

**State EMS Advisory Board Meeting
The Place at Innsbrook, Richmond, Virginia
February 8, 2008
1:00 PM**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Staff:	Others:
Randy P. Abernathy	Theresa Guins, MD (Excused)	Gary R. Brown	David Bishop
Coan Agee	Douglas R. Young (Excused)	P. Scott Winston	Billy Altman
Byron F. Andrews, III	Rao R. Ivatury, MD (Excused)	Christy Saldana	Ken Clark
J. David Barrick	May H. Fox (Excused)	Paul Sharpe	Gregory Woods
Edward B. Bish, Jr.	Sherrin C. Alsop	Michael D. Berg	Jon R. Donnelly
Jason D. Campbell		David P. Edwards	Tracey McLaurin
Jennie L. Collins		Tim Perkins	Pat Pope
Robert V. Crowder, III		Rohn Brown	Melinda Duncan
Gary R. Dalton		Greg Neiman	Chris Findlater
Kevin L. Dillard		Chad Blosser	Rob Logan
James R. Dudley, MD		Beth Singer	Jim Chandler
Bruce Edwards		Jodi Kuhn	Tina Skinner
L.V. Pokey Harris		Amanda Davis	Becky Callaway
Linda G. Johnson		Warren Short	Elizabeth Enos
Cheryl L. Lawson, MD		Ken Crumpler	Dreama Chandler
Lori Moore-Merrell		Frank Cheatham	Ed Rhodes
Morris Reece		Jim Nogle	W.G. Shelton, Jr.
Karen D. Wagner		Jimmy Burch	Constance McGeorge
Carl F. Wentzel, III, MD		S. Heather Phillips	Kent Weber
Anthony Wilson		Carol S. Morrow	Allen Bober
Gary Critzer		Henry Bosman	Chip Decker
Clarence Monday		Irene Hamilton	Robert S. Ryalls
Linda Sayles		Wanda Street	
			Matt Cobb
			Lisa Kaplowitz, MD, MSHA
			Kim Allan
			Karen Remley, MD, MBA, FAAP
			Allen Yee, MD
			Mary Kathryn Allen
			James Allen
			Connie R. Purvis
			Lloyd Runnett
			Eddie Ferguson
			Gary Samuels
			William E. Alken
			Thomas E. Schwalenberg
			Julia Glover
			Michael B. Player
			Wayne Peer
			Joel A. "Mac" McCauley
			Perlita Y. Henry
			Matt Lawler
			John Boatwright
			John E. Snyder
			Max Bornstein
			Holly Sturdevant
			Heidi Hooker
			Joanne Lapetina, MD
			Rick Bucher
			Kelly Hale
			David E. Cullen, Jr.
			Bill Downs
			Scott Higgs
			Wes Shifflett
			Zeb Lilly
			Paul Helmuth
			Kenneth Williams
			Mike Harmon
			David Hoback

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to Order – Karen Wagner	Called to order 1:05 PM	
Approval of November 7, 2007 Meeting Minutes	Minutes approved as presented.	
Approval of February 8, 2008 Meeting Agenda	Agenda approved as presented.	
Chair Report – Karen Wagner	Chair will make her report under committee area.	
1st Vice Chair Report – Randy Abernathy	No report.	
2nd Vice Chair Report – Jennie Collins	No report.	
Karen Remley, MD, MBA, FAAP – State Health Commissioner	<p>Gary introduced and welcomed Dr. Remley, our new State Health Commissioner to the meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Remley gave a brief background on her EMS background. Dr. Remley has an extensive background in emergency medicine. She has experience in both a Children’s Hospital ER as well as a community based emergency room and taking care of children. Dr. Remley also started teaching the Pediatric program Advanced Life Support program when it started back in the 1980s. Dr. Remley stated that she is committed to working with the Office of EMS.</p> <p>Dr. Remley has spoken with Dr. Lanier, Board of Health Chair, and has requested that EMS Advisory Board reports bi-annually to the Board of Health. Dr. Remley apologized for not being able to stay for the entire meeting; and said she hopes to attend future meetings when available.</p> <p>Dr. Remley is aware of the issues surrounding the realignment of the Regional EMS Councils. Being very new to the Department of Health, she said that she is impressed by the extent of collaboration, public comment, and information that is going into these decisions. She encouraged everyone to be vocal and appropriate and emphasized that all parties involved are part of one big team working together to get the best plan.</p>	Karen Wagner will advise Dr. Remley what dates they prefer to give bi-annual reports to the Board of Health.
Deputy Commissioner for Emergency Preparedness & Response – Lisa Kaplowitz, MD, MSHA Proposed Regional EMS Council Service Areas	<p>Dr. Kaplowitz gave a presentation regarding what has been happening with the proposed Regional Councils realignment.</p> <p>They have decided to put together a Process Access Team (PAT) that will have a broad representation of the EMS community. She gave the breakdown on the membership plan for the PAT. The membership that is being proposed will compose an Executive Director of an existing EMS Council; two Presidents of the Board of Directors of existing councils; a current active Operational Medical Director; a current member of the Governor’s EMS Advisory Board who is separate from the other categories; a physician member of the Governor’s EMS Advisory Board; a representative of a designated trauma center; a representative of an urban-based EMS service; a representative of a rural</p>	<p>Public Hearing regarding the Regional EMS Council Realignment will be held February 25, 2008 at the Richmond Marriott West at 7PM.</p> <p>The Project Action Team (PAT) will report to the EMS Advisory Board at the May 16 meeting.</p>

