

**State EMS Advisory Board Meeting  
The Place at Innsbrook, Glen Allen, Virginia  
November 19, 2004  
1:00 p.m.**

**Attendance:**

**Board Members:** Randy Abernathy; Rev. Coan Agee; Sherrin C. Alsop; Byron F. Andrews, III; Donald R. Barklage, Jr.; Robert V. Crowder, III; Gary R. Critzer; Chip Decker; Michael S. Gonzalez, M.D.; Theresa E. Guins, M.D.; Catherine Hudgins; George W. Langford; Genemarie W. McGee; Elizabeth Jo Martin; Dr. Lori Moore; Michael B. Player; Morris D. Reece; Linda Sayles; Karen D. Wagner; Kent Weber; and Douglas R. Young

**Absent:** Earl N. Carter, Jr. (Excused); May H. Fox (Excused); Rao R. Ivatury, M.D

**Staff:** Gary R. Brown; Scott Winston; Carol Gilbert, M.D.; Carolyn Halbert; Melissa M. Doak; James Burch; Steve Puckett; Michael D. Berg; Jim Nogle; Ken Crumpler; Warren Short; Petra Menzel; Chad Blosser; Paul Sharpe; and Irene Hamilton

**Others:** Matthew Cobb; Connie Purvis; Melinda Duncan; Don Wilson; Gary Dalton; Ed Rhodes; Andrew D. Snead; Linda Johnson; Sabina Braithwaite; Jennie Collins; Bill Bullock; J. David Barrick; Laura Walker; John Cooke; Jim Chandler; Tina Skinner; Rob Logan; John R. Dugan, III; Jon Donnelly; and Heidi Hooker

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
<b>Call to Order – Donald Barklage</b>	Mr. Barklage, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.	
<b>Approval of the August 6, 2004 Minutes</b>	Mr. Barklage called for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2004 meeting as submitted.	<b>A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes from May 14, 2004. Motion was carried unanimously and the minutes were approved.</b>
<b>Approval of November 19, 2004 Agenda</b>	Mr. Barklage called for a motion to approve the agenda as submitted	<b>A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the Agenda. Motion was carried unanimously and the agenda was approved.</b>
<b>Chairman’s Report – Donald Barklage</b>	<p>EMS Symposium - Mr. Barklage recognized and commended Symposium staff on the excellent job done at the 2004 EMS Symposium.</p> <p>EMS Advisory Board Annual Report – Board members received copies of the annual report. . The report was finalized with the comments received. Mr. Barklage proposed that the 2005 annual report would consist of an Executive Summary along with all four OEMS Quarterly Reports to the Board and all four sets of minutes of the Advisory Board meetings.</p> <p>Letter to Commissioner of Health – At the last meeting, Mr. Barklage was tasked with writing a letter to</p>	

