

Status

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Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services

EMS Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

08/08/2003 01:00 PM The Place at Innsbrook

Attendance

- Committee Members Reverend Coan Agee; Sherrin C. Alsop; Byron F. Andrews, III; Donald R. Barklage, Jr.; Earl N. Carter, Jr.; Gary P. Critzer; Robert V. Crowder, III; Chip Decker; Michael S. Gonzalez, M.D.; Theresa E. Guins, M.D.; Catherine Hudgins; George W. Langford; Elizabeth Jo Martin; Stewart W. Martin, M.D.; Genemarie W. McGee; Dr. Lori Moore; Michael B. Player; Morris D. Reece; Karen D. Wagner; Kent Weber; and Douglas Young
- Absent May H. Fox (excused); Rao R. Ivatury, M.D. (excused); David B. Palmer (excused); and Page Verlander (excused)
- Staff Gary R. Brown, Scott Winston, Dr. Carol Gilbert, Irene Hamilton, Warren Short, Mike Semp, Carol Morrow, Ruth Robertson, Karen Cheatham, Ken Crumpler, Deborah Edwards, Linwood Pulling, and Kenny Updike
- Others Connie Purvis; Carla E. Mann; Melinda Duncan; Rob Logan; Jim chandler; Michael D. Berg; Sabina Braithwaite; Tina Skinner; Ed snyder; Chris Slempp; Gene Reams, B.C.; Jon Donnelly; Randy Abernathy; Wanda Legge; Gary Dalton; J. David Barrick; Bill Bullock; Jim Nogle; and Terry Furlong

Topic/Subject

Discussion

- Call to Order Don Barklage, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Mr. Barklage explained that Mr. Palmer sent his regrets at being unable to attend the meeting; however, he was recuperating from a surgical procedure.
- Review & Approval of minutes from last meeting New and reappointed board members were recognized.
A motion was made, properly seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the agenda as presented.

A motion was made, properly seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes from the May 9 meeting as presented.
- Agenda Items
 - 1. Chairman's Report 1. There was no Chairman's report since Mr. Palmer was not in attendance.
 - 2. Vice-Chairman's Report - Don Barklage 2. Don Barklage expressed appreciation to OEMS staff who made a presentation at the Orientation for New Board Members earlier in the day.
 - 3. State EMS Advisory Board Annual Report for 2003 3. Board members should have received the final draft of the Annual Report and cover letter to the Commissioner of Health. The report will be sent to the Governor, the Board of Health and the State Health Commissioner.

The following motion was made and properly seconded; and the Chair opened the floor for discussion.

MOTION: The State EMS Advisory Board recommends approval of the State EMS Advisory Board Annual Report for 2003 as presented.

Hearing no discussion, the vote was taken.

YEAS = 21; NAYS = 0; ABSENTIONS = 0. The motion was carried unanimously.

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| 4. Board Member Introductions | 4. The Chair asked for introductions around the table of the Board members. |
| 5. Medical Director's Report - Dr. Carol Gilbert | 5. Dr. Gilbert did not have any action items. Most of her work will be reported on by other groups later in the meeting. |
| 6. Office of EMS Reports - Gary Brown | 6. Mr. Brown congratulated reappointed board members and also welcomed the new board members. |

OEMS Staff Introductions: Mike Semp, the new Critical Care Coordinator, Steve Puckett, the new BLS Training Specialist, and Jim Nogle, the new Emergency Operations Manager (pending security clearance) were introduced.

Plaques: Scott Chandler and Ed Snyder, board members who rotated off the Board in June, received plaques.

Housekeeping Issues: Orientation Packets for New Members: Books containing all of the Orientation presentation were distributed to new members earlier in the day and are available to interested individuals.

Quarterly Reports: OEMS mails quarterly reports to board members each quarter prior to the Board meeting that contains information on all programs and services in OEMS as well as current actions and position papers, etc.

Member Information Sheet: Please complete and submit Member Information Sheets to Irene.

Committee Interest Forms: Board members will receive this form and are asked to complete indicating committees that they are interested in joining.

2004 Meeting Dates: 2004 meeting dates have been set. All meetings will take place at the location, The Place. The meeting dates are February 12 and 13; May 13 and 14; August 5 and 6; and November 18 and 19.

Proposed Legislation: OEMS Legislation Packet contained key issues addressed by the Board at their retreat earlier in the year. These issues were regarding the composition of the board, the bylaws, and the funding formula. Mr. Brown acknowledged all of the letters of support received from board members and other interested entities. This package was sent to the Commissioner and has been sent forward to the Governor's office.

Trauma Centers: The Office of EMS has been working with the Secretary's office and was requested to provide a suggested resolution to be considered by the 2004 General Assembly to have the Joint Legislative Audit and

Review Commission to study the issue of hospitals that maintain trauma centers – looking at the costs and threats that they face. Mr. Brown thanked the board and audience for their letters of support for this resolution, as well.

Stretcher Vans: Scott Winston - Mr. Winston asked Jim Nogle, who currently still works at the Department of Medical Assistance Services to address the issue of stretcher van services. Mr. Nogle gave some background on stretcher vans and talked about meetings being held by the broker for the State of Virginia, Logisticare. Currently, Logisticare is traveling around the state and educating their transportation providers about stretcher vans.

Board Member Identification Badges: Karen Cheatham is available to make identification badges for new board members, as well as any other board members needing badges.