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	<p>based EMS service; the current President of VAVRS; the current President of VAGEMSA; and the current President of VFCA; the Director of the Office of EMS; and the Deputy Commissioner for Emergency Preparedness & Response, ex-officio.</p> <p>The team's primary role is to look at what has been proposed and present a proposed map for establishment, operation, administration and maintenance of an emergency medical services system which provides for the coordination and facilitation of personnel facilities and equipment for the effective and coordinated delivery of emergency healthcare on a regional level in the Commonwealth. The PAT will give a report to the Advisory Board at the May meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Kaplowitz asked Matt Cobb, Attorney General Office, to speak to the Code and the regulations because these regulations are in place and they are following the Administrative Process Act.</p> <p>Matt Cobb pointed out that there has been a lot of discussion in regards to the timing. The law requires that applications for councils to be designated must be filed by October 1. The designation is for a three year period; and the October 1 date is set by the law.</p> <p>Dr. Kaplowitz reiterated that they are not locked into anything at this point. They will be waiting for a report from the PAT.</p> <p>Gary Brown explained that they are not ready today to announce the actual members today. They are in the process of contacting the proposed members, and they will announce the team once everyone has been contacted. They plan to complete this process within a week.</p> <p>Bruce Edwards asked if the public hearing will still be held on February 25 at the Richmond Marriott West. The Public Hearing is still scheduled for February 25 at the Richmond Marriott West. Dr. Kaplowitz said that she will be in attendance. Mr. Brown said that they anticipate having as many members of the PAT at the Public Hearing as possible. If it works out, they would want to have the first meeting of the PAT on the next day.</p> <p>Jason Campbell asked if the PAT will start from scratch or will they take the proposal from the OEMS staff. Dr. Kaplowitz said that Map C is the proposed starting point.</p> <p>Jason asked who will select the non-specified positions on the list. Mr. Brown said that the Office of EMS along with Dr. Kaplowitz, Dr. Remley and the Executive Committee of the EMS Advisory Board.</p> <p>Cheryl Lawson thanked the Office of EMS and all that decided to have a PAT. She reiterated that it has been very disturbing; and hopes that every region has a voice in this process.</p> <p>Public Hearing is scheduled February 25 at 7PM at the Richmond Marriott West.</p>	

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	<p><u>Scheduled Move of Portion of the Office of EMS</u> Jason Campbell asked Dr. Remley if there was any possibility that she as the new commissioner might consider resending the decision to move part of the Office of EMS out of the Madison Building. He explained that the EMS Advisory Board was opposed to this move because they felt that splitting the Office of EMS would be detrimental to the EMS community when conducting business with OEMS.</p> <p>Dr. Remley said she has already been in discussions with Gary and Dr. Kaplowitz. She said that with budget cuts coming, property is a big concern. She said that she is willing to discuss this issue with Gary and Dr. Kaplowitz.</p> <p>Dr. Remley encouraged individuals who might have a passion or background and knowledge about Council development and geographical lines to volunteer to serve on the PAT.</p>	
<p>State EMS Medical Director's Report – Allen Yee, MD</p>	<p>The Institute of Medicine report indicated that the EMS system across the country is fragmented. At the National Association of EMS Physicians, several physicians agreed for the need to work towards statewide EMS protocols. At the last Medical Direction Committee meeting they did not have a quorum due to inclement weather. However, they plan to discuss this issue at the next Medical Direction Committee meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Yee said that he recently became aware that the Ryan White Law that provided protection for EMS providers when exposed to blood and airborne exposures was repealed in December 2006. Dr. Yee suggested that there is probably a need for the state to bring forth legislation to protect EMS providers.</p> <p>Dr. Kaplowitz said that Virginia has the Deemed Consent law in Code; and this protects EMS providers if they are exposed to blood and other airborne exposures. Matt Cobb said that Virginia Code 32.1.45.1 is the Deemed Consent requirement so any EMS provider, medical personnel or hospital provider providing medical services comes in contact with a fluid that could transmit HIV or Hepatitis B or C for that matter it is “deemed consent” of the individuals tested for the disease so there is still some protection.</p> <p>Linda Johnson asked if the Deemed Consent law included source patient information so that providers would be able to know results on the source patient. Matt said that the Deemed Consent law does include a provision for test results to be released to the person who has come in contact.</p> <p>Jennie Collins asked Matt Cobb if the “deemed consent” law covers civilians that are exposed at a STOP because that was covered under the Ryan White Law.</p> <p>Matt said that the statute he was just referring to provides protection for any healthcare provider or person employed by or under the direction or control of the provider; and not civilians. However, Matt said he would research because he thinks there might be other statutes that will cover civilians. Jennie</p>	<p>Matt Cobb will research to find out if there are any statutes in Code that cover civilians who stop to help at the scene of an accident and are exposed to blood or body fluids, per a request from Jennie Collins.</p>