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	<p>the Commissioner regarding parking at the Office of EMS. Mr. Barklage delayed writing the letter initially because he anticipated that the JLARC report would address the issue of the physical location of the Office of EMS. Mr. Barklage suggests that the parking issue should be tabled for the time being, in order to address more pertinent concerns.</p> <p>Virginia Fire Services Legislative Summit – Mr. Barklage attended the summit and reported on the Board position for upcoming legislation for the Board composition, the budget bill, and the additions to the code regarding the Scope of EMS.</p> <p>Board Member Organization Presentations – Mr. Barklage recognizes that the Board meetings would be much longer if these presentations were pursued. Mr. Barklage proposed that each organization representative create a short document, one to three pages, that gives an overview of their organization. The document should contain an overview of the organization; the mission statement; and the goals of the organization. This document would become part of the new board member orientation package. Mr. Barklage would like to receive the board overviews by the February board meeting.</p>	
<b>First Vice Chair Report – Michael Player</b>	Mr. Player reserved his comments until he reported on the FLAP Committee.	
<b>Second Vice Chair Report – Dr. Stewart Martin</b>	Dr. Martin did not have a report.	
<b>State Medical Director’s Report – Dr. Gilbert</b>	A very successful Operational Medical Director workshop was held during the Symposium. They had approximately 30 physicians. They had a very successful afternoon session where they discussed “Hot Topics”. Dr. Gilbert noted that attendance has increased at this session, and that this year quite a few physicians stayed for the entire symposium and she attributes this to the fact they were able to get CME credits for any classes they took.	
<b>Office of EMS Reports – Gary Brown and OEMS staff</b>	<p>Conflict of Interest Training – Mr. Brown thanked members of the Board who were able to attend the training earlier in the day. The Office of EMS will make copies of the tape that was shown earlier, and send a copy to any members who still need the training.</p> <p>EMS Symposium – Mr. Brown thanked everyone involved for another successful Symposium.</p> <p>Governor’s EMS Awards Winners – Mr. Brown announced the winners of the Governor’s EMS Awards and pointed out that one of our Board members, Karen Wagner, received the top award, Excellence in EMS.</p> <p>Outstanding Contribution to EMS – Carilion Foundation in Roanoke, VA</p> <p>Nurse With Outstanding Contribution to EMS – Mark D. Bohn, RN, Newport News, VA</p> <p>Outstanding Contribution to EMS for Children – Aquia Harbour Volunteer Rescue Squad, Stafford, VA</p> <p>Outstanding Pre-Hospital Instructor, Jenni-Meade Carter, Bowling Green, VA</p>	

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	<p>Outstanding EMS Physician, Kimberly J. Mitchell, MD, Yorktown, VA  Outstanding Pre-Hospital Provider, Perlita Y. Henry, Warm Springs, VA  Outstanding EMS Administrator, Robert A. Brown, Mathews, VA  Outstanding EMS Call, Bowling Green Volunteer Rescue Squad, Bowling Green Volunteer Fire Department, Bowling Green, VA  Outstanding EMS Agency, Little Fork Fire &amp; Rescue Company, Rixeyville, VA</p> <p>JLARC Report – The report in its entirety is included in the Quarterly Report to the EMS Advisory Board. The Office of EMS along with the Advisory Board and the committees of the Board will be working on addressing each of the 20 recommendations from the JLARC Study. The Office of EMS was cautioned to make sure that the State EMS Plan is not mentioned on any future JLARC Reports. Mr. Brown, as a result of the JLARC Report, addressed the Board of Health on October 21 and presented the current State EMS Plan. This Plan was approved by the Board of Health in May 1999 and a revised Plan should have been presented to the Board of Health in May 2002. Mr. Brown requested that the Board recognized the Plan until a replacement Plan in completed. The Board of Health unanimously agreed.</p> <p>The Office of EMS wants to have a planning retreat sometime during the next few months to review the recommendations from the two JLARC reports and making assignments to address the report recommendations.</p> <p>Data Collection – National EMSC Data Analysis Resource Center (NEDARC) offered a couple of courses at the 2004 Symposium. Following the Symposium, a data assessment workshop was held on Monday, November 15. At the workshop they went through the SWOT analysis. The Office of EMS also has the CODES grant in place currently, that provides funding to link prehospital, hospital discharge and police accident report data, as well as some other data. Mr. Brown reported that a series of goals and objectives were developed as a outcome of the SWOT Analysis workshop held on November 15. This information will be forwarded to the Board members and regional councils. The Office of EMS submitted a proposal to establish a Data Systems Development and Improvement Committee. This committee was approved by the Board.</p> <p>Technical Assistance Coordinator Position – Mr. Winston gave the Board an update on this position that was vacated by Kenneth Updike a few months ago. The Office of EMS conducted a second round of interviews and made an offer to the top candidate. However, the individual was out of state and decided not to relocate. This position has, therefore, been readvertised.</p>	
<b>2003 Financial Audit for the VAVRS– Donald Barklage</b>	Mr. Barklage reported that pursuant to the Bylaws, he requested and received the 2003 Financial Audit for Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads (VAVRS). This report will be reviewed and a recommendation will be made at the next Advisory Board meeting to officially receive the report.	

