

# Virginia EMS Advisory Board

## August 7, 2015

### Meeting Summary

Please see the Quarterly report from OEMS ([Click Here](#))

Chairman's Report: Gary Critzer, attended the Fire & EMS memorial service, encouraged others to attend future ceremonies.

Board of Health: Ebola monitoring continues, risk continues to diminish, hopefully Liberia travelers won't have to be monitored in the short future. Reported that work continues around the state in an effort to improve healthcare of Virginia citizens and emphasized the importance of EMS participating in these discussions.

Office of EMS: Director Brown welcomed two new appointed to the board. Billy Ferguson, representing VAGEMSA, and John Korman, representing APCO

American College of Surgeons site visit information update. Pre-review questionnaires were sent out and returned questionnaires sent to the ACS. Invitations have been mailed and the deadline to RSVP has past. No one without an RSVP will be allowed to participate.

EMS Compass- This national effort between NHTSA and NAEMSO should be on everyone's radar. The initiative is to develop evidence-based performance measures for EMS across the nation. More information on this can be found on the OEMS website and [www.emscompass.org](http://www.emscompass.org). The initial comment period has passed.

EMS Symposium- Just a reminder that EMS Symposium registration is now open.

National EMS Memorial Service- The National EMS Memorial Service is returning to Virginia. Kevin Dillard, the founder of the National EMS Memorial Service shared background on the movement of the memorial. The organization is looking for a permanent home for the memorial in Virginia.

EMS Voluntary Event Notification Tool (EVENT)- Scott Winston reminded everyone of the initiative for reporting near misses, violence against providers, medication errors, and equipment failures. More information can be found on the OEMS website.

Naloxone Presentation – Dr. George Lindbeck informed the group that during the last session the General Assembly passed two bills for use of naloxone by non-certified providers. His presentation gave an update on the use of naloxone by non-certified providers and why this has become a “hot topic” issue.

Dr. Lindbeck explained that these new bills direct The Board of Pharmacy to put together a required regulations and training program with input from the Board of Health and the Department of Medicine. OEMS was contacted and gave feedback.

Dr. Trump informed the group that the Board of Pharmacy has posted their protocol on their website outlining what pharmacists are supposed to do to evaluate prescriptions and dispense medication.

Dr. Trump informed the group that the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services has put together a program REVIVE that provides training materials for lay individuals when dealing with overdoses. The REVIVE program is available on their website at <http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/individuals-and-families/substance-abuse/revive> .

Bob Ramsey, Virginia College of Emergency Physicians (VACEP) Executive Director, informed the group that next week they are hosting a task force of emergency physicians to discuss establishing guidelines on the distribution of opioids in emergency departments. Mr. Ramsey also reported that their group was able to help in the defeat of proposed Virginia General Assembly legislation that would have required emergency physicians to find out where heroin overdose patients obtained the heroin.

Healthcare Industry Coordinator Bridge To Employment Program, Virginia Employment Commission – Mark Whiting informed the group about the Bridge to Employment Program, which is a new statewide initiative that is a part of a Department of Labor Demonstration Project. The project targets three specific industry sectors – (1) healthcare; (2) advanced manufacturing; and (3) logistics and supply chains.

Mr. Whiting said that they have experts in those three areas and pair them with staff on the military bases who are working with veterans and transitioning service members who may want to enter one of those three fields. He informed the group of available resources for individuals, stakeholder groups and HR recruitment staff. They have the Virginia Employment Connection website; Bridge-to-Employment Coordinators who work on military bases; and they offer job fair services. Mr. Whiting said all of these services are free of charge to the public.

Executive committee- Chairman Critzer reported that Matt Tatum has rotated off the EMS Advisory Board, therefore the chairman of the Transportation Committee was vacant. Chip Decker was nominated and has accepted the position as Chair of that committee.

OEMS developed a Resolution to support REPLICA. The Advisory Board took action to support this resolution. Constituent organizations will be asked to take this resolution back to their organizations and local governments for support as well.

Geriatrics Committee- Dr. Jayaraman asked the Executive Committee about establishing a Geriatrics Committee to address the needs of this population. A Workgroup was established, as not to duplicate work as a full committee.

Nominating Committee- Chairman Critzer appointed Ross Passmore to Chair the committee, other members include Dr. McLeod, Stephen Elliot, Anita Perry, and Jon Henschel.