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	<p>asked if he would do this because in her jurisdiction they do have a policy on that for civilians who stop and a process that they hand them a piece of paper with the guidelines of what they need to do.</p> <p>Matt said he would do this and leave it up to the Chair if he should report at the next EMS Advisory Board Meeting.</p>	
<p>Office of EMS Reports – Gary R. Brown and Staff</p>	<p>Gary Brown started by introducing a couple of people in the audience. He welcomed Ms. Constance McGeorge, the Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator, with the Commonwealth Preparedness Office; and also Mr. Billy Shelton, the Executive Director of the Department of Fire Programs. The Office of EMS and Department of Fire Programs try to meet quarterly to coordinate among the two offices on a lot of programs and services; Gary also recognized Dreama Chandler, the President of the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads; and Kent Weber. The Administrator of the Year Award is named after Mr. Weber; and is announced every year at the annual symposium.</p> <p>Mr. Brown said that we have been sending OEMS Legislative Reports to the Advisory Board, Regional Councils and other stakeholders in the system every Friday since the General Assembly began. It is also in the Quarterly Report as an appendix. Gary reviewed several bills.</p> <p>HB191 – Authorizes the Health Commissioner to temporarily suspend any certificate or permit without notice pending a hearing where substantial danger to public health or safety exists. The bill requires the Commissioner to seek and expedite a hearing in such cases. This bill has been reported out of the House and has now been referred to Senate, Education and Health.</p> <p>HB192 – Regarding applications for Variances and Exemptions replaces the term volunteer rescue squad with the term agency entity or provider licensed or certified by the Office of EMS. This bill has been reported out of the House and also has been assigned to Senate Education and Health.</p> <p>HB479 and companion bill SB344 – Requires the Board of Health to develop and maintain as a component of EMS Plan a statewide pre-hospital and inter-hospital stroke triage plan designed to promote rapid access for stroke patients to appropriate organized stroke care. This particular bill has made it out of the House and it has been reported to Senate Education and Health; and the companion bill has been reported out of the Senate and has been referred to House. It has not been assigned to a particular committee but will probably go to Health, Welfare and Institutions.</p> <p>The Office of EMS is preparing to take on this program that should fall appropriately under Paul Sharpe who is the Trauma and Critical Care Division Manager. Because this program will require a lot of time and attention, and as not to overburden Paul , the Office of EMS is moving the Medevac program from Paul’s supervision to Tim Perkins</p> <p>HB-922 – Is a result of a recommendation that came out of the study committee (743) looking at incentives for volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel? It increases Four for Life by 25 cents with the</p>	<p>2008 Town Forum Dates: March 20 in the Thomas Jefferson Region; July 15 in the Western Virginia EMS Council Region; October 23 in the Lord Fairfax EMS Council Region</p>

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	<p>revenues generated going towards certification and recertification of EMS providers. It made it out of the House on an 88-10 vote; and has been sent to the Senate. It is uncertain what will happen now based on the budget situation within the Commonwealth. It would increase the Four for Life to \$4.25.</p> <p>SB197 – Eliminates the requirement that hospitals report brain injuries to the Brain Injury Registry maintained by the Department of Rehab Services and requires the Department of Health to share all the information that is obtained through the Virginia Statewide Trauma Registry to the Department of Rehab Services. It gives the Office of EMS authorization to provide that information to Rehab Services.</p> <p>State Medical Director – The Office of EMS has received six applications; and will be interviewing all six applicants because they are all highly qualified. They hope to go through the process within the next 30 days and then make a recommendation to Dr. Kaplowitz and then going through the HR Process in filling that position.</p> <p>Department of Fire Programs Partnership – OEMS is continuing their partnership with the Department of Fire Programs. One of the joint ventures with the Virginia Fire Services Board, Department of Fire Programs and the Virginia Firefighters Association and OEMS to release a driver improvement program; another is creating a DVD entitled “Creating a Diverse Workforce in Fire and EMS”. OEMS is also working with Fire Programs and the Fire Services Board to streamline the requests for assessments for Fire and EMS and also coordinating with Fire Programs with our HMERT Teams and our trailers. Gary asked Billy Shelton to update the Board on these partnerships.</p> <p>Billy Shelton told the Board that when he came to the agency, Fire Programs had one trailer that they used for emergency extrication. With their partnership with the Office of EMS, they now have four fully equipped with a minimum of two heavy duty extrication units, air bags, and the full complement. In addition to that, they have worked together to establish an EVOC trailer.</p> <p>Billy Shelton talked about the Diversity Program and said that in collaboration with the Office of EMS they have developed 1200 DVDs that will be released to all Fire and EMS organizations in the Commonwealth of Virginia by the end of February or early March.</p> <p>Mr. Shelton also told the Board that the Office of EMS and Department of Fire Programs are collaborating on a driver improvement program customized to Virginia. They are hopeful that with the initiative that they have established with the State Firefighters, the Office of EMS, State Chiefs, they are going to put this program out again to 1200 organizations. They will also offer the program to law enforcement.</p> <p>In the future, they are looking at venturing out to share the program with VAVRS. Gary thanked Billy Shelton for his report and said that it has been really good for their two programs to work closely</p>	

