

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

Lake of the Woods Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company, GoToMeeting  
Wednesday, June 16, 2021

### **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  
Mark Garnett, Caroline County  
David Garvin, King George County  
Michael Grubb, Spotsylvania County  
Mary Hart, Fauquier County  
Phyllis Hurlock, Culpeper County  
Fred Messing, At-Large  
David Moody, King George County  
Louise Rollins, At-Large  
Dr. Tania White, Regional Medical Director  
Joseph Williams, Fauquier County

### **Board Members Absent:**

Joseph Cardello, Stafford County  
William Harrington, Spotsylvania County  
Mike Jones, City of Fredericksburg  
Jeffrey McClure, Stafford County  
Nathan Mort, Orange County  
William Ooten, Culpeper County

### **Board Members Excused:**

Donald Gore, Rappahannock County  
Bud Moody, Orange County

### **Staff Members Present:**

Margot Moser, Office Manager  
Wayne Perry, Regional Program Manager

### **Guests Present:**

Corie Bacher, Director, Community Relations, Capital Caring Health  
Patricia Copeland, CISM Team Coordinator  
Chief Rick Hooper, Lake of the Woods Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company  
Althea Kidd, LifeCare Medical Transports  
Joey King, Regional Pharmacy Committee Chair

### **Agency Presentation:**

Chief Rick Hooper spoke to the board prior the meeting and shared some information about the hosting agency, Lake of the Woods Fire and Rescue. The agency was established in August of 1971 and the agency will be celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year. When established, the agency responded to calls throughout Orange County as it was the only agency in the area. As time has progressed, however, the agency has transitioned to supporting Orange County career staff.

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Dillard at 7 PM at Lake of the Woods Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company.

**Approval of minutes:**

Minutes for the April 21, 2021 meeting approved as presented.

**Public Comments/Presentations from Guests:**

Corie Bacher, Director of Community Relations from Capitol Caring Health spoke to the board regarding her agency’s services. Capitol Caring Health provides advanced illness care, e.g. hospice and palliative care. One of the primary roles her agency serves is keeping those patients with advanced illness from having to be hospitalized. Corie participates in the Regional MIH meetings and is hoping to improve communications between hospice and palliative care services and EMS. Ms. Bacher does provide in-services for those interested in learning about hospice and palliative care. She may be reached at [cbacher@capitalcaring.org](mailto:cbacher@capitalcaring.org).

**President’s Report—Kevin Dillard**

Grant Committee:

FARC met on June 3 and reviewed over \$14 million dollars in grant requests with \$3.7 million to award. Awards will be announced on July 1. The fall grant cycle deadline will be September 15. Because there was a large disparity between the amount of funding requested and the amount available, FARC is looking into finding a possible one-time infusion of additional funds to be able to possibly grant more requests.

Regional Office of EMS Update:

General Services provided an update; they are in the process of negotiating the lease and have hit some snags with the landlord. The items seem to be small and should be resolved soon. Hopefully more information will be available before the next board meeting. We have until March of 2022 to vacate the current building.

National EMS Memorial Service:

The National EMS Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, July 24. It will be at the Hyatt Crystal City in Arlington and will also be streamed online. This will be a larger service with about 135 people being recognized that died in the line of duty.

Board Membership Updates:

Spotsylvania County has reappointed Mike Grubb as one of their two representatives on the board. This needs to be ratified by the board. Motion by Fred Messing, seconded by John Brandrup. Motion carried. Jack Atkins has also been reappointed by Rappahannock County. Motion by Joe Williams, seconded by John Brandrup. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM--Ratification of Board Appointees**

**APPROVED**

Nominating Committee: Kevin Dillard for Donald Gore

The Board has one vacant At-Large position and two At-Large members up for renewal. Six candidates were presented to the board prior to the meeting. John Brandrup spoke to the board and stated that it was a pleasure to serve and he hoped to continue. Mark Crnarich also said it has been a pleasure to serve the board and he also hopes to continue, especially with the Performance Improvement Committee. Joey King was also present. He made comments stating that it has been an honor to work with the board as the chair of the Pharmacy Committee and he would love to continue his work as a member of the board.

A ballot vote was put to the board. John Brandrup and Mark Crnarich were re-elected and Joey King was chosen for the empty At-Large position.