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<b>Office of the Attorney General - Matthew Cobb</b>	No report.	
<b>Awards Selection Committee – Karen Wagner</b>	<p>The committee met on August 27. The committee is very pleased with the new Regional Awards process that started this year; and they encouraged the Regional Councils to work towards enhancing their programs.</p> <p>The committee had two action items. The first item was a motion from the committee to add a new award category, the Outstanding Telecommunications Officer.</p> <p>The committee also brought fought a motion to develop the EMS Advisory Board Youth Scholarship Award. This award would allow the EMS Advisory Board to recognize the contributions at the youth level during their first step in EMS. This award would be given out annually in conjunction with the EMS Symposium. A subcommittee has been formed to work on this initiative, and a more informed report will be given at the next Advisory Board meeting.</p> <p>The committee will meet again on March 4, 2005.</p>	<p><b>MOTION: The Awards Committee would like to add a new award category for the Outstanding Telecommunications Officer.</b></p> <p><b>The motion was properly seconded, and the Chair opened the floor for discussion. Hearing none, the Chair called for the vote.</b></p> <p><b>YEAS = 22; NAYS = 0; Abstentions = 0</b> <b>The motion carried unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>MOTION: The Awards Committee would like to develop the EMS Advisory Board Youth Scholarship Award.</b></p> <p><b>The motion was properly seconded , and the Chair opened the floor for discussion, and hearing none, the Chair called for the vote.</b></p> <p><b>YEAS = 22; NAYS = 0; Abstentions = 0</b> <b>The motion carried unanimously.</b></p>
<b>Communications Committee - Gary Critzer</b>	<p>The committee met earlier in the day. The committee is continuing its work in several areas. The committee does have one action item for the Advisory Board. The committee is discussing the program for next year’s Symposium, and increasing the tracks for Telecommunications officers at the annual Symposium.</p> <p>The committee is also working on the finalization of the EMS Communications Directory. The</p>	<p><b>MOTION: The Communications Committee requests that the EMS Advisory Board adopt the Virginia Office of EMS accreditation for PSAP’s and 911 centers guidelines.</b></p>

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	<p>committee plans to use the web site to collect the data and make it available.</p> <p>The Communications Committee has been working with the Office of EMS, and they have put together some accreditation guidelines that would allow them to accredit 911 Centers that deliver emergency medical dispatch. The Communications Committee brought forth a motion to adopt the guidelines.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled on Friday February 4 2005 at 9 a.m. at The Place at Innsbrook.</p>	<p><b>The motion was properly seconded, and the Chair opened the floor for discussion. Hearing no discussion, the Chair called for the vote.</b></p> <p><b>YEAS = 22; NAYS = 0; Abstentions = 0 The motion carried unanimously.</b></p>
<b>CISM - Liz Martin</b>	<p>The committee has met twice since the last Board meeting; on August 11 and earlier in the day, November 19. The committee has no action items.</p> <p>The committee has hosted eight PCIS programs for 911 Virginia responders. Over 100 people have been involved in the program to date. These programs will be provided through the fall of 2005.</p> <p>The fall conference was cancelled due to an inadequate number of participants. However, several people had signed up for Suicide Education Programs; and, therefore, the committee has decided to develop a plan to provide four of those programs throughout the state in 2005.</p> <p>The spring conference will be June 1-4, 2005, and the committee welcomes any input as to program enhancements.</p> <p>The committee is responding to a request for cooperative efforts to work more with the Virginia State Police, State Employees Workers Comp Division, military PCIS programs for EMS professionals returning from war. Carol Morrow has also been very involved in providing dispatcher stress programs.</p>	
<b>EMS Emergency Management Committee – Dr. Michael Gonzalez</b>	<p>The committee met on November 18. At that meeting the committee finalized a proposed draft that has been distributed to the Advisory Board members. The draft deals with the disparity between regions in regards to their MCI response plans. The committee is bringing forth a motion requesting the Board to approve the draft position paper The position paper from the Office of EMS would be sent to the regional councils and any other entities involved in disaster planning requesting some standard considerations be included in all MCI response plans within the state.</p> <p>Mr. Player suggested that the position paper should be sent to the EMS community and health system at large. Dr. Gonzalez indicated that the committee was in agreement with Mr. Player; however, he thought that most plans would have some connection to the Regional EMS Plans.</p>	<p><b>MOTION: The EMS Emergency Management Committee requests that the Advisory Board approve the position paper “EMS Management and Communication of Mass Casualty Incidents” that will be sent to each Regional Council director.</b></p> <p><b>The motion was properly seconded and the Chair opened the floor for discussion. Following discussion, the Chair called for the vote.</b></p> <p><b>YEAS = 22; NAYS = 0;</b></p>