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	<p>together. Gary said that he thinks the people that are benefiting are the people that they serve, their providers and the patients, and everyone else.</p> <p>VA Department of Health, Office of Minority Health and Public Health Policy – The Office of EMS is also partnering internally with the Minority Health program. The Office of Minority Health is promoting an upcoming PBS documentary that is entitled “Unnatural Causes – Is Inequity Making Us Sick?” It will air for four consecutive weeks beginning on March 27 and its purpose is to raise the awareness of the root causes of health inequities that exist by social economic status and race and ethnicity. The root causes are factors such as poverty, lack of education, discrimination, childhood living conditions and so forth. The episodes of the documentary can also be used individually to engage communities and partners and policy makers in discussions to raise awareness, mobilize and advocacy.</p> <p>Mr. Brown informed the Chair that he had asked representatives from the Office of Minority Health and Public Health Policy to attend the next EMS Advisory Board meeting and make a brief presentation. Mr. Brown said that they saw a brief presentation at their staff meeting, and they all wanted more. Dr. Kaplowitz was in the staff meeting as well. It is really quite moving and educational. The Office of EMS is going to find ways to incorporate this program and project within our policy decisions, as well. Dr. Kaplowitz said she encourages everyone to see the series.</p> <p>Gary asked Rohn Brown and Dave Edwards to elaborate a little bit in regards to their partnership with the Office of Minority Health and Public Health Policy and some grant assistance that they are receiving.</p> <p>Rohn told the Board that as part of the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program commonly known as FLEX they are providing about \$40,000 worth of programs and services to two designated areas in Virginia, Giles County and Rockbridge County. These are two of seven critical access hospital catchment areas in Virginia. If time and money permits they want to extend the program to another one of their critical access hospital areas. They also have some monies that are designated, about \$20,000, for other type of management programs, budgeting, OMD education and training, some online management training that will be available again for some of these rural areas that are served by the critical access hospitals.</p> <p>David Edwards told the Board that they have received about \$10,000 to assist us in some efforts to assess the pediatric emergency care capabilities of the critical assess hospitals and to help facilitate some improvement in those hospitals. This will involve educational packets, some supplies and some site visits to help improve the organization in the ED and the response and look at ways to get patients that they can’t handle to the appropriate facilities.</p> <p>Gary Brown shared information regarding the 2007 Governors Awards that were presented at the 2007 EMS Awards Banquet at the Symposium.</p>	

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	<p>Outstanding Pre-hospital Provider – Eric Laskey from Fredericksburg Outstanding EMS Physician – Dr. Peter Bruzzo, Marion, VA Outstanding Pre-hospital Instructor – Colonel Robert Ditch, Yorktown Nurse with Outstanding Contribution to EMS – Linda Baker, Virginia Beach Outstanding EMS Administrator – Battalion Chief Thomas Schwalenberg Outstanding EMS Agency – Chancellor Volunteer Fire and Rescue, Spotsylvania County Outstanding Contribution to EMS – Norfolk Fire Explorer Post 116 Outstanding Contribution to EMS for Children – Doris Foster, Portsmouth, VA Outstanding Contribution to EMS Telecommunications – Ta-Tanesha Farmer, Danville Outstanding Contribution to EMS by a High School Senior – Bryant Gray, St. Stephens Church, VA Governor’s Award for Excellence in EMS – Gary Critzer (a member of the EMS Advisory Board)</p> <p>Scott Winston announced that Shea Jones will be joining the Office of EMS as a Human Resource Analyst on February 11. Ms. Jones will be working with Dennis Molnar, our Business Manager.</p> <p>Scott announced the upcoming Town Forum dates for 2008. He reminded the Board and EMS stakeholders of the importance of the Town Forums and encouraged everyone to attend.</p> <p>The three dates that you need to mark on your calendars are the March 20 in the Thomas Jefferson Region; July 15 in the Western Virginia EMS Council Region; and October 23 in the Lord Fairfax EMS Council Region.</p>	
Office of Attorney General Report – Matt Cobb	<p>Matt Cobb reminded the Board to be careful to adhere to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) especially when it comes to meetings. FOIA specifies if three or more members meet at any setting, formal or informal, they cannot discuss business of the Board unless they comply with the Freedom of Information Act with respect to notice given to the public, an opportunity for public comment. Matt talked about the penalties that are associated with FOIA.</p> <p>Dr. Dudley inquired as to who would be responsible to pay for defense if someone was sued for allegedly violating FOIA. Matt explained if you are acting in your official capacity then the Commonwealth’s Risk Management Plan comes into effect. There are always limitations on that if you are willfully knowingly violating the law Risk Management won’t cover you; but if whatever the liability is arises out of your official duties, the state steps in with Risk Management and will protect you.</p> <p>Matt Cobb said that if you ever have specific questions as to whether something would or would not violate FOIA please talk to him</p>	
Committee Reports and Action:		

