

**State EMS Advisory Board
Executive Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of EMS
Courtyard by Marriott, Glen Allen, VA
August 7, 2014
11:00 a.m.**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	OEMS STAFF:	OTHER ATTENDEES:
Gary Critzer, Chair	Gary R. Brown	Ed Rhodes
Matt Tatum	Scott Winston	Bruce Edwards
	Michael Berg	Chad Blosser
	Paul Sharpe	
	Dennis Molnar	
	Irene Hamilton	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to Order:	<p>Gary Critzer, Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 11:15 a.m.</p> <p>Mr. Critzer noted that most of the members of the Executive Committee have rotated off the board; and therefore, only Matt Tatum and he are left on the Executive Committee. Even though this is technically still a quorum, he did not develop a formal agenda for the meeting.</p>	
Mobile Integrated Healthcare Group (Community Paramedicine)	<p>Mr. Critzer is putting together a multidisciplinary group to look at the concept of Mobile Integrated Healthcare (Community Paramedicine) and determine how EMS in Virginia can work with the Virginia healthcare industry to develop a working Community Paramedicine environment in Virginia. The group will consist of about 14 multidisciplinary members. He still has to solicit a few members to complete the group's composition.</p>	
Bylaw Change Proposal	<p>Mr. Critzer said the recent board members rotations off the Board and appointment of new board members created a disorganized situation for the State EMS Advisory Board. Therefore, he has reviewed the current Bylaws and made some suggested changes.</p>  <p>Proposed EMS Advisory Board Bylaw</p> <p>He discussed these changes with the group and talked about the best method of proceeding with bringing the changes to the full State EMS Advisory Board for action.</p> <p>Mr. Critzer thinks the best solution is to have a special meeting on the day of the next EMS Advisory Board meeting, Wednesday, November 5, in Norfolk, Virginia. He would like to have a special meeting, probably a working lunch meeting beginning at 11 a.m. The regular State EMS Advisory Board meeting would follow the special meeting at 1:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Mr. Critzer will ask the EMS Advisory Board tomorrow if they agree with holding a special meeting at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, November 5, before the regularly scheduled 1 p.m. State EMS Advisory Board meeting.</p>
Criminal Background Checks	<p>Scott Winston asked what others have heard about criminal background checks. Scott gave examples of some of the questions that are being asked in regards to the background checks and results. Gary Critzer said he has some of the</p>	

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	<p>same questions, as well.</p> <p>Gary Critzer said that he knows Scott Downs, who is one of the second in command at Virginia State Police. Mr. Critzer wants to schedule a meeting with Mr. Downs to see if they can possibly make some changes to the current criminal background checks stipulations. He would attend the meeting along with some OEMS staff and perhaps a couple of other State EMS Advisory Board members. Mr. Critzer said if he can get a meeting scheduled and it does not produce results then he thinks they should continue up the “chain of command” on this issue because these issues and the concerns voiced will not just go away. Mr. Critzer said that it is important that the system understands that some of these stipulations are clearly out of the control of OEMS because the FBI has identified the Virginia State Police as the responsible agent, and they have the responsibility of establishing regulation and policy.</p> <p>The group discussed this issue in great detail and a lot of important facts and issues were discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Critzer said he knows of one locality that is thinking of putting forth legislative changes to the current policy. Scott Winston said there may be several localities considering this option, as well. • Matt Tatum discussed the fact that career-based departments have more stringent requirements for employment than what the regulations require for certification. These departments have to have criminal background checks for employment but now have to duplicate the results to meet the OEMS requirements. He questioned why they can’t be allowed to maintain criminal history information on file that they have obtained from conducting their own background checks. • Mr. Critzer pointed out that the way the Code is written in regards to an FBI check it states that only certain entities can do it. Mr. Critzer said that agencies can have an individual go and get their own criminal background check, get the results and give it to the agency. Jurisdictions can then choose if they want to reimburse the individual for the cost of the criminal background check . • Mr. Winston mentioned that the challenge is that OEMS only does an EMS agency inspection once every two years and it is likely people will fall through the cracks due to turnover rates. • Bruce Edwards questioned why the Code interpretation is that OEMS is the single governing entity with oversight for the criminal background checks. He thinks that it should not have to be only OEMS. • The group discussed the fact that they are confused as to whether the policy is regulatory or legislative; or both. They need some clarity on this issue. • Gary Critzer said that he has verified with the State Police that for an entity other than those identified in the Code to do their own FBI checks, they have to get language in the Code to allow them to do their own FBI checks. • In discussion, it was pointed out that currently anyone who is affiliated with an EMS agency, even non-certified administrative staff, must have criminal background checks. 	<p>After much discussion, the group decided that Gary Critzer will set up a meeting with Scott Downs of the Virginia State Police to discuss the conflicts with the criminal background checks policy. The meeting will be attended by Gary Critzer and Mike Berg.</p> <p>If they don’t achieve the desired results from this meeting, Ed Rhodes will set up a meeting with Senator Carrico. This meeting would also be attended by Gary Critzer and Mike Berg.</p> <p>Gary Brown will inform Dr. Trump of these planned meetings and the reasons for the meetings.</p>
Adjournment:	The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.	