

STATE EMS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Embassy Suites Hotel – Richmond, Virginia
February 8, 2002

Members Present: Donald R. Barklage, Jr.; Earl N. Carter, Jr.; Scott R. Chandler; Chip Decker; Margaret A. Dolan, M.D.; John Michael Freeman; Richard R. Johnson; George W. Langford; Joanne E. Lapetina, M.D., A.V. Maddra, III; Elizabeth Jo Martin; Stewart W. Martin, M.D.; Genemarie W. McGee; David B. Palmer; Michael B. Player; Linda L. Sayles; John E. Snyder; Kent Weber; Claude R. Webster; Carl F. Wentzel, III, M.D.; and Jeffrey S. Young, M.D.

Members Absent: Thomas D. Harvey (excused); James B. Hurlock, Jr. (excused); and Robert Stout

Others Present: Michael Berg (Thomas Jefferson EMS Council); Tina Skinner (Rappahannock EMS Council); Wanda Legge (Lord Fairfax EMS Council); Melinda Duncan (Northern Virginia EMS Council); Connie Purvis (Blue Ridge EMS Council); Rob Logan (Western Virginia EMS Council); Jim Chandler (Tidewater EMS Council); William Bowmaster, Sr. (Frederick County Fire & Rescue); Gary DuBrueler (Frederick County Fire & Rescue); Bill Bullock (Fairfax County Fire); Craig Johnson (Louisa Department of Emergency Services); Don Wilson (Peninsulas EMS Council); Jennie Collins (Prince William County Fire/VAGEMSA); Matt Painter (Central Shenandoah EMS Council); Bryan McRay (Lifeline Ambulance Service); Theresa Guins, M.D. (EMSC); Petra Menzel (EMSC); and Mike Harmon (Chesterfield Fire & EMS)

OEMS Staff: Gary R. Brown; Scott Winston; Ruth Robertson; Linwood Pulling; Carol Morrow; Warren Short; David E. Cullen, Jr.; Deborah Edwards; Karen Head; James Burch; Everette Vaughan; Ken Clark; and Carol Gilbert, OEMS Medical Director; and Irene Hamilton, Secretary

CALL TO ORDER:

Dr. Lapetina, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. A motion was made and properly seconded and a vote was taken. The minutes were approved.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT.....Joanne Lapetina, M.D.

House Bill 82 has passed and Senate Bill 3 has passed with an amendment. The amendment places the extra \$2 into the General Fund and distributes it for terrorist initiatives as directed by the Governor. These bills still have to go through crossover and the final outcome is still uncertain. EMS wants to ensure that if the \$2 is used for terrorist initiatives for the next two years that after that time it is returned to EMS.

VICE-CHAIRMAN’S REPORT.....Jeffrey S. Young, M.D.

No report.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR’S REPORT.....Carol Gilbert, M.D.

Dr. Gilbert and Dr. Lapetina have been working on a Physicians Strike Team to complement the existing Task Forces. Everette Vaughan was asked to give the Board a briefing of the efforts. A draft of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the Physician Strike Team Manual has been completed and the Physician Strike Team Manual is being printed. The first training session is scheduled on Monday, February 11 at the Homestead. The Strike Team will serve as Operational Medical Directors for the Task Forces. The Physician Strike Teams will allow for some actual on-site medical direction. All the physicians on the teams are Office of EMS OMDs.

STATE EMS ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Director’s ReportGary Brown

Quarterly Report - Beginning with the current *Quarterly Report to the State EMS Advisory Board – February 8, 2002*, the reports will be posted on the Office of EMS web site. The minutes from the State EMS Advisory Board meetings are also available on the Office of EMS web site.

Administration - Governor Warner has requested Dr. Robert Stroube to continue as Acting State Health Commissioner until he makes a permanent appointment in that position. Jane Woods, a

former state senator from the Fairfax area, has been appointed as Secretary of Health and Human Resources. Secretary Woods has been a friend of public health and EMS for many years.