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Awards Selection Committee – Karen Wagner	Karen asked Beth Singer to update the Board. Beth reported that they are working to help promote the Regional level of awards and working with the Regional Councils to collect all those dates. They are still waiting on dates from three councils. They will be posted on the web site once they are available; and will be sent out to the OEMS list serve.	
Communications Committee – Gary Critzer	<p>The committee met earlier in the day. They have one information action and one action item. The information item is regarding the interoperable radio equipment. That project is moving forward and they were told this morning in their meeting that funding is being identified to start on a region by region basis to get that equipment purchased and distributed. There will be more information to share regarding this project in the coming months.</p> <p>Action Item: An application for accredited 911 center status PSAP Status from the Eastern Shore of Virginia 911 Commission. They submitted their application to the committee. They reviewed it and it is in order and they approved their application this morning at their meeting. They are asking for the Board to ratify that decision.</p>	<p>MOTION: To ratify the decision by the Communications Committee this morning to approve the Eastern Shore of Virginia 911 Commission as an accredited Emergency Medical PSAP under the Office of EMS.</p> <p>The Chair opened the floor for discussion. Hearing none she called for the vote. YEAS = 23; NAYS = 0; ABSTENTIONS = 0 The vote was carried unanimously.</p>
CISM Committee – Linda Johnson	<p>The committee met on February 5. The last two committee meetings have been very productive. We are looking at one, two, five and ten year planning on that committee to try and get things up to real working standard times. At the last meeting we appointed a subcommittee of the CISM team to look at accrediting CISM teams in order to bring them more in line with the federal planning and deployment options. The team and this committee will be starting this venture in the near future.</p> <p>The annual CISM training will be held May 27 thru May 31 and information should be up on the web site by the end of March or the first part of April.</p> <p>Karen Wagner said that as Chair she does have some additional information from the CISM Committee and Linda and her have discussed this and would like to pass it on to the rest of the Board.</p> <p>Over the past five years the efficacy of CISM has become a focus of EMS professionals, service agencies, trauma and mental health groups. This review continues as presented in a January 10, 2008 article on CISM in JEMS magazine. This article authored by Dr. Bryan Bledsoe states that CISM has been debunked through scientific scrutiny by some of the world’s foremost authorities of psychological trauma. The article further states that research has shown CISM has become notorious for inflating problems rather than relieving them and highlights the importance of reviewing existing programs in the state and national levels.</p> <p>The Office of EMS has maintained a state level CISM program since 1986 and now supports a full time</p>	<p>The Ad Hoc Committee appointed by the Advisory Board Chair will review the research on the effectiveness of CISM program under the current program and make recommendations back to the board in August.</p>

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	<p>CISM position, the CISM standing committee of the State EMS Advisory Board and an annual CISM training conference, and local and regional CISM services. It is a function of the EMS Advisory Board to review and advise, the Office of EMS and the Board of Health on programs related to EMS Matters. As Chair of this Board and in accordance with our bylaws, I am appointing Ad Hoc committee which will be chaired by our current CISM standing committee chair to review the research of the effectiveness on our current CISM program and to make a recommendation back to this Board on the future direction OEMS should consider regarding the provision of CISM. This Ad Hoc Committee will review the effectiveness of CISM under the current Mitchell model as well as other options with a focus on pre incident, education and post incident response. The focus on meeting basic needs, generalized cognitive reframing, and recognition of individuals in extreme distress and in need of serious psychological care. I will ask the committee to present the report with findings and recommendations at the August 15, 2008 EMS Advisory Board meeting.</p> <p>The names of the individuals who will be serving on this AD Hoc Committee will be attached to the minutes of this meeting once confirmation of their acceptance to serve has been confirmed. This will be placed in the minutes for further action.</p>	
<p>EMS Emergency Management Committee – Bubby Bish</p>	<p>The committee met Thursday, February 7. They have no action items but a couple of things of interest. They are working on a mission statement for this committee. They also picked up some projects for the next year. The projects range from the NIMS in Virginia to Family Preparedness in case of disasters.</p> <p>They have asked speakers to come to their meetings. A VDOT representative will attend their next meeting concerning lane reversal on Interstate 64 during hurricanes. There is an exercise planned on lane reversals on Mothers Day of this year and the Emergency team will be participating.</p> <p>The Virginia Emergency Management Conference will be held March 12-14 at the Hampton Conference Center.</p> <p>Mr. Bish acknowledged Wanda Street for getting the meeting minutes to him so quickly.</p> <p>The next meeting is May 8 at the Marriott West at 10 AM.</p>	
<p>Emergency Medical Services for Children – Dave Edwards</p>	<p>Mr. Edwards gave the report because Dr. Guins was unable to attend the meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Edwards said that most of the report can be found on page 47 of the Quarterly Report. They are going to have an opportunity to assist in revising the Virginia School of Health guidelines, the performance measures for emergency preparedness. They are going to be surveying hospitals in regards to whether they have transport agreements and guidelines for transporting our critical pediatric patients. They will also be surveying EMS agencies in regards to pediatric medical direction. This is part of an ongoing federal effort.</p> <p>The committee did discuss SB228 about the Mandated Reporting of Expected Child Abuse.</p>	