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		<b>Abstentions = 0 The motion carried unanimously.</b>
<b>EMS for Children - Dr. Teresa Guins</b>	<p>The EMSC Committee met on November 18. The committee has no action items. DMV did award them another grant to support the regional councils in pediatric education in sum of \$1500 to each of the regional councils to be used for a dedicated pediatric course.</p> <p>Dr. Guins gave the Board an update of HB3999, a bill that would have eliminated the federal funding for the EMSC program. The bill was not picked up at the legislative session and the proponent of the bill has since retired; and no other legislator has come forward to introduce the bill.</p> <p>Dr. Guins thanked Carolyn Halbert from OEMS for the excellent presentation she gave the committee at their meeting regarding some pediatric EMS data that will enable the committee to focus their interventions. Nancy Rodriguez of Drive Smart of Virginia also gave a good presentation regarding some upcoming legislation supporting the primary seat belt law.</p> <p>The next meeting is February 3, 2005.</p>	
<b>Finance, Legislation and Planning Committee - Michael Player</b>	<p>The FLAP committee met on October 21.</p> <p>State EMS Plan – The committee is about six months behind in the Plan. Mr. Player has met with most of the committees. Committee chairs will be sent their section of the Plan for the distribution to the members of the committee. Committees need to submit their comments to Mr. Player by the end of January. The FLAP committee will then put together the first draft of the State Plan, which will be distributed to the Advisory Board and the EMS community in February. The Plan will be posted for comment and the FLAP committee will be doing presentations throughout the Commonwealth. A final draft of the Plan should be distributed by the May EMS Advisory Board meeting.</p> <p>Legislative Issues – The deadline for the Department of Health package has passed, therefore everything that FLAP will be doing as far as legislative action will need patron support. FLAP will be revisiting their goal to revise the Board’s composition to include the other three regional councils and to eliminate one of the two VAVRS seats. FLAP will also be looking at how they can include within Section 32.1 Code of Virginia, a component for DMAT, EMS for Children, Critical Incident Stress Management, and EMS Dispatching.</p> <p>The FLAP committee is also reviewing certain strategic approaches they can utilize in order to recoup the Four for Life funds that were held back in the prior General Assembly session. FLAP brought forth a motion to the Board requesting their support for recouping the Four for Life Funds.</p> <p>The next meeting is on Tuesday, November 23, 2004 in Oilville at the VAVRS office.</p> <p>Mr. Barklage reminded the Board that one of the legislative items reported on by Mr. Player, the</p>	<p><b>MOTION: The FLAP Committee requests support from the EMS Advisory Board for the Legislative agenda for the 2005 session, to include going after the remainder of the Four for Life money by utilizing one of the two strategies, whatever FLAP feels they can make work, as well as support for revising the Board’s composition.</b></p> <p><b>The motion was properly seconded, and the Chair opened the floor for discussion.</b></p> <p><b>Hearing no discussion the Chair called for the vote.</b></p> <p><b>YEAS = 22; NAYS = 1; Abstentions = 0</b></p> <p><b>Mr. George Langford opposed. The motion carried.</b></p>

