

**State Medevac Committee Meeting
Office of Emergency Medical Services
1041 Technology Park Drive
Glen Allen, Virginia
October 28, 2010
10:00 a.m.**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests & Other Attendees:
Allen Yee, Chair	Dr. James Dudley	Gary Brown	Dr. Karen Remley
Paul Davenport	Carol Lee Fisher-Strickler	Scott Winston	Dr. Marissa Levine
Ed Brazle		Tim Perkins	Maggie McCauley
Mark Smith		Wanda Street	Darryl Lazar
Brian Solada		Paul Sharpe	Christopher Cannon
Mark Holden			Anita Ashby
Erik Rohde			Dr. Larry Roberts
			Susan Smith
			Shawn Rivard
			Anita Ashby
			Heather Everly
			Devon Clary
			Allen Wolfe, Jr.
			David Grimsley
			Al Thompson
			Gregory Jones
			John Ratliff
			R. N. Possumato
			Harinder Dhindsa
			Garrett Wymer

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Allen Yee.	
Introductions:	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
Review & Approval of the May 13, 2010 minutes:	A motion was made to approve the previous minutes. The motion was moved by Paul Davenport and seconded by Chris Cannon.	The minutes were approved as submitted.
Chair Report – Dr. Allen Yee:	Dr. Yee has changed the order of the agenda, by allowing Dr. Remley to speak before he gives his Chair Report.	
Special Presentation by Dr. Karen Remley, State Health Commissioner:	Dr. Remley and Dr. Yee met this past Spring and discussed the great strides and the wonderful things that the committee has done and looked at where the Medevac system should be 5 to 10 years from now. They also discussed having a voluntary statewide network that is committed to good, quality, safe care that is accessible to everyone in Virginia. Dr. Remley would like OEMS to partner with the Division of Injury	

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	<p>Prevention in sharing information and funding. Since there is no knowledge base and no one is taught how to make decisions about when to use air medical services, she would like Medevac to create a 20 to 30 page presentation with basic information that the nurses, clinicians and EMS providers can use to gain knowledge on how Medevac works, what decisions need to be made and who makes the decisions. This project is due in six months (April 2011). Make it an official statement from the Medevac Committee and show the Virginia Medevac coverage areas. It was also mentioned that good hospital data collection would need to be gathered.</p> <p>On another note, Dr. Remley encouraged everyone to get their flu vaccine as soon as possible.</p> <p>Dr. Marissa Levine mentioned that VDH and the State Police briefed the staff of the Senate Finance Committee in May. It was critical to get good information about the system, particularly about the work of the Medevac committee. This is a critical piece of EMS to get into the hands of the legislators.</p> <p>Dr. Yee suggested other stakeholders that the committee may want to include in this project are EP&R and VHHA.</p> <p>Dr. Remley also stated that changes may be forthcoming to hold meetings electronically because of the letter that was submitted to the Governor. This is an important cost saving measure for the State of Virginia and should be included in the Governor's Reform.</p>	
<p>OEMS Report – Tim Perkins:</p>	<p>The Virginia EMS Symposium is November 10-14 in Norfolk at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott. In the course catalog there is at least one presentation that is dedicated to educating providers on Medevac related issues. If anyone has a presentation that they would like to present for the 2011 symposium, send Tim an email as quickly as possible.</p> <p>The Resource Manual is still missing a few updates. Tim will contact those systems who have not sent updated information.</p> <p>The LZ Directory is also outdated. Paul Davenport and Tim have discussed using a different method that is up to date and very easy for agencies to use.</p> <p>If you are not receiving emails from Tim, let him know so that he can add you to the email list.</p> <p>Tim has not sent out the FAA and GAO reports yet. If you would like a copy sent to you, let him know.</p> <p>Other housekeeping items include Don Childs and Terry Austin has recently retired. Allen Wolfe is leaving for a position in California. Tim will have letters sent to individuals who have served on the committee for a long time. The letter will either be signed by Gary and/or Dr. Remley. Chris Perkins will no longer be on the committee and Mark Varanelli will be replacing him. Jay Collins of VSP has been recommended to fill Terry Austin's seat on the committee and Jason Hefner's seat will temporarily be filled by Mark Holden. Letters will be needed from the agencies to reflect the changes.</p>	