Federal Funds - The federal government will be distributing money to the states for anti-terrorism purposes under the Emergency Supplemental Act 2002 in the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and other related agencies. Virginia will be getting approximately \$23 million dollars for the CDC Bioterrorism and HRSA Hospital portions of these monies. In addition, \$2.9 million has been allocated for the Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program in Virginia. The Office of EMS has received word that the guidelines for the remainder of the monies is scheduled to be released from Secretary Thompson on February 15. There will be a due date in April for submitting forms and paperwork and the Office of EMS would welcome Board members for assistance in completing the necessary plans, forms and paperwork. Board members will be notified when more information is available.

Secure Virginia Initiative - Dr. Lapetina, Scott Winston, and Gary Brown attended a press conference at the Capitol. Governor Warner extended the invitation at which time he signed Executive Order 7 that launched the Secure Virginia Initiative. During the press conference, Governor Warner also announced his budget amendments and his expectations for the panel. The panel will include 20 members and will be headed by former Lieutenant Governor John Hager. In addition to John Hager, the panel will consist of the Lieutenant Governor Tim Kaine, Attorney General Jerry Kilgore, two members from the House of Delegates, two members from the Senate, three local government leaders, two local first responders, four leaders from the private sector, and the Secretaries of Public Safety, Health and Human Resources, Technology, and Transportation.

Bioterrorism Displays - The Office of EMS has been invited to be a part of a display featuring the Health Department at the General Assembly on February 25 – March 1. The emphasis of the displays will be on Bioterrorism, with an emphasis on Epidemiology and EMS. Office of EMS is in the process of getting some clarification from the Capitol Police as to whether they can bring some units on the Capitol grounds. The Office of EMS hopes to be able to display their ESF-8 Health and Medical Command Trailer at the Capitol along with inviting some units to attend. The EMS booth will have to be staffed from 8:30 to 5:30 each of those days. Mr. Brown invited all members of the Board and Regional EMS Council Directors to help with staffing of the booth and asked that any interested members either notify him after the meeting or via email.

EMS Funding Legislation - The Office of EMS was requested to provide information to the Department of Planning and Budget as to how the Office of EMS would spend the \$3.2 million dollars proposed in legislation if the bill is passed. The budget analyst had a copy of the 1999 Funding Task Force Report and reviewed a lot of the priorities with Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown indicated to the analyst that the Office of EMS would want to stick closely to those priorities if the monies were awarded. Mr. Brown also received a call from Steve Sullivan, the Director of Budget Services for the Health Department requesting information regarding how the Office of EMS would spend the \$3.2 million if it were awarded. Mr. Sullivan needed an immediate response to his request as he was preparing talking points for Dr. Stroube. Mr. Brown responded to Mr. Sullivan using the Position Paper developed by the Funding Task Force last year to

elaborate on how the Office of EMS would spend the money if awarded. Mr. Brown read his response to the Board and asked for their approval of his actions. Mr. Brown will send his response to the Board members via email.

Based on Mr. Brown's actions, Kent Weber made the following motion, and it was seconded by Ed Snyder.

MOTION: The State EMS Advisory Board endorses the position taken by the Office of EMS as to how they would spend the proposed \$3.2 million if awarded by the General Assembly and stands ready to assist and support the Office of EMS in any way possible.

There was no discussion and the Chair called for the vote. **21 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. The motion carried unanimously.**

Upcoming Conventions - Office of EMS staff will be attending the State Fire Chief's Conference scheduled in Virginia Beach in February and in March Office of EMS staff will be attend the Virginia Emergency Management Association Conference in Williamsburg. The Office of EMS will have booths set up at both conferences.

OEMS Legislative Grid - Mr. Brown reviewed the Office of EMS Legislative grid that he has been distributing to Board members via email weekly. The grid reviews all the legislation that the Office of EMS is tracking.

