

**Rappahannock/Thomas Jefferson EMS Council Combined Board of Director's  
Virtual Meeting  
Wednesday July 9, 2025 7pm**

**REMS Board Members Present:**

Jack Atkins, Rappahannock County  
John Brandrup, At-Large  
Joeseph Cardello, Stafford County  
Jordan Coleman, Fauquier County  
Patricia Copeland, Stafford County  
Mark Crnarich, At-Large  
Kevin Dillard, At-Large  
Pat Fitzgerald, Town of Colonial Beach  
David Garvin, King George County  
William Harrington, Spotsylvania County  
Ray Harvey, Orange County  
Mike Jones, City of Fredericksburg  
Ryland Kendrick, At-Large  
Debra Marinari, At-Large  
David Moody, King George County  
Bill Ooten, Culpeper County  
Joe Williams, Fauquier County

**REMS Board Members Excused:**

Susan Dietrich, Caroline County  
Lisa Palmer, Rappahannock County  
Ed Bonham, Caroline County  
Chris Lonzo, Spotsylvania County  
Jacob Parcell, At-Large

**REMS Board Members Absent:**

Nathan Mort, Orange County  
Michael Pearson, Culpeper County  
Dr. Tania White, Regional OMD

**TJEMS Board Members Present:**

Billy Hamm, Director  
Hal Schaffer, TJEMS Vice President  
John Lye, TJEMS President  
Pete Davidson, TJEMS Treasurer  
Meade Whitaker, Director  
Courtney Lambert, Director  
Dan Paxton, Director

**TJEMS Board Members Present by  
Proxy:**

Mike Riddle (Noah Hillstrom)  
Lily Bramble (Hal Schaffer)

**TJEMS Board Members Absent:**

Troy Dillard  
Melissa Meador  
Tony Reid  
Michael Thomas  
Macon Walz  
Melanie Welcher  
Dr. George Lindbeck  
Dr Sean Brooks  
John Adkins  
Dustin Dawson  
Will McLaughlin

**Staff Members Present:**

Wayne Perry, Regional Director  
Andrea Prokop, REMS Office Manager  
Ingris Coronado, TJEMS Staff  
Dusty Lynn, TJEMS Staff

**Guests Present:**

**Call to Order – John Lye, TJEMS Council President**

The meeting was called to order at 7pm.

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**Approval of Minutes – John Lye**

**Motion Passed**

The minutes from June 18, 2025, meeting were approved as presented.

**Recognition of Proxy Members and Guests – John Lye**

Noah Hillstrom provided proxy for Mike Riddle. Hal Schaffer provide proxy for Lily Bramble

**Announcements – John Lye**

Sandy Hurley is no longer the ED associated with UVA health systems. Motion to remove Sandy Hurley as TJEMS director was passed without discussion.

OEMS Request for Applications (RFA) has been published.

**Bylaws Discussion and Updates – Mark Crnarich**

An overview of the proposed bylaws was presented. The objective of the bylaws was to establish a board of directors that focuses on the fiscal and fiduciary responsibilities for operating the non-profit organization. The director’s fiscal responsibility lies with securing funding from grants, contracts, and other revenue sources, and establishing organizational budgets. The directors will also be charged with establishing Mission Objectives and scope of work. They will be charged with establishing committees and advisory boards to execute portions of the mission objective through defined charters that establish the scope, work products, and any decision authority delegated to that committee. The bylaws also propose establishing advisory boards to facilitate regional collaboration among EMS stakeholders.

Recommendation was made to include “community outreach” in Mission Objective.

Discussion on nomination process potentially limiting input from the regions served. It was agreed that the defined nomination committee would be charged with identifying the qualified candidates to fill director positions. Recommendation made to expand that section of by-laws to clarify that nomination committee shall actively identify up to three qualified candidates from various organizations for each open position.

Discussion occurred on whether draft by-laws aligns with the agency representation and interaction requirements in the RFA. Consensus was that the current mission scope and definition of Advisory Boards / Chartered committees would be our proposal to remain flexible in accommodating the types of agencies listed, as well as other interested parties.

### **Discussion on Merger – John Lye**

Options were presented to pursue merger between TJEMS and REMS, or working with NVERS, noting that NVERS is not interested in a management “subcontract” arrangement but would consider absorbing both organizations.

Discussion included highlighting that a merger between TJEMS and REMS would allow for retaining rights to reference either agencies past performance, which is essential for a strong proposal as part of the RFA. It was pointed out that a larger consolidation with NVERS may be too big of a task given the short timeline for the RFA.

Discussion continued with TJEMS/REMS merger and collaboration with NVERS.

**MOTION:** Two options were presented for responding to the RFA. Option A – having the merged councils of TJEMS and REMS respond to the RFA. Option B – having NVERS respond to the RFA. A motion was made to support Option A. A roll call vote was held with TJEMS board members present approving the motion unanimously and REMS board members present approving the motion with 3 dissenting votes. Motion was **APPROVED**

### **Discussion on Naming Options– John Lye**

The name Rivanna-Rappahannock Emergency Medical Services Council was proposed to reflect both regions and maintain the REMS acronym. It was pointed out that planning district names (Thomas Jefferson, Rappahannock, Rapidan-Rappahannock) could be maintained at the advisory board / committee level as appropriate.

It was agreed that the proposed name should remain contingent pending attorney review for both State Corporate Commission and any complexities involved in changing the name of a 501(c)(3).

### **Discussion on Merger and RFA Next Steps – Kevin Dillard, John Lye**

It was pointed out that REMS was a valid and viable 501(c)3 that continued to execute OEMS funded requirements under an MOU as opposed to a contract. The “hybrid” portion was only with providing state employees to operate alongside REMS hired staff. All hybrid arrangements were terminated on 1 July 2025.

The importance of reviewing the pros and cons of the two organizations was emphasized before making a decision on which council will survive. The board has agreed to schedule a follow-up meeting on Monday evening to facilitate this discussion. A list of pros / cons will be distributed for consideration prior to the meeting.

Concern was also raised about who will respond to the RFA. It will have to be a collaborative effort between existing TJEMS and REMS resources to provide the necessary past performance artifacts.

### **Agency Reports – All Directors**

Opportunity was given to each director to highlight activities within their region. No actions were taken. Information included successful recruit classes and upcoming training sessions for both career and volunteer agencies. It was noted that the region includes some of the fastest growing counties in the state. Shout out to paramedic team recently released into the field with immediate positive impact on a critical save.

### **Adjournment**

Next meeting will be Virtual on Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 1830 to discuss merger approach.