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	<p>Advisory Board composition, was an action item that the Board deliberated on during a full day facilitated retreat on April 22, 2003. This action subsequently came back to the Board and was an unanimous vote by the Board to support the action. The action included, to reduce the number of VAVRS representatives from two to one and to add seats for the additional three EMS councils from the Virginia federation.</p>	
<p><b>Financial Assistance Review Committee - Byron Andrews</b></p>	<p>The Financial Assistance Review Committee (F.A.R.C.) has met several times since the last Advisory Board meeting. A two-day retreat was held the end of August to discuss how to best serve the EMS system, as well as what changes F.A.R.C. might need to make. F.A.R.C. decided to contract with the Rappahannock EMS Council to develop some guidelines and forms that may be necessary for the implementation of special projects.</p> <p>In October, F.A.R.C. toured the Tidewater region.</p> <p>The grants that were submitted at the September 15 deadline, there were 170 applicants for a total of \$8.6 million dollars. The committee is currently in the process of grading those grants. The grant meeting will be held on December 6 in Richmond.</p>	
<p><b>Leadership and Management Committee - Doug Young</b></p>	<p>The committee met on November 18. At this meeting they met again with the consultants hired by the Office of EMS for the Recruitment and Retention project. The consultants gave the committee a report of some of their findings. At their next meeting they will start developing goals for 2005, with the ultimate goal being to have some type of one day retreat or summit for Leadership and Management.</p> <p>Mr. Young asked the audience and other members of the Board to send him an email if they become aware of any Leadership and Management issues related to either volunteer or career EMS personnel. At their next meeting, the committee will start gathering data and making plans as to what they can offer to the EMS system. The next meeting will be on February 3, 2005.</p>	
<p><b>Medevac - Genemarie McGee</b></p>	<p>The State Medevac Committee met on October 13. They have no action items.</p> <p>The committee put some final touches on their responses to the 1999 JLARC study that had been done on Medevac. The committee also received results of their Medevac Utilization Survey that was sent to hospitals and pre-hospital providers. The committee will fine tune the survey and send out another survey. Mr. McGee thanked Carolyn Halbert and Paul Sharpe of the Office of EMS for their assistance with that project.</p> <p>The committee has agreed to change its quarterly meeting until the morning of the EMS Advisory Board meeting as of 2005.</p>	
<p><b>Medical Direction Committee - Dr. Steward Martin</b></p>	<p>The Medical Direction Committee met on October 14. The committee has one action item, as well as some informational items.</p> <p>The committee continues to work on the EMT Basic administration of Subcutaneous Epinephrine program that is being put together by a subcommittee of the Medical Direction Committee. The committee is also working on specifications for difficult airway management training mannequins. Some of these mannequins were sent out to training programs across the state, and they are coming up with a minimum set of requirements for those organizations that want to still purchase their own</p>	<p><b>MOTION: The Medical Direction Committee requests the EMS Advisory Board's endorsement of the letter to express our dissatisfaction with the EMS National Scope of Practice Model Draft 1 that was proposed; and to</b></p>

