

Rappahannock EMS Council Board of Directors Meeting

Salem Fire Department

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE (Indicates Virtual)**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Jack Atkins, Rappahannock County Volunteer
**Ed Bonham, Caroline County Career
John Brandrup, At-Large
Joseph Cardello, Stafford County Career
**Patricia Copeland, Stafford County Volunteer
Mark Crnarich, At-Large
Scott Davis, City of Fredericksburg Volunteer
**Susan Dietrich, Caroline County Volunteer
Kevin Dillard, At-Large
Pat Fitzgerald, Westmoreland County Volunteer
David Garvin, King George County Volunteer
William Harrington, Spotsylvania County Citizen

Ray Harvey, Orange County Volunteer
Mike Jones, City of Fredericksburg Career
Ryland Kendrick, At – Large
Christopher Lonzo, Spotsylvania County Career
Debra Marinari, At – Large
**David Moody, King George County Career
William Ooten, Culpeper County Career
Lisa Palmer, Rappahannock County Volunteer
Jacob Parcell, At – Large
Michael Pearson, Culpeper County Volunteer
Joseph Williams, Fauquier County Volunteer
**Dr. Tania White, Regional Medical Director

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED

Jordan Coleman, Fauquier County Career
Nathan Mort, Orange County Career

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Wayne Perry, Regional Director
Andrea Prokop, Office Manager

Call to Order	Meeting was called to order by the President at 19:00 Special thanks to Salem Fire & Rescue for hosting tonight’s meeting
Public Comments / Presentations from Guests	No comments or presentations were received
Approval of Minutes	Minutes for August 21,2024 were approved as amended with corrections to attendance
Officers’ Report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● President – Kevin Dillard 	Recognized Mr. Jack Kelley from Lake of the Woods. Rescue Squad as 2023 Governor’s awardee for outstanding EMS provider.
	Ukraine support is ongoing with next shipment planned this month
	Mr. Joe Williams was re-appointed to Governor’s Advisory Board (GAB) for another 3-year term. Provided 2025 Advisory Board meeting dates
	<p>Provided update on OEMS situation. Key points were JLARC findings that VDH has management and financial issues beyond just OEMS to be addressed. GAB held a unanimous vote to discredit Fitch report due to numerous inaccuracies. Workgroups were formed to address 6 areas of concern: role of State EMS Medical Director, capacity for OEMS managing the Trauma Fund and Trauma Center accreditation, placement of OEMS within Virginia Government, amount and function of Regional EMS Councils, the function of OEMS in EMS Training, and the quantity and span of State Committees as well as the composition of the Advisory Board. Additional information will continue to be distributed as it is received.</p> <p>Additional discussion occurred without formal action.</p> <p>Added the challenge that REMS needs to assess our council model and what it should look like for the future. Potential action for Strategic Planning Committee</p>
	Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors nominated Chief Christopher Lonzo as Spotsylvania County Career EMS BOD representative. Motion to ratify approved unanimously without discussion.

● Vice President – Jack Atkins	Nothing to Report
● Secretary – Mark Crnarich	Nothing to Report
● Treasure – John Brandrup	Finance statements were distributed in the board packet. No additional updates with respect to Locality Funding.
	REMS Council FY25 proposed budget approved unanimously as presented with discussion.
Standing Committee Reports and Action Items	
Strategic Goal #1 – Expert Clinical Care – Coordinator – Mark Crnarich	
Medical Review Committee (Mark Crnarich)	The committee met on 24 October without quorum. Actions deferred to the Board for approvals.
● Heart and Stroke Workgroup (Joe Williams)	The work group met without quorum. Soliciting new members to help energize the workgroup. Focused efforts include Stroke Awareness in the Schools as well as re-addressing the Heart Safe program
	MRC could not approve the clerical / administrative changes to the Regional Stroke Plan, so it was presented to the Board for approval. Changes approved unanimously without discussion.
● Performance Improvement Workgroup (Mark Crnarich)	Did not meet. Working transition activities with new staff support. PI Workgroup Charter updates were approved at the last board meeting; therefore, the agenda item was removed.
● Pharmacy Workgroup (William Ooten)	Discussed ongoing transition in pharmacy exchange. Highlighted recent FDA letter issued in September that provides an alternate interpretation of regulations. Virginia Society of Hospital Pharmacist Association agreed to extend current pharmacy practices for medication kit exchange to April 2025 for those agencies that have not transitioned yet. Agencies who have obtained a CSR and DEA registration must transition over once in place. More discussions are to be had at the next Pharmacy Workgroup meeting.
● Protocol Workgroup (Patricia Derr)	MRC could not approve the Temporary IV fluid protocol; therefore, it was presented to the Board for approval. Protocol approved unanimously without discussion.