Assistant Director's ReportScott Winston

No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Communications CommitteeScott Chandler

Communications Committee met on December 6, 2001 and January 31, 2002. The committee has been reviewing the regulatory language that was previously proposed. The committee discussed various training opportunities. The majority of the time was spent on issues involving Emergency Medical Dispatch in order to complete their report requested by the Advisory Board.

The Communications Committee wants to update two communication documents, the *EMS Communications Directory*, which was published in 1987 and updated in 1994; and the *State EMS Communications Plan* that was last revised in 1986. Regarding the two plans, Scott Chandler brought forth the following motion on behalf of the Communications Committee.

MOTION: The State EMS Communications Committee recommends that the State EMS Advisory Board endorse and approve the Office of EMS to contract with one or more qualified vendors or individuals to update the Virginia EMS Communications Directory and the State EMS Communications Plan.

The motion was seconded by Kent Weber and the Chair opened the floor for discussion. Following discussion, the Chair called for the vote. **21 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. The motion carried unanimously.**

The Communications Committee has completed their study of EMD and the responsibilities of the Office of EMS in regards to EMD in the Commonwealth. Mr. Chandler presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the committee's completed report. This report is the result of a Position Paper adopted by the State EMS Advisory Board in 1999 that stated the position of the Office of EMS is that pre-arrival medical dispatch services should be provided to all citizens of the Commonwealth. Following his presentation, Mr. Chandler answered questions from the Board members. Following the discussion, Scott Chandler brought forth the following motion.

MOTION: The State EMS Communications Committee recommends that the State EMS Advisory Board adopt the recommendations and action plans identified in its report "Exploring the Status of EMD in Virginia" dated February 8, 2002.

Dave Palmer seconded the motion. The Chair asked if there was any further discussion and hearing none called for the vote. **21 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. The motion carried unanimously.**

CISM Committee.....Linda Sayles

The CISM Committee met on January 23. The focus of the meeting was to finalize plans for the annual CISM Conference that will be taking place May 29 through June 1, 2002 at Virginia Beach. There has been a lot of interest from agencies due to the 9-11 incident. The brochures should be in distribution shortly. Linwood Pulling who has accepted the Grants Specialist position formerly held by Judy Link was recognized and welcomed.

EMS Emergency Management Committee.....Michael Player

The committee has met monthly since the November EMS Advisory Board meeting. The committee has been working on the Mass Casualty Module III, Tactical Considerations. That is on target and should be completed in March. The EOC Operations on Emergency Support Function 8, Module IV, should also be completed in March. The committee has agreed to present both of these Modules at the 2002 EMS Symposium. The committee has also been working with the Statewide Terrorism Consortium. They have been successful in getting the current programs in the process to be reviewed. A couple of EMS instructors have been cross-trained by the Department of Emergency Management as Terrorism Instructors. The group has agreed that any programs approved by the group will then bear the approval of all the agencies.

Everette Vaughan informed the Board that the Department of Emergency Management Terrorism Awareness has been given continuing education credits through the Office of EMS.

EMS for Children (EMSC)..... Margaret Dolan, M.D.

The committee met on February 7, 2002. EMSC received notification that they were awarded a \$100,000 Partnership grant. EMSC has also been awarded DMV funding for another year, as well as being awarded some funding from the Children’s Miracle Network. Dr. Dolan gave an overview of some of the projects being undertaken by EMSC using their grant funds. EMSC has received an additional \$10,000 supplement that will enable the Office of EMS to have filters installed on the Statewide Trauma Registry System that will enable them to upload information from trauma centers that are currently unable to submit data. A contract vendor has been selected to complete that process. EMSC funded research by Richmond Ambulance Authority using GIS Software to discover childhood illness and injury patterns. This research was presented at ACEP in October and the National Association of EMS Physicians in January. At the January meeting EMSC received the award for *Best Presentation by an EMS Provider*. The New Poison Center Hotline 800 number has been announced and there is a national campaign taking place regarding the number. The Virginia Department of Health developed a packet for Child Passenger Safety Week that takes place February 10-16. EMSC collaborated on the packet development. There is legislation on the floor of the General Assembly that would increase the mandatory age for child safety seats from four to five. Risk Watch applications for Risk Watch communities will be opening up soon. The Third National Conference on Pediatric Emergency will be in April in Dallas. EMSC has submitted an abstract that was accepted.