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	<p>mannequins.</p> <p>The action item is Attachment B of the Quarterly Report to the State EMS Advisory Board. It is a letter addressed to Amy Strachville of the National Council of State EMS Training Coordinators and the National Association of EMS Directors. The letter is dealing with the EMS National Scope of Practice Model. There is a group that is making recommendations that the current training pattern utilized for EMS be changed; and that the EMT Intermediate program be discontinued. The levels will be EMT; EMT Paramedic and then a new level, a Paramedic Enhanced. The Medical Direction Committee has gone on record opposing such a change. The committee is asking that the EMS Advisory Board send a similar letter to Ms. Starchville to add additional weight to their position.</p>	<p><b>place that under the signature of the entire Advisory Board and all the member organizations.</b></p> <p><b>The motion was properly seconded, and the Chair opened the floor for discussion. After a lengthy discussion, the Chair called for the vote. YEAS = 22; NAYS = 0; Abstentions = 0</b></p> <p><b>The motion was carried unanimously.</b></p>
<p><b>Nominating Committee - Karen Wagner</b></p>	<p>The Nominating Committee did not have a report.</p>	
<p><b>Professional Development – Randy Abernathy</b></p>	<p>The committee has one action item. It is Attachment C of the Quarterly Report to the EMS Advisory Board, and it deals with changes to the EMS Training Program Administration Manual. Both the Professional Development and Medical Direction Committees have reviewed this document and they recommend approval of these changes to the Administration Manual as submitted. One caveat is that Policy Number T-305 was added subsequent to the review process. The committees plan to make that an agenda item on those perspective committee meetings at their next session. The committee would like to include this section as well in anticipation of not finding any problems with that section.</p> <p>The committee discussed the National Scope of Practice and the Professional Development Committee is also drafting a letter in opposition to the proposed changes. The committee also plans to discuss at a future meeting some of the terminology used by the National Scope of Practice in regards to licensure versus certification. Any conclusions that they derive from those discussions will be shared with the Advisory Board.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled on January 12, 2005 at 10:30 a.m. at VAVRS headquarters. This will be the location of all the future meetings.</p>	<p><b>MOTION: The Professional Development and Medical Direction Committees recommend approval of changes to the EMS Training Program Administration Manual as submitted.</b></p> <p><b>The motion was properly seconded, and the Chair opened the floor for discussion.</b></p> <p><b>Following discussion, the Chair called for the vote.</b></p> <p><b>YEAS = 22; NAYS = 0; ABSTENTIONS = 0.</b></p> <p><b>The motion was carried unanimously.</b></p>

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<b>Public Information and Education - George Langford</b>	<p>Mr. Langford thanked Deidra Snipes and Ruth Robertson from the Office of EMS for all the work they did in regards to the EMS Symposium.</p> <p>The Office of EMS has been given approval to continue with the Recruitment and Retention campaign utilizing Christopher Reeve.</p> <p>The PI&amp;E committee is still working on updating the Success Story video and hopefully will have this done by the next Advisory Board meeting.</p> <p>The Office of EMS staff has filled another 109 orders for the Do Not Resuscitate Orders, for a total of 29,945 orders.</p>	
<b>Regulation and Policy Committee - Don Barklage</b>	<p>The Regulation and Policy Committee has continued to have sessions to review the regulations. In particular, they are reviewing the sections of the Regulations that were pulled prior to implementation. A number of additional sections have been identified as being problematic, and the committee continues to review those sections, as well.</p> <p>The committee met earlier in the day; and the next meeting of the committee is scheduled on February 3, 2005. The committee anticipates that they will complete the required three-year review of the Regulations by that meeting; and that will be 18 months ahead of time. The completed document will be forwarded to the Office of EMS for the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action.</p>	
<b>Transportation Committee - Chip Decker</b>	<p>The Transportation Committee is tasked with assuring that the EMS System has a state ambulance contract. However, due to some new legislation the ambulance contract renewal process has been detained. This new legislation has made it confusing as to who could bid on the ambulance contract. Scott Winston added that the current state ambulance contract is on an extension now. The contract ran out on September 15. The extended contract with Wheeled Coach will expire on December 31, 2004. The Office of EMS has an option to extend the contract into 2005, but this will be contingent upon whether Wheeled Coach will be in compliance with a new law that will go into affect January 1 that requires sellers of fire apparatus, ambulances and funeral vehicles to hold a valid Virginia Motor Vehicle Dealer license.</p> <p>Mr. Winston explained that Department of General Services was unable, due to schedule conflicts, to get the Office of EMS on the calendar within the timeframe discussed in committee. Therefore, it will probably be mid February or early March before the bids will be put out.</p> <p>There is a major problem now regarding dealing with bariatric (obese) patients. Most ambulances do not have equipment for transporting these patients.</p> <p>Mr. Winston told the Board that there will be a multidisciplinary group coordinated in 2005 to discuss the issue of transporting these obese patients.</p>	
<b>Trauma System Oversight and Management Committee –</b>	<p>The committee met on September 2. There are no action items; but there are some informational items. Mr. Reece reminded the Board that under HB1143 that a Trauma Center fund was established</p>	