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	<p>The Trauma System Oversight & Management Committee met in May and Tim attended to ask for a representative from a Level III Trauma Center to serve on this Committee. Mindy Carter of Chippenham has volunteered to serve on this committee.</p> <p>Paul Sharpe reported that he is still working with vendors to get them to use the new Virginia Pre-Hospital Information Bridge (VPHIB). He hopes to have some data collected for release early next year. He will also begin teaching the Report Writer tool at Symposium and throughout next year. Check the OEMS website dates and times.</p> <p>Scott Winston shared that Ken Pullen is retiring after 25 years. He served as the Northern Virginia Program Representative and tomorrow is his official last day.</p> <p>On the OEMS website there are new portals for providers and instructors. Certification expirations will be available through the portal as well as up to date CEU information.</p> <p>Scott also mentioned the use of five vendors that have been approved to offer CE instead of using TRAINVirginia.</p> <p>Scott also explained the latest update on EMS Providers as Vaccinators. Agencies are encouraged to register at the VDH website under VIIS in order to administer vaccines.</p> <p>Gary encouraged the air medical agencies to submit presentations so that a Medevac mini-track could be offered at next year's symposium.</p> <p>The Office of EMS hosted the NASEMSO Conference in Norfolk October 11-15. OEMS Division Managers attended meetings pertaining to their roles such as the Trauma Managers Council meeting, Pediatric Council meeting, Data Managers Council, Professional Standards Committee, and others.</p>	
<p>Virginia WeatherShare Program Development Update/Safety Work Group Update – Paul Davenport:</p>	<p>Paul reported that a grant was obtained from the Medevac Foundation at the beginning of the development of the WeatherSafe program. The first phase of the WeatherSafe program is to look at the incidents of helicopter shopping in Virginia and the second unfunded phase is to educate agencies, hospitals and providers to lower the helicopter shopping incidents. The data for three quarters consists of nearly 800 weather turndowns and 37 incidents of helicopter shopping. This means that there is a 5% incidence of helicopter shopping.</p> <p>The WeatherSafe system is designed to interact with regions and other states. Ohio and West Virginia has expressed some interest in this system. Texas is also interested.</p> <p>This is the first published study of helicopter shopping in the industry. Those agencies who are not participating really should get on board so that true accuracy can be reported from all systems in Virginia.</p>	
<p>Project Synergy Work Group Update – Susan Smith/Anita Ashby:</p>	<p>At the last meeting, it was decided to submit all of the information to Tim and then have it grouped together in order to see the baseline data as far as how many patients were discharged in less than 24 hours and those that did or did not meet the criteria. Then it was agreed that after the baseline data was received,</p>	

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	<p>education would be given to the providers based on case scenarios to help them make better decisions in the future. A grant was applied for and approved. Baseline data has been received from January – June of 2010 and classes have begun. They have already educated over 200 people and by the end of November they should educate about 100 more people in two separate classes.</p> <p>Tim stated that if there is still some resistance with the hospitals, Dr. Remley would be more than happy to assist with that.</p> <p>Also Dr. Yee would like this work group to update the Trauma System Oversight & Management Committee on the progress that has been made. Their next meeting is December 2 at OEMS. Susan thinks that it might help to clarify the goal of the project.</p>	
Program Announcements:	<p>Mark Smith, Fairfax County PD – FCPD currently has an RFP for a new air craft and is going into negotiations next week with three vendors. They hope to finalize everything by the end of the year.</p> <p>Chris Cannon, Nightingale – Nightingale will be receiving a new 145 aircraft in the April/May 2011 timeframe. They hope to have it in service by early summer.</p> <p>Paul Davenport, Carilion Clinic LifeGuard – The safety officer, Kevin Peterson, will be leaving, so anything that was sent to Kevin, please send to Paul and he will respond promptly. Paul told John Ratliff that he is glad that he is OK and safe considering the engine incident that occurred. For rooftop access at Roanoke Memorial, please call when you are 10 minutes out to prepare for incoming and outgoing air medical services. OEMS Field Reps were given an overview of Medevac. Paul also expressed his thoughts about Allen Wolfe’s leaving. He will surely be missed. Paul thanked him for all he has contributed to MedStar and to this committee.</p> <p>Allen Wolfe, MedStar – Allen’s last day at MedStar is November 12. He has accepted a position at Air Methods on the west coast as the Regional Medical Service Manager. His start date is November 15. He will be responsible for 26 bases and 180 people. His replacement on the committee is Heather Everly who formerly worked at Carilion. MedStar is in desperate need of nurses.</p> <p>Brian Solada, LifeEvac – Terry Austin is retired but is working with LifeEvac in Dinwiddie. Two pilots are needed in the Fredericksburg area. Medic position has been filled in West Point area.</p> <p>Ed Brazle, Virginia Beach Police – Half of the pilots have just returned from Texas for night vision training. The other half will go next summer. Medics are doing flu shots.</p> <p>Mark Holden, Wings Air Rescue – Nothing to report for Wings, but Mark stated that he receives lots of compliments about Carilions’ communications staff.</p> <p>Harinder Dhindsa, VCU/LifeEvac - VCU will be constructing a tower and a crane will be near the helipad. Tim will send the information out.</p>	

