

Rappahannock EMS Council Board of Directors Meeting

Richardsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue

Wednesday, February 21st, 2024, 7pm

Board Members Present:

Jack Atkins, Rappahannock County Volunteer

Ed Bonham, Caroline County Career

Debra Marinari, At-Large

County Patricia Copeland, Stafford County Volunteer

Scott Davis, City of Fredericksburg

Nathan Mort, Orange County Career

Susan Dietrich, Caroline County Volunteer

County Lisa Palmer, Rappahannock Count
County

Jacob Parcell, At-Large

County Mike Grubb, Spotsylvania County
Spotsylvania

Maurice "Bud" Moody, Orange County Volunteer

Michael Pearson, Culpeper County Volunteer
Career

John Brandrup, At-Large

David Moody, King George

Mark Crnarich, At-Large

William Ooten, Culpeper County

Kevin Dillard, At-Large

Pat Fitzgerald, Westmoreland

Jordan Coleman, Fauquier

David Garvin, King George

William Harrington,

Dr. Tania White, Regional Medical Dir.

Mike Jones, City of Fredericksburg

Board Members Excused:

Joseph Cardello, Stafford

County Joey King, At Large

Joseph Williams, Fauquier County

REMS Council Staff Present:

Wayne Perry, Regional Director Kelsey Rideout, PI Specialist Andrea

Prokop, Office Manager

Lara Traylor, Regional Field Coordinator Tatiana Pedroza, Technical Resource Specialist

Agency Presentation

The Agency presentation was given by Chief Cheree Hogan on the history of the Richardsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue.

Guests: Frank Gresh Tanya Ison

Call to Order - Kevin Dillard, President

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Dillard at 7PM at Richardsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue.

Guest Comments:

Frank Gresh from Fitch &

Associates –

Frank gave an overview of the work they are doing at OEMS. Stated he was available to meet with people after the meeting.

Approval of Minutes- November 15, 2023

The Minutes for the November 15th, 2023, meeting were approved as presented.

Officers' Reports President Kevin Dillard

1. Welcome to all of our guests.
 - a. We do have Frank Gresh, senior consultant for Fitch and Associates, with us. He is visiting all the regional EMS Councils and assisting with the evaluation of the OEMS and the issues that they are facing.
 - b. Frank visited REMS this afternoon to hear more about what our regional council does and to meet some of the leaders within our region along with meeting staff. He is here with us this evening to continue to meet with key leaders and stakeholders of our region.
2. Congratulate Chief Moody and his team at King George Fire and Rescue for becoming a state recognized type 3 swift/flood water response team! Eight years of preparations, training, and obtaining specialized equipment. Great work!
3. Moment of silence for Sterling Volunteer Fire Company firefighter Trevor Brown. He died in the line of duty Friday evening when an explosion occurred. He leaves behind a wife and

three children. Let's also keep in our thoughts the other firefighters that were injured and all the families that have been affected by this tragic incident.

4. I sent out the draft EMS Advisory Board minutes from the February 2nd meeting on February 15th. As always, when you get these, reach out to our advisory board representative, Joey Williams, or to me.
5. The Northern Virginia EMS Council Executive Director, Ray Whatley, has resigned from his position.
6. We will be having a showing of the movie, Odd Hours – No Pay – Cool Hat, here at the REMS office on Wednesday March 13th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. This movie was released this past summer and is about how people can join Fire, EMS and rescue agencies to help their communities. This movie features one of our very own REMS Council agencies, Little Fork Volunteer Fire and Rescue in Culpeper County and the Technical Large Animal Rescue Team. Please invite others that might be interested in attending and RSVP to the REMS office so we can properly plan for those attending.
7. The RTL funding has been brought up to date. The only pending payments are those that do not have the paperwork filed to request the money.
8. I am working on the regional committee lists and workgroup lists to ensure we have active participation. If you know of anyone that would like to serve from your agencies or community, please let me know.
9. The 2023 REMS Council Annual Report has been sent out for your review. I will entertain a motion for approval.