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	<p>The committee is working to make OEMS a clearing house for some of the best practices in child restraints in ambulances</p> <p>The EMS for Children program will have a HRSA Performance Review on June 17 and 18.</p> <p>The committee will also be targeting inhalant abuse among children as we have an increasing problem in Virginia. They are going to help provide some educational materials on that and help explore that topic some more.</p> <p>They will be updating the EMSC web page with lots of links and more resources and start providing Power Points and some more education for pediatric emergencies in Virginia.</p>	
EMS Workforce Development Committee – Kevin Dillard	<p>The committee met on January 24 in Fredericksburg. They have added two new members to the committee. One representing the recruitment and retention networking group and one local government official. They have also had 14 EMS leaders complete the first Keeping the Best Train the Trainer session that was held December 7 in Richmond. They have streamlined some of their subcommittees so that we concentrate on the development of the Leadership and Management standards and also to review and recommend criteria to develop a Virginia Standards of Excellence Accreditation program. If anyone is interested in serving on either one of those two subcommittees, please contact Kevin Dillard. Additional involvement is welcomed.</p>	
Finance, Legislation & Planning Committee – Gary Dalton	<p>The committee met earlier in the day and twice by phone. Both phone conferences, were without a quorum, to discuss SB228, its progress and additional language. We had promised the group that we would report back and give an opportunity to construct that language but because of the timing of the bill that did not happen.</p> <p>Board members were reminded to review the weekly legislative grids to keep abreast on bills of concern to EMS. The other bill that they had asked the Advisory Board to support was the elevation of the Office of EMS to the department level. This bill was withdrawn by the patron at the Governor’s request.</p> <p>There is a stakeholders meeting being held in Sweetbriar in Amherst County in the second or third week in April. The exact date has not been chosen by the Secretary of Public Safety, John Marshall. He has invited EMS stakeholders to attend. Dr. Remley has agreed to attempt to attend. Board members were encouraged to attend, as well.</p>	

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<p>Financial Assistance Review Committee – Bob Brown</p>	<p>The FARC Committee met on February 7. They are working on guidance forms, a review checklist with two of the EMS Advisory Board committees. The Workforce Development Committee is helping them to develop a recruitment and retention questionnaire so that it will be easier for the FARC members to refer to certain questions when they are reviewing those types of grants. They are also working with the Communications Committee to develop a review sheet so that FARC can review communication related grants.</p> <p>Our new regulations for FARC were effective January 1, 2008. FARC will be having their spring tour in the REMS area sometime in April 2008. OEMS will work with the REMS Office to coordinate this tour.</p> <p>Grants are due on March 17 because March 15 falls on the weekend for the next cycle. This will be the first cycle that the original affirmation page will be due on the day of the grant cycle which is March 17. Amanda reiterated that this means that the original affirmation with the original signature, OMD, the authorized agent and the fiscal officer must be received in our office by March 17, not faxed or emailed.</p> <p>OEMS is working on a RSAF web based system that will hopefully be up and running by the Summer 2008. OEMS is looking into web basing the entire RSAF system.</p> <p>Amanda announced that grant training is available to any agency and all the EMS Councils. Grant training was conducted at Lord Fairfax on February 6 and there will be grant training conducted at Thomas Jefferson EMS Council on February 19.</p> <p>Randy Abernathy asked what the purpose of having to have the original signature. Ms. Davis said it is more of a federal guideline. Amanda was also asked if the postmark date could be accepted as confirmation. Amanda said no because they had trouble before when trying to use postmark dates. OEMS is looking into developing an electronic signature policy; and once that is in effect we will allow you to submit signatures electronically.</p> <p>Bubby Bish asked if there was a minimum amount of students needed to request a grant writing training class. Amanda said there is no requirement as to amount of students; she said just email her and she will set up training. Amanda said that they are also looking at the possibility of having two types of grant training classes. Amanda said that she just did training at Lord Fairfax that was just a basic overview of the RSAF training program, and she plans to do a follow up class where they actually go through the whole software program and go step by step about how you submit an online grant application for those who have never filled one out before. Call Amanda if you are interested in grant training.</p>	
<p>Medevac Committee – Bruce Edwards</p>	<p>They have no action items but a few information items to bring before the group. First of all, the committee is finalizing two best practices – the two that are being worked on now are the Air Medical Resource Management and the Risk Management. There are two new Medevac bases in Virginia. One</p>	

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	<p>is Wings Air Rescue IV out of Marion and PHI Sky Stat II out of Hopewell.</p> <p>The OEMS Medevac web page has been updated and now includes already approved Best Practices and provides updated Medevac resource information at that site as well.</p> <p>Next meeting is April 24 at the Marriott at 10:30 AM.</p>	
<p>Medical Direction Committee – James Dudley, MD</p>	<p>They had a work session in lieu of a formal meeting because they did not have a quorum due to inclement weather. Nothing to report.</p> <p>Bob Crowder wanted to clarify his interest in the issue of free standing emergency departments in the State of Virginia. He explained that his principal interest in bringing up this subject at the last Board meeting was because he had some personal concern with the concept of free standing emergency departments as distinguished from urgent care centers and was not knowledgeable of any broad discussion statewide or within this committee about their purpose, utility, public interest, or whatever in the State of Virginia. He had planned on attending the Medical Direction Committee meeting; but could not attend due to the weather. Mr. Crowder clarified that it was not his intention to single out any particular area of the state, in particular Tidewater or Northern Virginia; nor to have an opinion about what activities medical direction in those areas may be taking. He clarified that he has no interest in such issues on a local basis but is concerned that there appears to have not been any discussion about the issue of free standing emergency departments. Mr. Crowder said that he does encourage some discussion of this issue.</p> <p>Ms. Wagner asked if he thinks it should begin with the Medical Direction Committee or does he think that is an appropriate place for that discussion to be held. Mr. Crowder said that he thinks that it is probably a good starting place for that discussion. Mr. Crowder will try to attend the meetings.</p> <p>Ms. Wagner said that the committee will look into that issue and bring something back to the Board at its next meeting.</p> <p>Connie Purvis asked Dr. Dudley if the issue came up EMS interface with licensed midwives. Dr. Dudley said that they had a presentation from the Midwives and the consensus of that discussion by those who were present was that it would probably make sense for them to have a working subcommittee of Medical Direction to work with the certified professional midwife group to develop protocols that the midwives could use and that they could educate their EMS providers about so that when the providers arrive on the scene they would be familiar with the nature and scope of their practice.</p> <p>Dr. Dudley said that the Medical Direction Committee would have discussion about the free standing emergency departments. Dr. Dudley stated that those departments in the Commonwealth have gone through a Certificate of Public Need process and in now needs to be decided how to best use the</p>	<p>The Medical Direction Committee will have discussions about the free standing emergency departments.</p> <p>The Medical Direction Committee will have a working subcommittee work with the certified professional midwife group to develop protocols that can be used by EMS providers.</p>