Strategic Goal #2 – Health and Wellness – Coordinator – Joe Williams	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Incident and Threat Mitigation Committee (Joe Williams) 	Governor’s EMS Advisory Board approved the white paper from Provider Health and Safety promoting EMS Safety Officer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CISM Team report (Patricia Copeland) 	The report was provided via e-mail.
Strategic Goal #3 – Cultivate Talent – Coordinator – Ed Bonham	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Guidelines and Training Committee (Ed Bonham) 	No committee report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ALS Preceptor/Release Workgroup 	Discussion on future of Regional ALS Preceptors Program. Concern raised with smaller agencies not being able to sustain their own program if the regional effort were halted. Deferred to Guidelines & Training Committee for recommendations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cultural Diversity Workgroup 	Nothing to Report
Strategic Goal #4 – Drive Innovation – Coordinator – Kevin Dillard	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Executive Committee (Kevin Dillard) 	Referred to President’s report and prior OEMS updates distributed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grant Workgroup (John Brandrup) 	Received and reviewed 4 RSAF grant applications that were submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regional Awards Workgroup (David Moody) 	The 2024 Regional Awards Ceremony was held 17 September at the MWH Fick Center. Award winners have been posted on the website.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Personnel Workgroup (David Moordy) 	Nothing to Report
Strategic Goal #5 – Healthcare Collaboration – Coordinator – Bill Ooten	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strategic Planning Committee (Nathan Mort) 	The current plan runs through 2025. Considering addressing a single year strategic plan until clarification on the outcome of changes at the state level are learned. OEMS has a streamlined interim strategic EMS plan that they are using currently.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● By-Laws Workgroup (Jack Akins) 	Nothing to Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nominating Workgroup (Jack Atkins) 	Nothing to Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finance Workgroup (John Brandrup) 	Nothing to Report
EMS Governor’s Advisory Report (Joe Williams)	<p>Highlighted items from the minutes of the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emergency Management Committee is reviewing state stockpiles and mutual aid arrangements ● Karen Owens (state staff support) has left OEMS ● The Communications Committee is reviewing the latest hurricane response and researching potential initiatives for future support ● Scott Winston is retiring as Deputy Director for OEMS in February 2025.
Staff Report (Wayne Perry)	<p>Highlighted items from the Staff Report provided in the Board Packet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● REMS Council has renewed its agreement with VDH and continues to be a NHTSA Child Safety Seat inspection site for rural locations in PD 9. ● Next statewide Anatomage Tournament is scheduled for February 2025 at Colonial Forge HS in Stafford. ● REMS usage of volunteers and interns continues to expand, working with UMW for an internship program, have several Re-Employability volunteers, recently completed Stafford County High School extern program, working on Spotsylvania County HS Extern program. RAHD MRC working to digitize training records.

- REMS Staff has completed a professional medical interpreter training program and is working translate VDH material into Spanish.
- A CDC Public Health Advisor has been assigned to REMS for a 2-year term starting October 28. Grace Yang will be working on public health initiatives and outreach programs.
- Training Center usage remains high, Stafford County currently scheduled for multiple events for ALS airway training.
- REMS Staff were asked to conduct CPR certification training for student teachers enrolled at UMW.
- The regional councils were invited to meet with the OEMS Interim Director after the EMS AB last week. OEMS has asked to begin conversation about working with the various Regional EMS Councils.
- The 2025 EMS Day for the General Assembly is scheduled for 15 January 2025.
- The latest OEMS Data Quality Reports are available on the OEMS website.
- Given the ongoing issues with the contract for the State EMS Medical Director, OMD training is on hold. Any OMD who needs a workshop prior to expiration can request a variance through Regs and Compliance citing this void.
- Continue to await updates to repairs on the AV equipment in the training center from Daly.
- From the Regional Directors Group
 - Received presentation from ESO with respect to discounts on bundled pricing through a contract option with EMS Councils. If any EMS agencies are interested, please notify Wayne so that the interest can be gauged.
 - Virginia is #2 in field EMS administration of whole blood. National standards are now being considered. The RDG will be meeting to discuss best practices and exchange ideas.
 - The Provider Health and Safety Committee put forth a position paper on the role of the EMS Safety Officer. They also recommended agencies review and adopt EMS Performance Measures Beyond Response Times (see Aim High joint position statement).
 - The Vector Solutions contract was renewed and will remain a resource for CEU
 - EMS Council designation is currently set for a December 15 application deadline
 - OEMS has provided several pediatric restraint systems, which are available for Volunteer EMS Agencies. Please contact REMS if you are interested.
- VA Stroke Task Force is also impacted by VDH/OEMS challenges and may be changing to structure more like the Virginia Heart Attack Coalition.
- The next cycle of RSAF opens February 1, 2025; the last cycle awards will be announced January 1, 2025
- OEMS has been conducting interviews for the OEMS Director and hopes to have a candidate selected by the middle of January.
- Starting January 1, 2025, agencies can bill ALS II if blood was used.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● German EMS Exchange program is at Fredericksburg this week, they were already in Virginia Beach, Richmond, Blacksburg, and Bristol. If you're interested in participating or joining them for any events, please reach out to Wayne. ● Question from Board about REMS Staffing. A: Currently there are 2 OEMS FTE and a few part-time REMS staff. Historically it has been as high as 7 FTE. However, previous approved positions from July 2024 were frozen and not filled, and one full-time contract staff position was eliminated due to issues at OEMS. The recent PI vacancy is not being filled until decisions are made about OEMS future role and function.
Unfinished Business	No unfinished business
New Business	No new business
Adjourn	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 20:35.</p> <p>Next meeting to be held February 19, 2025, at Stafford Hospital</p>

KEY DATES

January 2025

- Protocol Workgroup, 6 January
- CISM Team Meeting, 13 January
- Virginia General Assembly EMS Day, 15 January
- Heart and Stroke WG, 15 January
- Pharmacy Workgroup, 16 January
- Incident and Threat Mitigation Committee, 16 January
- Guidelines and Training Committee, 16 January
- Strategic Planning Committee, 16 January
- Medical Review Committee, 23 January
- Executive Committee, 27 January

February 2025

- Governor's Advisory Board, 7 February
- REMS Board of Directors, 19 February

March 2025

- RSAF Grant Application Due, 15 March

May 2025

- Governor's Advisory Board, 2 May

June 2025

- VAVRS Rescue College, 6 – 15 June

August 2025

- Governor's Advisory Board, 1 August

November 2025

- Governor's Advisory Board, 7 November