Evaluation Committee..... Dave Cullen

PPCR / PPDR Reporting is finished and OEMS has distributed the FireHouse software add-in program. The software can be requested through the OEMS web page. Data is continuing to be collected via the Internet. The collected data is being stored currently while they clean out the bad data they have received and also create error-checking procedures. It is anticipated that there will be good data reports available for the Board at the next meeting. MIS is in the process of developing some customer solutions to the current software program that OEMS is using.

Financial Assistance Review CommitteeEd Snyder

F.A.R.C. welcomed Linwood Pulling to their team. As stated earlier, Linwood is replacing Judy Link as the grant specialist. F.A.R.C. held its public meeting in Williamsburg on December 7. The committee reviewed 137 grant applications prior to December and recommended funding of 101 various projects totaling \$1,535,052.36. F.A.R.C. also met on February 7 and completed the proposed changes to the rules and regulations that govern F.A.R.C. These recommendations will be submitted to the Office of EMS. At the last meeting, Mr. Snyder reported that he would be presenting the Advisory Board with a synopsis on the monies that are being awarded in each category over the last several cycles. That information is still being gathered. In the next grant

cycle, F.A.R.C. will be using standardized pricing for the Defibrillator category instead of individual manufacturer product prices. This will make the program easier to administer. Bob Crowder's term on F.A.R.C. will be expiring in June. Bob's replacement needs to come from the Peninsulas region, and F.A.R.C. needs the Peninsulas region to come up with some nominations to present to the Advisory Board so that the Board can take action in May for that particular seat on the committee.

The next F.A.R.C. meeting is scheduled on May 9.

Human Resources and TrainingJoanne Lapetina, M.D.

Dr. Lapetina informed the Board that the Human Resources and Training Committee has never had a formal directive to define the organizations that should have representation on the committee. The committee has therefore defined the composition for the committee and is bringing forth this item as a motion before the Board. Dr. Lapetina brought forth the following motion.

MOTION: The Human Resources and Training Committee will consist of ten members including one member of the EMS Advisory Board appointed to serve as Chairman. The remaining members of the committee will represent one or more of the following organizations or groups: Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads; Virginia Association of Governmental EMS Administrators; Virginia Emergency Nursing Association; Regional EMS Council Representative; Licensed commercial EMS Agency Representative; ALS Coordinator Workgroup Representative; Academic EMS program Representative (College of University); Commercial EMS Training Program Representative (Private company); Two (2) Members at Large to be selected as necessary to insure the Committee has at least one certified EMT-Instructor, one endorsed ALS coordinator and one Endorsed EMS Physician.

Note: Any member may represent one or more of the listed organizations or groups. If a member represents two or more of these organizations or groups, additional individuals may be appointed as members regardless of affiliation with a listed organization or group.

Following the reading of the motion, the floor was opened for discussion.

Dr. Dolan was concerned that there was no representation on the committee that specifically represented children. Dave Palmer pointed out that there are two positions, one *Licensed Commercial EMS Agency* and the other is *Commercial EMS Training Program Representative*. Mr. Palmer asked if it is possible that those positions could be represented by the same person, thereby freeing up a space on the committee for EMS for Children. Dr. Lapetina agreed that was possible. After discussion, Dr. Dolan brought forth an amendment to the current motion on the table.

AMENDMENT: Establish a position for pediatric representation on the Human Resources and Training committee. That position shall be nominated by the Virginia EMS for Children program. This could be accomplished by having one person represent both the Licensed Commercial EMS Agencies and the Commercial EMS Training Programs.

