



Board of Director's Special Meeting

May 12, 2025, 7pm

REMS Council

Members Present	Staff Support	Excused	Guests
Jack Atkins	Wayne Perry	Dr. Tania White	None
Ed Bonham	Lara Traylor	Jordan Coleman	
John Brandrup	Andrea Prokop		
Joeseph Cardello			
Patricia Copeland			
Mark Cnarich*			
Scott Davis			
Kevin Dillard			
Pat Fitzgerald *			
David Garvin			
Chris Lonzo			
Ray Harvey			
Mike Jones			
Ryland Kendrick*			
Debra Marinari			
David Moody			
Nathan Mort			
William Ooten*			
Lisa Palmer			
Jacob Parcell			
Michael Pearson*			
Joe Williams*			

*Virtual participation

Call to Order

Kevin Dillard called the special meeting to order at 7pm and expressed appreciation to the Council staff and attendees. He explained that the special meeting was convened in lieu of the originally scheduled May board meeting because both he and Executive Director Wayne Perry would be unavailable. Kevin would be departing early for a mission to Ukraine, and Wayne would be on an out-of-country vacation. Because of the importance of the discussion regarding regional EMS council realignment, they determined it was necessary to meet in advance.

Approval of Minutes

None

New Business

1. Approval of the 2024 REMS Annual Report

- Motion by Mike Jones; seconded by Ed Bonham.
- Discussion included a question regarding the audience and purpose of the report. Wayne explained it is a required contract deliverable and frequently used in grant applications.
- Kevin and the Board commended the report's professional quality and staff contributions, especially noting Lara Traylor for her input.
- **Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Mary Washington Healthcare Restocking Agreement

- Wayne provided a summary of the revised agreement.
- Mary Washington requested removal of all language regarding ALS medication kits due to recent procedural changes but wished to retain references to linen and IV supply restocking.
- The revised draft with tracked changes was circulated.
- Motion to approve by John Brandrup; seconded by David Moody.
- **Motion passed unanimously.**

Regional Council Merger and Future Planning

Context and Background

Chairman Dillard provided a detailed overview of recent developments:

- The Virginia Department of Health has announced a transition from 11 regional EMS councils to 7 regional service areas, effective January 1, 2026. The REMS region (PD 9 and PD 16) is slated to combine with the Thomas Jefferson EMS Council (TJEMS, PD 10).
- On April 15, the REMS and TJEMS Executive Committees held a joint meeting at the REMS office to begin early collaboration. The Councils discussed their services, programs, and history, acknowledging evolving in response to changes from a volunteer-led system to one with predominantly career agencies.
- The Executive Committees unanimously supported moving forward with a statutory merger, as well as starting preliminary coordination of staffing, committee structure, and board-level planning.
- Regional Operational Medical Directors (Dr. Tania White, REMS; and Dr. George Lindbeck, TJEMS) agreed on the necessity to adapt to changing protocol expectations and expressed a willingness to collaborate, though neither had clarity on what the new RFP would require.

Engagement with NVERS

- On April 24, both Executive Committees met with NVERS (Northern Virginia Emergency Response System) leadership, who toured the REMS facility and presented on their organizational model, structure, and healthcare coalition responsibilities. Their current service area now includes PDs 9, 10, and 16 as part of their healthcare coalition service area.
- NVERS highlighted benefits of regional collaboration: elimination of silos, cross-discipline coordination, procurement advantages, and infrastructure support.
- Follow-up discussions on May 1 between the Executive Committees to discuss NVERS as a potential administrative partner and RFP responder.

Motions and Discussion

Motion 1: Statutory Merger

"The Executive Committee unanimously recommends that the Rappahannock EMS Council and the Thomas Jefferson EMS Council begin a statutory merger of the two different 501(c)(3) EMS Councils, dissolving one organization and keeping a surviving entity."

- Discussion addressed the definitions of statutory vs. consolidated merger.
- General agreement that a statutory merger was most efficient, avoiding the complexity of establishing a new nonprofit.
- Board members raised concerns about governance, continuity, and which entity would survive.
- Suggestions were made to preserve balanced representation of volunteer and career agencies and to initiate bylaw review. Mark Crnarich will chair the joint bylaws workgroup.
- **Motion made by the Executive Committee. Does not require a second as it is coming from Committee. Motion passed.**

Motion 2: Partnership/ Administrative Partner Discussions with NVERS

"The Executive Committee unanimously recommends beginning a concurrent discussion with the NVERS organization to identify options for partnering the surviving entity with NVERS to prepare a response to the upcoming RFP that will be issued for the new combined service area of PD 9, 10, and 16."

- Extensive discussion followed on NVERS' capabilities, potential loss of regional autonomy, governance structure, advisory board roles, and the nature of continued representation for smaller agencies.
- Concerns were raised about maintaining a separate 501(c)(3) merely to hold assets without clear operating authority.
- Others emphasized that entering partnership discussions was prudent to preserve influence and prepare for a strong RFP response.
- **Motion made by the Executive Committee. Does not require a second as it is coming from Committee. Motion passed.**

Motion 3: Cancel May 21 Meeting and Begin Monthly Updates

"Based on the actions tonight, I recommend that we cancel the scheduled board meeting next week on Wednesday, May 21, and start having regular meetings, monthly if needed, which could be offered in person and/or virtually to keep the board updated and to take needed actions for the many changes that are occurring."

- Motion by Kevin Dillard; Seconded by John Brandrup.
- **Motion passed unanimously.**

Closing

The meeting concluded with announcements regarding the upcoming Anatomage Tournament finals and recent awards recognizing the Council's work. The meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Announcements

- REMS Council recently received two awards recognizing regional EMS contributions
 1. The EPIC award for cooperative work with the regional MRC and the state training for all MRC in Stroke Smart.
 2. Education Empowerment from Stafford County Schools for REMS work with the Anatomage Tournament, scenario training for schools, Stroke Smart for schools, and the robust extern program.
- The Anatomage Tournament finals are approaching, with teams from Stafford County High Schools participating in and practicing at the REMS facility.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on June 18th, 2025, at 7PM at REMS. Dinner is at 6:30 and the meeting is at 7pm. Virtual option will be available.