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	<p>resource. As a point of clarification, Bob Crowder said that he now works in the Department of Certificate of Public Needs, and they have not gone through the Certificate of Public Needs Process because typically they are set up as departments of the hospital. Therefore they are not a new service, and so they have operated outside of such regulatory review.</p>	
<p>Nominating Committee – Carl Wentzel, MD</p>	<p>No report.</p> <p>Ms. Wagner said she would like Nominating Committee during the next several months to meet and look at a slate of officers to present at May meeting; They will not be voted on at that time.</p>	<p>The Nominating Committee will meet and come up with a slate of officers that will be presented to the Board at the May meeting. No vote will be taken in May.</p>
<p>Professional Development Committee – Randy Abernathy</p>	<p>The last meeting was on January 9. They have no action items. They continue to work on reviewing the EMS Agenda for the Future in connection with the competency based training programs pilot. They have discussed with Dr. Dudley the possibility of having a joint meeting with the Medical Direction Committee to discuss where they are going educationally in regards to textbooks. Mr. Abernathy said that he is concerned that the textbook authors will guide how EMS is practiced in the field; and EMS needs to start looking at developing some advice and input.</p> <p>Dr. Joseph Ornato from the Medical College of Virginia Commonwealth University has been appointed to the National Registry of EMT Board of Directors. He is very excited about that and will probably be attending some Professional Development Committee meetings to get some information relative to education and training as it relates to emergency medical technology.</p> <p>The next meeting is on April 9 at 10:30 AM. Anyone who has any interest, involvement or otherwise any type of training initiatives as it relates to EMT program are encouraged to attend these meetings because they are very open and they are looking for all the information and expertise that we can draw from the members of the EMS community.</p>	
<p>Regulation and Policy Committee – Jennie Collins</p>	<p>The Quarterly Report has very detailed information from staff about the committee’s activities. Regulation and Policy have been working on refinement of the draft regulations in preparation for Public Comment period. On February 7, they had a work session and combined meeting. They have not gotten through review of all the regulations so they have scheduled another work session on March 5 at 9AM in the Charlottesville area.</p> <p>Our next regularly scheduled is May 15 but we are going to change that date to accommodate the ALS Workforce Presentation that will be done that day. Their meeting date will be announced later.</p>	<p>A Work Session is scheduled on March 5 at 9 AM in the Charlottesville area.</p>
<p>Transportation Committee – David Barrick</p>	<p>I have two information items. The committee completed reviewing the specifications for the state ambulance contract several months ago and it was forwarded to the Office of EMS. However, due to staff changes within the Department of General Services, OEMS has had a difficult time getting someone with the Purchasing Department to meet so that they could get these finalized and put out a RFP. A meeting has been scheduled for next Friday and hopefully in the very near future we will have a RFP for some vendors to bid on the State Ambulance Contract.</p>	<p>A meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 15 with the Purchasing Department regarding the State Ambulance Contract.</p> <p>Randy Abernathy will forward an email he received to David Barrick.</p>