The amendment was seconded by Dave Palmer. The Chair opened the floor for discussion on the amendment. Chip Decker pointed out that he assumes that the Licensed Commercial EMS Agency Representative would be from an organization such as Virginia Ambulance Association and that the Commercial EMS Training Program would probably be a college. Mr. Decker questioned the correlation between the two groups. Dr. Lapetina pointed out that she was not sure if it was necessary to have representation from a Licensed Commercial EMS Agency on the HR&T Committee, but she does feel that the Commercial EMS Training Program should be represented. Hearing no other discussion, the vote was taken.

20 Yeas; 1 Nays; 0 Abstentions. The motion carried.

Hearing no more discussion for the actual motion, the Chair called for the vote. **20 Yeas; 1 Nays; 0 Abstentions. The motion carried.**

Trauma System Oversight & ManagementDr. Jeffrey Young

Dr. Young had no new informational items. Dr. Young brought forth a motion.

MOTION: The Trauma System Oversight & Management Committee seeks approval from the State EMS Advisory Board for two updates to the *Virginia Statewide Trauma Center Designation Program Resource Manual for Hospitals*. (1) Under Section E Quality of Care, # 4 – “There shall be a forum for multidisciplinary review of care of the injured patient, utilizing prehospital, nursing ancillary and medical personnel.” - this wording has been changed to include Level 1 and 2; formerly it only applied to Level 3. (2) Under Section E Quality of Care, #6 - strike “Review of prehospital and regional systems of trauma care and trauma triage.” The wording will now read: “Participation in and development of regional systems of trauma care and trauma triage and review as appropriate.”

Genemarie McGee seconded the motion and the Chair opened the floor for discussion. Hearing none, the vote was taken. **21 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. The motion carried unanimously.**

Medevac Committee.....Genemarie McGee

The committee last met on January 30 and at that meeting they had representation from VCU as the newest program in state. Ms. McGee distributed a document that outlined the committee’s vision of air Medevac services in Virginia in response to a JLARC Study recommending a contingency back up system in Virginia. This document has been distributed to pre-hospital EMS agencies. The Medevac Committee has worked on their goals for this year. They have three goals. (1) The committee will be revising and updating the Virginia Medevac LZ

Directory, a directory that has location and other information on every hospital associated heliport in Virginia. Once completed this directory will be placed on the OEMS web site. (2) The Medevac Committee is going to collaborate with the Office of EMS and the Emergency Management Committee to talk about the integration of helicopter operations into the State Emergency Management Plan. (3) The Office of EMS has been asked to assist with the issue of towers being placed across the state very close to helipads, very close to highways. The Communications Committee will be working with the Office of EMS, the FCC and the FAA to develop a plan allowing for notification of proposed tower hazard locations. The next meeting is scheduled May 1, 2002 at the Office of EMS.

Medical Direction Committee.....Stewart Martin, M.D.

The committee has two action items and two information items. The Medical Direction Committee will be sponsoring an airway class for the Symposium in November. There will also be a Medical Direction program at Symposium that will be divided into two halves, the morning session will be for new medical directors and the afternoon will be for both new and experienced medical directors. The committee has received information on the Terrorism Task Force. Dr. Martin distributed two sheets, a draft EMS Medication Schedule and a draft EMS Procedures Schedule. These were approved previously and at the last meeting the committee reviewed and revised the schedules. This document allows certain levels of providers to do certain skills and give certain medications and define other levels where they are not permitted to do certain procedures or give certain medications. If a medical director wants to go outside of these guidelines, they should come to the Medical Direction Committee for approval. Dr. Martin brought forth the following motion.

MOTION: The Medical Direction Committee recommends that the State EMS Advisory Board adopt the draft EMS Medication Schedule as presented by the Medical Direction Committee.

The motion was seconded by Michael Player, and the Chair opened the floor for discussion. Mr. Player wanted clarification as to what the process would be if an OMD wanted to do something outside of this schedule as to whether requests would be handled by the state or region or both. Dr. Gilbert explained that at present the committee doesn't have a written policy outlining this procedure but it would probably make sense to have a two-step process, going first to the region and then to the state.