Vice President - Jack Atkinson - No report

Secretary - Marc Crnarich - No report

Treasurer - John Brandrup- No report

Strategic Goal #1 Expert Clinical Care - Coordinator Mark Crnarich; Staff Support Kelsey Rideout

- Performance Improvement Workgroup – Mark Crnarich. – Update on WG activities was provided, next meeting is April 23rd.
- Pharmacy Workgroup – Bill Ooten.

A Pharmacy Workgroup meeting was held on January 11th. The Board of Pharmacy joined us because they are moving forward with schedule- six non-narcotic medication and equipment items to no longer be distributed by hospitals. The regional drug boxes will go away on or before November 1, 2024, to meet the FDA regulation. All agencies will need to move to a one- for-one model or EMS physicians supplied must have a CSR after

11/1/24. The executive director of the board of pharmacy, Carolyn, gave an excellent presentation and answered many questions about the changes coming up. There are still some questions that have not been answered. But in all fairness to the Board of Pharmacy, they're kind of waiting on the DEA. The work group's position is that we're going to continue to work with some of our other groups, as we don't have a whole lot of guidance other than what regulations have for us. The DEA will push for each agency to have a DEA registration. We're still waiting for 100% on that, but that is the understanding. I think when we first started into these discussions, it was assumed. It may be a specific area in jurisdiction. It was recommended we stick with a November 1 start date so that we're ahead of the curve, but technically it's November 27 before they go into effect and start potentially holding them accountable. Jack Atkins raised a concern about the cost and believes we are going in the wrong direction. Wayne explained that other EMS agencies across the country are already doing it.

Protocol Workgroup – Tricia Derr

- PI: For awareness, the OEMS contract with ESO is expiring, they are looking to pursue an extension to the base ESO contract without any add-ons. This may be of interest for agencies that are using the state HER solution directly as opposed to their own system.
- For awareness, there is a JLARC study commissioned by legislature for a review of VDH as a whole,
- Pharmacy workgroup is looking at regional whole blood protocol as well as a regional process or options for supplies
- Pharmacy workgroup is looking at regional medication management option given upcoming DEA ruling and changes in Board of Pharmacy (this was expanded upon by the Pharmacy workgroup report)
- Approved a clerical revision to Stroke Decision Scheme.

- Kelsey Rideout: We are still working on draft revision suggestions for the diversion plan with ITM on that. We've got only one more section we're working on language. Hoping to get that back from the two folks from Spotsy that are working on that in coordination with the EMS liaison from SRMC. I will ping them again on a status on that, and then we'll get that back to item for consideration. The other thing is the Protocol Work Group suggested, including, like many other regions have, including. Epi for cardiac arrest at the AMT level and epi for croup racemic Epi at the AEMT level. We are drafting protocol revisions for that, but because it would be a change in practice level, it does have to go through Protocol to approve the language and then through MRC, Dr. White, and then to the board. It will be a topic for the next board meeting.

Patricia Copeland -

I'm actually in the process of speaking to a new mental health professional that I'm trying to get to join the team. She actually has a master's degree and works for one of the private

companies. Hopefully at the next meeting you guys will be able to meet her. Thank you to Tatiana for everything she's doing. I'm actually going to go do a tour of Boulder Crest on March 30. If anybody wants to join me, it's on a Saturday. The coordinator will be there from 1130 to 1pm, so if anybody would like to join me. We're also going to participate in the EMS Memorial weekend. That's July 19 through the 21st up at Arlington. And we're going to teach a class in Stafford County, for their chaplain's April 15 through the 18th. If anybody has a chaplain that they would like to have participate. And then in June, we're going to do a group crisis intervention up at rescue College. If anybody's interested in getting people into the class, please let us know.

ACTION ITEM – Updates to Regional Patient Care Protocols – motion carries/APPROVED.

Strategic Goal #2 Health and Wellness – Coordinator Joe Williams; Staff Support Lara Traylor

Incident and Threat Mitigation Committee -
An update on committee work was provided. Next meeting is April 18th.

Strategic Goal #3 Cultivating Talent – Coordinator Ed Bonham; Staff Support Kelsey Rideout.