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	<p>Erik Rohde, PHI - Fairfax Hospital has construction on the south tower. Lower helipad will be closed shortly. Alternate LZ will be set up. Two primary pads above the emergency department will remain open. Also working to reinvigorate the helipad operations and procedures.</p> <p>Anita Ashby, WellmontOne – No report.</p> <p>R. N. Possumato, VSP – VSP expects to receive two new ET145s in April 2011 and hopes to have them in service within a couple months. All pilots are currently undergoing training for the transition to the new aircraft. They have received approval of funding for the implementation of the MEG program.</p> <p>David Grimsley, Pegasus – No report.</p>	
<p>Special Presentation – Kevin Rychlik – Virginia Airborne Search & Rescue Squad:</p>	<p>No presentation. Mr. Rychlik was not present.</p>	
<p>Unfinished Business:</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>New Business:</p>	<p>Landing Zone Directory Update – Tim Tim would like to add the LZ Directory to WeatherSafe. A WebEx will be held tomorrow with VHHA and EOC. Trying to figure the cost of adding this to include pictures as well.</p> <p>Presentation requested by Dr. Remley Dr. Yee wants to get a clear plan of action and wants to prioritize the items for the request that was made by Dr. Remley. As for meeting, Paul Davenport suggested lengthening the Medevac meeting. The committee also discussed getting together at symposium. They also discussed the proper format of sending emails and decided that email communications would be the best way to accomplish the goal.</p> <p>Dr. Remley’s vision for the presentation includes a voluntary network providing safe care with access to everyone; redundancy if needed for MCI; resource utilization; injury prevention; how to use Medevac systems.</p> <p>Paul suggested prioritizing which items are more important and getting Dr. Remley to OK the listed items. The committee agreed upon the following order of importance and who will provide the information: 1 – Educational component - Brian Solada & Heather Everly. 2 – Access of Care/Map - Tim will provide coverage map. 3 – Data: What happens to Medevac patients? - Anita and Susan (Barbara Brown of VHHA, Trauma Registry, Dashboard) 4 – Injury Prevention - What does each program do for injury prevention? Tim will send out survey.</p> <p>2011 Symposium Medevac Track Tim will coordinate replies for the Medevac track. Submit your resume along with the presentation.</p>	<p>Email Tim if you wish to participate in any of the presentation areas.</p>

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	<p>Pointing Lasers at Helicopters There have been three incidents in Virginia Beach where a helicopter has been lasered and this is a felony. Two people have been prosecuted and the other was a 10 year old kid. This is very dangerous and could cause serious harm to the crew as well as to the person pointing the laser. More education needs to be given on the hazards and repercussions of this.</p> <p>2011 Meeting Dates Feb. 10, May 12, Aug. 12 and Nov. 9 (at Symposium).</p>	
Public Comment:	None.	
Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.	The next meeting will be February 10, 2011 at 10:00am at 1041 Technology Park Drive, Glen Allen, VA 23059.