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

**APPROVED**

**Secretary’s Report—Mark Crnarich**

Performance Improvement Committee:

The next meeting is August 12. The Performance Improvement Plan is up for revision. A work session is scheduled July 12 to begin review. The Hospital Diversion Plan requires approval annually. It is being presented without revisions for reaffirmation. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM—Hospital Diversion Plan**

**APPROVED**

**Treasurer’s Report—John Brandrup**

Finance Committee:

Financials were sent out previously; John asked for questions and received none. Only two localities have responded to funding requests thus far; John asked that board members try to push that through and get an update to the board.

Guidelines and Training Committee:

The committee will meet on September 14. The charter has been updated but is not before the board tonight.

## **Committee Reports**

CISM Committee: Patricia Copeland

The team remains busy. Trisha hopes for the team to be involved in the National EMS Memorial Service with the support dogs. On October 9 the team will be working with Stafford County to host the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention walk.

Incident and Threat Mitigation: Phyllis Hurlock

The committee met on May 12. The regional hospitals, health districts, and agencies remain busy with COVID vaccination clinics, especially now that access has been expanded to pediatric patients. Agencies are also anticipating large public events restarting (e.g. Fredericksburg Nationals games and concerts). The committee is still reviewing the MCI and Surge plans.

Medical Direction Committee: Dr. Tania White

COVID vaccinations in Virginia are progressing well. About 57% of the population has been vaccinated, almost 70% of the population over 18 are vaccinated. Some of the variants and Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome are hitting the population under 12 a bit harder due to the lack of vaccination of that population. The state Medical Direction Committee will meet on July 8.

Personnel Committee: Chief David Moody

Employee work profile requests for three full-time and one part-time position have been submitted to the state. It may take anywhere between 12-14 weeks to gain approval of those positions. This is the next step in transitioning to a Regional Office of EMS. Once the committee receives feedback from the state it will be reported to the board.

Pharmacy Committee: Joey King

The committee continues to meet regularly with a quorum and work closely with the hospitals. There is also currently a subcommittee working to prepare for the revisions to the DEA guidelines. The Restock Exchange Agreement is due for annual approval with no changes. With no discussion from the board, item approved.

**ACTION ITEM—Restock Exchange Agreement**

**APPROVED**

Strategic Planning Committee: Fred Messing

The committee met earlier this month and plans to have an in-person meeting in September.

Heart and Stroke Committee: Chief Joe Williams

The committee met on June 1 and plans to meet again on September 1. The committee has been discussing creating a high school stroke awareness program for the coming school year.

Joe has also been reaching out to some of the hospitals to increase committee participation with stroke and cardiac professionals that work in the Emergency Departments and associate with EMS providers.

There are stroke awareness magnets available at the Council office if any board members would like to distribute them to their member agencies.

**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 are working with OEMS on the development of employee work profiles for additional positions through the regional office of EMS.

*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 meetings and documents and minutes are available in the Drobox. In addition, we are having conversations with a local hospital to start a pilot program in PD16.
- Several current regional PI data reports are available in Drobox.
- EpiRite syringes are NOT able to be stocked by the hospitals. If an agency is interested in ordering, please contact the REMS Council and we'll provide the information for obtaining the item through Amazon.
- Orange County is starting a pre-hospital whole blood program on July 1.

- There is a consensus statement from the American Academy of Neurology, AHA, and several other entities regarding regional stroke destination plans for pre-hospital stroke disposition. This has been forwarded to the heart and stroke committee for review and is available in the DropBox.
- The document that was sent out regarding the May 2021 Colonial Pipeline disruption is available in the DropBox.
- Matt Cronin has resigned as the Exercise and Training Coordinator for the NWRHCA effective May 5.
- 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 if needed.
- The FBI and Virginia Fusion Center has continued to issue public safety, cyber, and other threats related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Wayne will have copies of the various documents available for in-person review if needed.