Still working on draft revisions for the Diversion plan with ITM. The Protocol Work Group suggested including EPI for cardiac arrest at the AEMT level and EPI for Croupe, racemic EPI. PWG>MRC>Dr. White>BOD

Kelsey Rideout: With the OEMS funding current issues, we are looking to start charging for some of our EMS classes. Up until now, we have been providing scholarship funds that come from various sources to any regional EMS providers so they can attend at a discounted rate. And then out of region providers pay a fee. What was proposed is that the in-region providers and the out-of-region providers would pay the exact same amount, and that amount would be related to costs for the textbook and any other equipment that we need for the various classes.

Wayne sent out pricing suggestions, and the Executive Committee agreed with the prices. Motion was approved for these fees at the meeting.

There was discussion around changing the Guidelines and Training Committee charter to update the time of the meeting to 4pm. They put out a survey to all career and volunteer members and there were zero votes to maintain a 7pm meeting. There was a motion to remove the time from the charter all together and the Committee Chairperson will provide the time to Wayne for the rest of the year.

Cultural Diversity Work Group

We are back on track. The cinematography will start in March. Initially we're going to roundtable with the various religious leaders. We ran into many conflicts with not going into another's denominational church because of their beliefs. The structure now will be interviews with the individual religious leaders in their own temples, church, etc., pointing out significant things that we should be aware of if we enter their facility. And in talking about their members and things we should be conscious of when we treat emergency members that are there. That will be consolidated into the video with an overview by Jack in a way that will cover all these various cultural diversities in one video that can be watched by our participants. Hopefully we'll have it ready to go in April, barring any other hurdles.

Strategic Goal #4 Driving Innovation - Coordinator Kevin Dillard, Staff Support Wayne Perry

Executive Committee – The Executive met in January and again this month.

Discussed finances, the audit, & personnel issues. We continue to meet quarterly and hold additional meetings if a need arises.

Added Chief David Moody of King George to the committee as an at-large representative to replace the seat that was vacated by Chief Eddie Allen who rotated off the board.

Our next meeting is April 29th at 9am.

Action Item – Purchase an Ultrasound for REMS. The cost is about \$3000.00. Motion was approved to purchase the Ultrasound.

- Grant Workgroup – We did not meet since our last meeting as the Spring cycle of the Rescue Squad Assistance Fund grant was cancelled due to the budget shortfall at OEMS. We are hopeful after the cancellation of the Fall 2023 cycle and the Spring 2024 cycle that the grant program will be back accepting applications for the Fall 2024 cycle.

- Regional Workgroup- Awards -Two calls will be recognized this year
Outstanding EMS and Lifetime Achievement Award
- Personnel Workgroup – No items to report

Strategic Goal #5 Healthcare Collaboration – Coordinator Bill Ooten, Staff
Support Tatiana Pedroza

By-Laws WG – Jack Atkins

No report

Nominating Workgroup -Jack Atkins

Annual elections will be held at the May meeting,

Finance Workgroup- John Brandrup

Reviewed updated financial reports

EMS Governor’s Advisory Board Report- Joe Williams

The State EMS Advisory met on February 2nd.

A report was given by the VDH Commissioner providing updates on the current issues at the Office of EMS.

Fitch & Associates provided an overview of the work that they have been doing a timeline for finishing their work, including advertising, and getting a new Director hired for the Office of EMS.

Kevin Dillard was re-elected as chair of the State EMS Advisory Board.

The EMS Communications Committee submitted a motion that “Any Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) training program utilized by a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) must meet the minimum training standards, as developed by the Communications Committee, regardless of whether they are offered by an approved third-party vendor or developed internally with EMS Physician Oversight.” This was approved.

The Training & Certification Committee submitted a motion that “to approve minimum hour requirements for initial AEMT programs of 24 hours in the hospital clinical setting a minimum hour requirement of 12 hours in the field internship setting.” This was approved.

The OEMS Quarterly report contains a lot of information on the activities that the office has been involved with. Any wishing to have a copy of this can reach out to me or to Kevin Dillard

Staff Report – Wayne Perry-Director

Next Meeting will be May 15,2024 at 7pm, at Brandy Station Fire and Rescue