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<b>Morris Reece</b>	<p>comprised of contributions from DUI offenders that were arrested and convicted of second and subsequent DUI offenses. This fund is expected to generate about \$200,000 a year. That legislation also directed the Trauma Committee to develop criteria for the administration of the fund, and the committee has completed that task. A third of these monies will go to Trauma system maintenance and about two thirds of the monies will go to the hospitals.</p> <p>The committee is also working to revise the Trauma System Designation Standards and that was presented for approval. However, the committee felt that there were several areas they still needed to work on so the criteria were sent back to the Task Force. The Task Force has now completed those revisions and will present them to the full committee at the next meeting.</p> <p>The JLARC Study on the Use and Financing of Trauma Centers in Virginia is now available on the JLARC web site. There were only two recommendations from JLARC. The primary recommendation was lack of compliance with the enforcement of the trauma triage protocols. JLARC directed the Office of EMS to ensure compliance. Mr. Reece explained that the Office of EMS had recognized this problem a year ago and applied for a HRSA grant to complete this process; and the process is underway.</p> <p>Trauma Site Review – There was a review at INOVA Fairfax that found no critical deficiencies. The report of the survey team is recommendation that INVOVA Fairfax should maintain designation as a Level 1 Trauma Center.</p> <p>In two weeks, there will be an initial visit to the Winchester Medical Center (WMC). WMC is officially seeking designation as a Level II Trauma Center.</p>	
<b>Regional Council Directors Group – Rob Logan</b>	<p>The Regional Directors met on November 18. The Regional Directors went on record in support of the opposition to the Scope of Practice recommendation. The Regional Directors will also be preparing a letter of opposition to be sent the National Council of State EMS Training Coordinators and the National Association of EMS Directors. All of the Regional Councils were encouraged to independently send letters of opposition.</p> <p>The Regional Directors also went on record in support of the two new awards that the Awards Committee is recommending – the Telecommunications Award and the Youth Scholarship Award.</p> <p>The Regional Council Directors will be assisting the contractor developing the Retention Project and putting together recommendations for a task force.</p> <p>The Regional Council Directors held elections at the November 18 meeting. The new slate of officers</p>	

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	are: Tina Skinner – Chairman; David Cullen – Vice Chairman; Melinda Duncan – Treasurer; and Jim Chandler – Secretary.	
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	<p>Sabiina Braithwaite – Charlottesville addressed the Board. Dr. Braithwaite commended the Board on its vigorous opposition to the Scope of Practice document. Dr. Braithwaite also asked for clarification on the EMS Advisory Board representation bill. She did not understand why the bill did not come forth in the Department of Health legislative packet last year. She questioned why that isn't a number one legislative priority for the Department of Health this year.</p> <p>Mr. Brown explained that this went forth to the Department of Health in 2003, and the Office of EMS is unclear as to why no legislator picked up this initiative. The Office of EMS did not go back to the Department of Health this year and ask them to reintroduce it in the legislative packet this year.</p>	
<b>OLD BUSINESS</b>	None	
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	<p>Kent Weber announced that the Tidewater EMS Council is celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.</p> <p>Randy Abernathy discussed a meeting he attended at which time he was aware that the Office of EMS efforts are not being recognized on the State level; and that there are road blocks keeping the Office of EMS from being involved in planning issues of concern to EMS at the State level.</p>	
<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.	
<b>Next Meeting</b>	Friday, February 4, 2005	