#### *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 REMS Council is a designated webcast site for VILT through the Thomas Jefferson EMS Council. Training announcements will be posted on the website and Cat 1 CEU will be available for attending in person at the REMS Council training center. Their last training event was on the topic of chest trauma and was held on June 7.
- The Regional Training and Simulation Center continues to be requested 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.
- REMS has provided 31 National Registry test sites – We are holding off on scheduling dates for CY 2021 based on the COVID-19 situation; the requirements due to restrictions from Executive Orders are prohibitive at this point.
- The REMS Council will be hosting the next panel discussion for MIH-CP on the topic Stages of Caring on June 17. Here is a link if you'd like to attend.
- 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. Documents and meeting minutes are in the Drop Box.
- The staff attended a presentation on community response and drone technology to improve outcomes from rural and remote cardiac arrest on Friday April 23. We will be reviewing information to determine if any such technology could be leveraged in the

region. The NVEMS Council, for example, has considered the use of drones to drop supplies such as blood products at scenes.

### *Executive Director Update*

- We continue to operate under the previous Designated Council MOU. For that contact the quarterly report from 2Q FY21 was submitted and accepted. We are currently preparing the 4Q FY21 report which is due by the end of July.
  - 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.
- Community Relief Fund of the Community Foundation update. We continue to operate under a grant to partially fund the Heudia AccessMeCare app. We applied for additional funding and it was not approved.
- Staff regularly attends the Northwest and Northern Virginia Healthcare Coalition events and meetings. The June 2021 meeting was cancelled and a newsletter was issued; available in the DropBox.
- The RUW conducted a survey to evaluate the impact of COVID-19 on families and ALICE; available in the DropBox.
- EMS1 has reported that hacking attempts on healthcare agencies saw an increase of 9,800% in 2020.
- Program Reps and staff from OEMS have been using the regional training and simulation center for various meetings.
- Staff attended the newly created Northern Virginia Resuscitation and Time Sensitive Coalition (NOVA ReTSCo) which brought together hospital personnel to discuss trauma, stroke, and STEMI care. They will continue to meet quarterly. The agenda from this meeting, their PI Trauma meeting minutes, and the NVERS and NVHA newsletter are available in the DropBox.
- We still have COVID-19 antigen testing kits available for any agency that would like to use them. There is a process, and the agency OMD must be involved in creating the process, but if you're interested contact the REMS Council.
- 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. However, MWHC felt that some repairs were needed. They have sent over personnel from a roofing company and they have made some additional repairs to the roof; we have already been billed for the repairs.

### *EMS at the National Level*

- Recent ASPR TRACIE updates are available in the Drobox.
- 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.

- The National EMS Memorial Service will be July 23-25 at the Hyatt Regency in Crystal City.

#### *EMS at the State Level*

- The RDG meeting for May was held in a hybrid format due restrictions from the pandemic; the RDG is still 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 online.
- Mike Miller is no longer a contractor with OEMS.
- Staff participates in the VDH partners' weekly conference calls; meeting notes from the events are available in the drop box. Updates can also be found on <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus>
- The meeting minutes from the various state committees – although many meetings are currently on hold due to the pandemic – are available online.

#### *VDH and OEMS Updates:*

- 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.
- As a reminder, if an agency has no incidents to report for patient contact/transport, they still must submit “no incidents” to OEMS.
- Make sure that your agency has a Virginia BOP CSR in order to be in compliance. It cannot be a partial or limited version – must be the COMPLETE certificate that allows for storage of scheduled VI items.
- Effective July 1, 2021 no PAPER processing will be accepted at OEMS, this included CEU cards, course announcements, etc. Everything will occur digitally.
- Tiffany Ford will be the new VDH Deputy Commissioner for Administration, starting on June 10. Ms. Ford comes from the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, where she serves as its Director for the Office of Management Services. Starting May 25, Dr. Jaberri will be the Chief Deputy Commissioner of Community Health Services and Bob Hicks will be the Deputy Commissioner for Public Health and Preparedness.
- Provisional NREMT testing must occur by 30 June 2021 to obtain provisional certification; otherwise, students will have to wait until they take a psychomotor test to gain certification. Any CE completed during provisional certification will be reset upon gaining full certification. Any hours not obtained during the certification period will not be eligible towards NREMT recertification. The psychomotor exam date will be full certification date.
- ESO was awarded the contract for the Virginia's statewide patient care record. The transition starts now and will become complete on June 30. One of the modules includes an alerting feature for hospital notification. If you are interested in other modules beyond



the state contract, [here is a link to a form to contact ESO](#). If you an interest in their fire module, please review their 2021 Fire Service Index.

**Unfinished Business:**

No unfinished business.

**New Business:**

No new business.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held at Mountain View Rescue Squad at 7 PM on August 18, 2021.