Hearing no more discussion, the Chair called for the vote. **21 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. The motion carried unanimously.**

Dr. Martin also brought forth a motion concerning their revised EMS Procedures Schedule.

MOTION: The Medical Direction Committee recommends that the State EMS Advisory Board adopt the draft EMS Procedures Schedule as presented by the Medical Direction Committee.

Michael Player seconded the motion, and the Chair opened the floor for discussion. Mr. Player asked about the disclaimer on the bottom regarding weapons of mass destruction; and asked about the possibility of having some other language that would include other specialties. Dr. Martin said that he thinks that should be a separate document. Dr. Martin said that the committee would look at the other areas at their next meeting.

Hearing no more discussion, the Chair called for the vote. **21 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions.**
The motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2002 at 10:30 a.m. at the Office of EMS.

Public Information and Education Committee.....Ruth Robertson

The committee met on February 7, 2002. The committee projects include a review of recent recruitment and retention survey results that went out to ask agencies to share their most successful recruitment and retention activities. The results have been compiled and a summary will be mailed to all EMS agencies. The committee is working on a PowerPoint presentation on various hiring opportunities in EMS. A former committee member created this presentation, and the committee wants to put it on the OEMS web page. The committee is still working on the *EMS Success Video* and is much closer to actually producing the video. Jon Peters will be coordinating with Terry Coy from OEMS on the production of the video. The committee is looking into ways of increasing public knowledge about EMS. It was suggested to revise some of the public service spots for radio and TV for EMS Week 2002. The next committee meeting is scheduled 10 a.m. on April 11, 2002 at the Office of EMS.

Regulation and Policy Committee..... Claude Webster

The committee met on February 7. The Regional Council directors attended the meeting. The proposed revised EMS Rules and Regulations are still in the Governor's office awaiting his signature. The committee solicits help from any Board members who might be able to expedite the signing. If the regulations are not signed timely it might impede all of the new curriculum and training plans that are scheduled to be implemented July 1. After the Governor has signed the regulations, there will be another public comment period. The committee addressed the issue of AEDs on fire trucks and other vehicles that are not EMS agencies or licensed as a first-responder non-transport vehicle, that was brought to their attention by the Transportation Committee. Mr. Cullen has worked on that issue and will address those concerns during the next Public Comment period.

The DDNR regulation has been signed by the Governor and is awaiting the completion of the 30-day period so that it can officially be a law. Probably around the middle of March this will officially become law for the new DDNRs. OEMS has put out an RFP for DDNR bracelets, and they only received two replies. They are going to review both of those vendors. If you have an agency or physician who wishes to issue DDNR bracelets they will be referred to these vendors.

The next meeting will be on Thursday May 9, 2002 at 3 p.m. at the Office of EMS. All interested parties are invited to attend the meeting.

The Board members discussed the time crunch involved in getting the regulations signed and were assured that Dr. Stroube and Secretary Woods are both aware of the tight timeframe involved. Mr. Brown informed the Board members that three new members of the Board of Health visited the Office of EMS and during their visit were made aware of the importance of the regulations and asked for their assistance in expediting the process. The regulations need to be signed by the Governor before April in order to get it on the calendar for the May Board of Health meeting. Mr. Brown informed the Board that the Commissioner has authority to adopt the regulations pending ratification by the Board of Health.

Transportation Committee George Langford

The committee has almost completed the equipment list for light-duty crash trucks. They have included some pediatric items on the truck and also discussed putting AEDs on the units. This list should be finalized by the next meeting. The State Ambulance Contract possibly will be awarded for an additional year to the current vendor. The committee has been working on an outline for loss prevention. The committee distributed this outline in August 2001 and asked the Board members for their review and comments. The committee never received and therefore the committee would like to present this outline as a recommendation and guideline for the problem that occurs on the highways. George Langford made the following motion.

