. CDC sent recommendations of who should receive the initial doses and it did not include EMS. The state has the ability to edit the list but did not include EMS. So the Regional Directors, EMS Physicians and various State agencies asked to Governor to add EMS to the list. It is still unknown if that happened. If as a provider you want to assist in the inoculation program you need to contact your local Health Department.

The following came from OEMS:

Continuing Education (CE) Scanners Over the next several years, the Office will be phasing in QR Codes on provider certification cards and other documents—replacing the 1D barcodes that have been in use for well over a decade. QR codes provide OEMS with the opportunity to program more data into the code than we can with a 1D barcode. In order to assist with the adoption of QR codes across the Commonwealth, the ACE Division has secured enough WASP scanners to supply each educator with a device. In order to receive your device, you will be required to: • sign an Equipment Loan Agreement with the Office, • agree to maintain the equipment with minimal wear and tear, • replace said device if lost, stolen or damaged, and • return the device to OEMS upon forfeiture, revocation, or surrender of your EC certification. The distribution of the new scanners took place the week of November 30. From Debbie Akers: Please share with your fellow educators. We will be placing a sunset date on being able to submit CE by bubbled CE cards. Now is the opportunity to receive your scanner. You can still receive one at Educator Updates.

NEW Business:

VILT Training- report from Linda Harris. VILT is short for Virtual Instructor Lead Training. This is through both OEMS and TJEMS Council. The people in charge are Chad Bryant and Tom Joyce. The 2 hour virtual training programs are going to be conducted once monthly. Providers can register through TJEMS Council website or find the link on Facebook. The requirements that you need to be on a computer that has a camera. They will monitor your attendance since these is are interactive classes. REMS has been designated as a remote location. If you do not have the necessary computer with a camera you could pre-register and attend these classes at the REMS council. There will be a limit of 10 in attendance to provide the social distancing requirement and all will need to wear a mask. Once the dates are set for next year we will have a registration information on our website and Facebook page.

Increase in Fatal Drug Overdose

The Statewide Forensic Epidemiologist for the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), presented recent fatal drug overdose statistics, to include the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, to the Office of National Drug Control Policy's (ONDCP) Opioid and Synthetic Coordination Group. This group provides insights and recommendations to emerging drug-related issues in the states to guide ONDCP's national policy recommendations affecting all Americans. In Virginia since the start of the COVID-19 lockdown in March, the OCME has seen a preliminary increase of nearly 70% in fatal overdoses, all substances, in

April and May compared to the same months of 2019.---Committee members found the data very interesting and informative. Wayne Perry stated if the committee wants PI to track data in VPHIB or if you want an education component sent out to providers that could benefit the region.

Mark Garnett asked how the Protocol Roll out was progressing. Wayne stated all of the TTT classes were completed. Counties and agencies are still in the process of instructing their providers. As they complete this process they are sending sign in sheets to REMS for agency and provider files.

ALS/EMT-Basic Programs Audit:

EMRx2 – Rebecca Raines Stafford HS- 8/17/20-6/30/21- M-F  
 EMT x2- Rebecca Raines Stafford HS- 8/17/20-6/30/21- M-F  
 EMRx3-Lisa Davis- Colonial Forge High-8/24/20-4/9/21- M-F  
 EMTx3-Lisa Davis- Colonial Forge High- 8/24/20-4/9/21-M-F  
 EMT – Jessica Icaza- Fauquier F & R – 01/16/21 – 05/08/21 T-T-Sat  
 EMT- James Allen – CCJA – 12/01/20 – 12/17/20 – SMTWTFS  
 EMT - Jenni Hurtle- Stafford FREM 01/12/21 – 5/15/21 TTSat  
 EMT-Jenni Hartle- Stafford FREM-8/25/20-12/22/20- TTSat  
 EMT- Daniel Douglass- FRS- 9/02/20-1/30/21 UNK days  
 EMT- Alecia Hamm- Salem F & R- 8/31/20-01/09/21- Mon, Sat  
 AEMT-Mary Hart- Warrenton Armory-10/13/20-11/20/20 MTWTF  
 EMT- Kim Madison- Shannon Training- 8/17/20-12/16/20 MWS  
 EMT- Patrick Simmons- CBVRS- 9/13/20 – 2.28/21 Sunday  
 EMR- Patrick Simmons- CBVRS- 9/13/20 – 2.28/21 Sunday  
 EMT- Carolyn McGee- KG FREM 1/09/21 – 5/08/21 TTSat

REMS BOD Action Item:

For the Good of the Order: Their being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1934 hrs.  
 The next meeting is scheduled for March 08, 2020