FARC- From May to July OEMS processed \$1.8 million in grant reimbursements and one emergency grant in the amount of \$144,000. In the last cycle there were 152 applications requesting \$10,724,108 and awarded 115 agencies totaling \$5,068,323. The grant cycle is open now and will close Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone requesting a new ambulance is reminded to include the new cot retention system in the request.

Rules and Regs.- The fast track items are still awaiting review. The DDNR review is still soliciting public comment on Town Hall. The EMS Regulations periodic review will begin next year. The transportation committee is working on ambulance standards. Technical Service Advisories have been issued by two cot vendors regarding current antler systems.

Legislative & Planning- Re-emphasized the importance of REPLICA. The State EMS Plan was approved by the Board of Health on June 5, 2014. The Plan must be reviewed and updated every three years. This review process will start soon. The committee will also be reviewing the Federal Interagency Committee on EMS Strategic Plan for potential incorporation into the state plan.

Scott Winston discussed the Comprehensive Clean-Up bill. Due to statutory changes, some definitions in the regulations need to be updated. OEMS has submitted a Fast Track packet to VDH management.

Chairperson Foster pointed out that a potential legislative item for 2016 is a budget amendment for the installing of cot retention systems in ambulance built after 7/1/15.

Transportation- No Report.

Communications – Made some minor adjustments to some training requirements associated with the accreditation process. Issued conditional PSAP accreditation to Dickinson County and Fauquier County.

Emergency Management- Update on Mutual Aid.net, program moving forward. Approximately 100 resources have been cataloged. Discussion held on START versus SALT or Model Uniform Core Criteria (MUCC) for mass casualty triage. START will remain the standard for now.

Medical Direction- Two Action Items: 1) Expansion of Scope of Practice and Formulary to allow EMRs to administer Naloxone and 2) Expansion of Scope of Practice and Formulary to allow EMTs to administer ocular analgesics. Both motions were unanimously passed.

POST and MOLST forms- Dr. Lindbeck reported that MDC discussed using these forms and decided to wait until public comment is over before they decide how they can address this issue most efficiently.

Medevac- Committee is still working on project for air transport of STEMI patients. Continue to assess data from Virginia weather turndowns. A one page Landing Zone Safety document has been developed.

Trauma- Introduces a new committee member Dr. Stephenson from NRV Medical Center. Johnston-Willis Hospital is now a Level 3 Trauma Center. Subgroup is working on State Triage Plan. Multiple non-trauma centers throughout the state are considering using the ACS program for Rural Trauma Team Development.

EMSC- Work continues on PEDS ED Readiness Evaluation for emergency departments. American Academy of Pediatrics has proposed setting up a coalition of coastal states in preparation for future hurricanes and other natural disasters. Working on Pediatric Trauma Guidelines. Soliciting for pediatric topics for 2016 Symposium.

Training & Certification- New course deliver process is up and running. Symposium registration is open. 2016 Symposium call for presentation opened July 7<sup>th</sup>. EMS Training Funds are addressing some fraudulent issued.

Two new workgroups: 1) EMT I-99 Planning Workgroup- Larry Oliver, Chair; 2) Training Regulation Review- Chad Blosser, Chair.

Next TCC meeting will receive information from DED on 2016 CE transition and TPAM presentation. Next meeting Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30a.m. at OEMS.

Workforce Development- EMS Officer 1 program workgroup has met several times. No updated date on launch of pilot course. The Standards of Excellence workgroup has identified agencies to participate in the pilot phase, scheduled to be completed by October 2015. Recruitment and Retention Network met in conjunction with Virginia State Firefighters Conference.

Health & Safety- Continuing to push out safety bulletins. Reviewing officer program and providing feedback to Workforce Development. Committee has been tasked with coming up with guidelines for fatigue in the EMS workforce.

Regional Councils- Discussed standardization of IT structures throughout council regions. Discussed OEMS Regional Council portal for access to data and reports.

Public Comment- AHA Mission Lifeline representative reminded the Board of STEMI project recognition programs.

ODEMSA field representative asked that suicide by providers be considered for Provider Health and Safety focus. Recommended a CISM committee. OEMS staffer Connie Green addressed concerns and confirmed this is on the radar of Provider Health and Safety.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Ferguson  
WVEMS Advisory Board Representative