MOTION: The Transportation Committee recommends that the State EMS Advisory Board accepts the list developed by the Transportation Committee as the minimal amount of equipment that should be on a light duty crash truck.

Claude Webster seconded the motion and the Chair opened the floor for discussion. Hearing no discussion, the vote was taken.

21 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. The motion carried unanimously.

REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS Rob Logan

The Regional Council directors met on February 7. Three new members of the Board of Health who were visiting the Office of EMS spent a few minutes in the meeting. Walter Green submitted a presentation on his Virtual Emergency Operation Center that is a web-based program available to those outside of the Office of EMS to share report information and receive information in times of disaster. They appointed a task group to work with the Office of EMS staff to further the development of ALS funding guidelines. This group will be working with the training division to develop future guidelines. The council directors also appointed a task force to work on a formal program to foster contact with legislators, especially outside of the general assembly session. The group pledged support to the EMS Advisory Board's Evaluation Committee to work towards a State EMS Plan and Regional EMS Plans. A task force was

appointed to develop a conceptual model to develop measurable performance standards for regional EMS councils. The model would allow the *EMS Agenda For The Future* attributes to be measured.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Bullock asked if designating committee membership would not require a Bylaws change. Dr. Lapetina said that she would investigate that question.

Dr. Lapetina thanked everyone in the EMS field that have been working hard to get the EMS issues heard by the legislators.

OLD BUSINESS

David Palmer commented about the State EMS Advisory Board's position statements on funding as it relates to HB82. Mr. Palmer pointed out that there was significant modification to HB82 on the Senate side, eliminating the Four-for-Life concept substantially and moving the \$2 into the General Fund for emergency services and public safety purposes. He also pointed out that there is no \$3.2 million mentioned and that the language is very broad. Mr. Palmer said that in the context of that, the State EMS Advisory Board and VAGEMSA, who he represents, unanimously agreed to continue their support of the EMS Advisory Board's position on Four-For-Life. However, he points out they have been talking some about compromise and negotiation and feel that they need to be very careful about not getting into that role until absolutely necessary. Mr. Palmer said that VAGEMSA would continue to do that through their legislative liaison work in the coming weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Player asked that the Board think about the possibility of having a legislative committee as part of the State EMS Advisory Board. Mr. Player said possibly this could be a sub-committee of Regulation and Policy.

Don Barklage asked the Board for their thoughts and guidance on the issue of hospital reroute. Mr. Barklage suggested that possibly the Board could assign a group to look at this issue and maybe find some possible solutions or suggestions for minimizing the crisis. The Board discussed this issue extensively. The Board decided that their position should be to lend their support to Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association and offer any help they deem necessary.

Dave Palmer asked that the State EMS Advisory Board adopt an approach that they will take between now and the end of the General Assembly session to ensure that their efforts to get EMS funding through is successful. Mr. Palmer proposes that all the Board members contact their local legislators where they live in regards to our position. Also, if possible have some additional liaison members who are willing to serve in some activity here in Richmond between now and the end of the session. The Board should make sure that whatever they do, they do it through Mr. Brown and the Office of EMS or Dr. Lapetina. Mr. Palmer said that the Board members need to be involved in some type of regular updates with regard to the process because

things change on a daily basis. If it comes down to EMS having to negotiate, the Board should have some quick input on the issue. Mr. Palmer brought this forth as a motion to the Board. Mike Player seconded the motion.

MOTION: The State EMS Advisory Board's approach from now to the end of the legislative session would include every Board member contacting legislators where they live in support of the unanimous position of the Board for increased funding for EMS. Also, have one or two Board members assist in some liaison work legislatively here in Richmond that will continue to educate the legislators and that they have a means to communicate with the Board through the Chair or her designee as to the status on a regular basis.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion and hearing none called for the vote.
21 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. The motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING-

The next meeting is scheduled on May 10, 2002

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene M. Hamilton