

Western Virginia EMS Council  
Report from the State's EMS Advisory Board

The most recent meeting was held August 10, 2012 in Richmond, Virginia.

Since the last report, I have attended the Financial Assistance Review Committee, Rules and Regulations Committee, Legislative & Planning Committee, and Regional Directors' meeting.

During the Financial Assistance Review Committee (FARC) meeting, I was able to discuss the letter from WVEMS dealing with the P25 requirement for communications grant requests. Following discussion with the communications committee, FARC changed its P25 requirement to only require equipment to be P25 compatible. I am grateful for Billy Altman's work on FARC and the committee for taking time to consider this issue.

At the last meeting, I mentioned that there was an effort to complete an EMS needs survey. Since that time, OEMS and the Legislative and Planning Committee decided not to make that survey part of the Fire Programs survey. The Legislative and Planning Committee is currently developing the survey and working with OEMS staff to produce a web-based EMS needs survey.

Governor Robert McDonnell has signed the EMS regulations. They will be published in the Virginia Register on September 10, 2012, which begins the 30 day comment period, thus ending on October 10, 2012. The Regulation and Policy Committee has scheduled a meeting for October 25th to review the public comments, etc.

Other action items of the Board included:

- Reviewed and approved the 2010 and 2011 financial reports of the Virginia Association Volunteer Rescue Squads per Code of Virginia requirements.
- Endorsed the requirement that providers trained outside Virginia submit a report from the National Practitioner Data Bank to gain EMS certification in Virginia.
- Endorsed the Transition Plan from the EMT Enhanced certification program to the Advanced EMT certification program to meet the National Scope of Practice.
- Endorsed White Paper regarding the use of EMD at Public Safety Answering Points in Virginia.
- Endorsed the Virginia Version 3 Minimum Data Set (VAv3)

Thank you for your confidence in me to represent the Council on the Advisory Board. Should you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Wagoner