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	<p>They received notification 14 days ago that the American LaFrance was filing for bankruptcy, and they have now gone out of business. Individuals who may have contracted with them to have vehicles built should talk to Amanda Davis about completing the appropriate paperwork to get a grant extension so that they can find another vendor.</p> <p>Randy Abernathy shared information about an email he received from Page, Wolfberg and Wirth Associates in regards to a law suit against Ford Motor Company regarding issues with Model 600 E or F Series vehicles. David Barrick had not seen the email; but Randy said that he would forward the email to David. David will look into the issue.</p>	<p>David Barrick will look into the suit against Ford Motor Company as it might impact vehicles purchased by some EMS agencies.</p>
<p>Trauma System Oversight & Management Committee – Morris Reece</p>	<p>The report is in the Quarterly Report.</p> <p>Mr. Reece said that the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association along with the EP&R of the Public Health Department has asked the Trauma Committee to come up with some recommendations about caches and repositioning some trauma supplies for disaster preparedness. That will be a major endeavor at their upcoming meeting on March 6 and he will bring back to the Board a report of how it comes out.</p> <p>The committee is also revisiting as part of routine process the Trauma Triage Guidelines, specifically looking at two things, one the level of role of Trauma III in the Trauma Triage Guidelines as well as the role of Trauma Triage Guidelines in mass casualties.</p> <p>There were no Trauma System reviews this past quarter; there will be several this upcoming year, including two level ones, two level twos, and three level threes.</p> <p>Lastly, at the March 6 meeting, the Trauma Committee will be reexamining the Trauma Fund guidelines. The General Assembly has taken away the General Fund appropriation for trauma system development. They do still have the two special funds so the Trauma Fund Committee will be reconvening and coming up with new guidelines to distribute the remaining revenue streams to the trauma system.</p>	
<p>Regional EMS Council Executive Directors – David Cullen</p>	<p>David Cullen recognized Tina for all her hard work over the past years.</p> <p>David introduced some new people, two interim directors, Jeff Meyers with the Peninsulas EMS Council and Heidi Hooker with ODEMSA. Two new directors, Bill Downs, TJEMS Council and Tracey McLauren, LFEMS Council.</p> <p>They held a Regional Council Directors Workshop involving council board members, EMS Advisory board members that represent the regions, in Verona, Virginia two Saturdays ago; and they generated a letter to Office of EMS asking that a PAT be formed. Originally they were told “NO” but they are pleased with the offer today of a PAT and that is a good start; and they would hope to be able to give input to who represents regional councils on the PAT.</p>	<p>Paul Sharpe will give the Regional Directors data on Trauma Triage as it relates to the regional and statewide plans. The Executive Directors group will share this data with the EMS Advisory Board at the May meeting.</p>

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	<p>At their meeting they did have one action item and that was to request a presentation hopefully at their next meeting from OEMS regarding Trauma Triage findings, to look at the data, with the purpose of examining the impact of regional trauma triage plans statewide to see if what we actually do works and has a positive impact on the patients. Paul did inform them that he does have that information available, he hasn't been able to look at it yet; but hopefully, by the time of their next meeting, the day before the EMS Advisory Board meeting, they will have that information.</p>	
PUBLIC COMMENT	<p>Alan Bober, President of Southside EMS Council submitted a Map D and requested that this be posted on the State Office of EMS website for review so that everyone has an opportunity to take a look at it.</p> <p>Constance McGeorge, the new Interoperability Coordinator with the Commonwealth Preparedness Office told the Board that she also volunteers as an EMS provider and she is looking forward to working with EMS as we move into the future. She would welcome the opportunity to update the Board in the future.</p> <p>Mike McCauley of Central Shenandoah addressed the Board. He said that he has been in the EMS System in Virginia since 1972. This is his first Advisory Board meeting. He just wanted to say from what he sees and what he hears, he is proud to be an EMS provider in the State of Virginia and we have a lot to be proud of.</p>	
OLD BUSINESS	<p>Jason Campbell – Fitness Ad Hoc Committee – Health Wellness and Safety – First meeting March 27 in Lynchburg area. Couple of people to confirm and more information forthcoming.</p>	<p>The Health, Wellness and Safety Ad Hoc Committee will hold their first meeting on March 27 in the Lynchburg area.</p>
NEW BUSINESS	<p>Byron Andrews – Asked the EMS Advisory Board to support a Proclamation honoring – Vince Whitmore who retired on January 31. Byron read the following proclamation; and the Chair called for a vote.</p> <p><i>Whereas, Vince Whitmore has been involved in providing Emergency Medical Services to communities within the Commonwealth of Virginia for more than 37 years.</i></p> <p><i>Whereas, In 1971 Vince Whitmore was an integral part of establishing the Junior Squad within the Broadway Emergency Squad where he served the department as Captain of the Junior Squad, Training Officer, Lieutenant and Chief of the Department</i></p> <p><i>Whereas, Vince Whitmore began his career with the City of Alexandria Fire Department as an Emergency Rescue Technician on January 31, 1977 where he demonstrated the highest level of patient care and compassion to those he took care of and was promoted to the rank of Emergency Rescue Technician III, EMS Supervisor on March 17, 1982</i></p> <p><i>Whereas, Vince Whitmore was appointed the Director of Emergency Medical Services on November 12, 1990, later reclassified to Deputy Fire Chief on May 29, 1999 and then Assistant</i></p>	<p>MOTION: EMS Advisory Board approved a proclamation to recognize service of Vince Whitmore.</p> <p>2nd by Jennie Collins</p> <p>Vote: YEAS = 23; NAYS = 0; ABSTENTIONS = 0 THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</p>

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	<p><i>Fire Chief on February 25, 2006</i></p> <p><i>Whereas, Vince Whitmore has participated in improving EMS in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Washington Metropolitan area and has served in the capacity of President of the Northern Virginia EMS Council, Chaired the Northern Virginia EMS Operations Board and the EMS Committee for the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments.</i></p> <p><i>Whereas, Vince Whitmore unselfishly gave of his talents as a Paramedic and EMS Administrator to impact the patients that he cared for and developed a premier EMS Agency he should be proud of.</i></p> <p><i>Therefore, be it resolved, that the Virginia State Emergency Medical Service Advisory Board recognizes Vince Whitmore on this date of February 8, 2007, for his accomplishments and dedication to the citizens of City of Alexandria and the Commonwealth of Virginia.</i></p> <p><i>And be it further resolved that these accomplishments have positively impacted patient care and advanced the recognition of Emergency Medical Services.</i></p>	
Adjournment	Adjourned at 3:09 PM	

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