EMS Symposium Brochures: Mr. Brown announced that the brochures are now available and being mailed. OEMS also has on-line registration this year. Registration fees are waived for Advisory Board members, and OEMS will also pay for one night's lodging for board members. Board members interested in attending the Symposium should fax their registration forms to the Office of EMS at (804) 371-3543.

7. Office of Attorney
General - Robin Kurz

7. Ms. Kurz discussed HIPPA. The Attorney General's Office has addressed if EMS agencies are able under HIPPA to provide information from the PPCR (Patient Care Report) to the Office of EMS. Agencies are required to do so and HIPPA does not preclude that. HIPPA contains a couple of exemptions. One is for disclosures that are required by law; and Virginia law does require EMS agencies to disclose PPCRs to the Office of EMS. Also, HIPPA contains an exemption for health oversight activities, and that is licensure and certification by a public health authority; and that is what EMS does.

8. Ad Hoc Committees:

8. State EMS Plan – Mike Player
Draft of the State EMS Plan and the proposed outline was distributed to the Board. Mr. Player gave the Board an overview of the distributed material. The draft plan and the proposed timeline were reviewed. Mr. Player talked about the role committees will play in finalizing the Plan. The distributed packet provides space for input on various aspects of the EMS system. The committee plans to put this packet on the web so that any citizen in Virginia who wants to impact the State Plan can fill out a portion of the packet and send it to the committee. Board members were asked to take their packets and get comments and goals from their respective constituent groups.

Mr. Player explained that Public Comment meetings will be held in April 2004. There will be four meetings, in Farmville, Roanoke, Warrenton, and Hampton. The committee is considering having a special call meeting in June 2004 of the Advisory Board, the Ad Hoc Committee, and other interested parties.

The committee consists of Mr. Player, Chair; along with Rob Logan, Dr. Carol Gilbert, and Kent Weber. Kenny Updike is the OEMS staff liaison.

Dr. Gilbert explained that the committee hopes to make this Plan a tool that will be accessible and useful to Board members and EMS. The committee also plans to have a lot of hyperlinks so that individuals can easily access needed sections of the plan and appendices. The committee hopes to eventually publish the Plan on a CD-Rom.

Board Bylaws – Kent Weber

Mr. Weber said that the committee has completed the final draft of the Bylaws; and the Board now needs to vote on the Bylaws. Mr. Weber made the following motion.

MOTION: The Ad Hoc Committee recommends to the State EMS Advisory Board that the Bylaws be approved as submitted.

Mr. Langford seconded the motion. The Chair opened the floor for discussion. Hearing none, the vote was taken.

YEAS = 21; NAYS = 0; ABSTENTIONS = 0. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Communications
Committee - Scott
Chandler

9. The committee met on July 23. They have no action items and they are continuing to work on their current projects.

10. CISM Committee –
Liz Martin

10. CISM Committee has not met since the last Advisory Board meeting. They have no action items. The annual CISM Training took place in May in Virginia Beach and 170 individuals attended. Ms. Martin gave updated information on their January - June 2003 report. CISM is striving to improve their reporting this year.

11. EMS Emergency
Management Committee -
Dr. Mike Gonzalez

11. They have had some difficulty scheduling meetings. The committee is still working on finalizing the committee composition.

12. EMS for Children –
Dr. Theresa Guins

12. The committee met on August 7, 2003. Dr. Dolan has resigned from VCU. Petra Menzel has been named Principal Investigator for the EMSC program. The committee is considering taking on a new initiative in conjunction with the Office of EMS. It is looking at a designation process for emergency departments across the Commonwealth, ensuring that they are in line with the policy statement AAP and ACEP to ensure that they meet the minimum requirements to be approved for treating pediatric patients.

13. Financial Assistance
Review Committee -
Byron Andrews

13. The Financial Assistance Review Committee met in June to award the grants. Total number of requests was almost \$5 million dollars. Awards funded was \$1.7 million dollars. The committee met again on August 7, 2003 at which time Byron Andrews was elected Chair of the committee. The committee decided that they should advocate for more System projects; the committee wants to encourage more system wide projects for funding. The committee also discussed additional funding for ambulance purchases. Also, FARC is still in the process of identifying alternative methods for grant payment. FARC will be touring the Tidewater EMS region in October.

14. Human Resources and
Training – Warren Short

14. The Human Resources and Training Committee met July 8. The only action item was to investigate the ability to identify the statistics for

supporting the purchase of advanced airway mannequins for use with the education program. Many issues and problems prevent students from obtaining live intubations. The committee recommends to start researching that. Sabina Braithwaite is heading that up that effort.

15. Medevac Committee - 15. The State Medevac Committee has met twice since the last EMS
Genemarie McGee Advisory Board meeting; May 22 and a special call meeting on July 16. At the May 22 meeting they had a FBI agent in attendance to assist them with a document on helicopter operations in mass casualties. A draft of that has been completed. A special call meeting took place on July 16 regarding the committee and their collection of stats. It was a successful meeting and they worked through that process.
16. Medical Direction 16. The Medical Direction Committee meeting was postponed and they have
Committee - Dr. Stewart not met since April. The committee is continuing to work on medical
Martin procedure schedules and the Medical Direction course.
17. Public Information and 17. The committee has not met since the last State EMS Advisory Board
Education – Karen Wagner meeting. They have no action items and are continuing to work on the
projects reported at the last meeting.
18. Regulation and Policy 18. The meeting scheduled on August 7 was canceled. The committee is
– Don Barklage continuing to work via email correspondence. They are trying to develop
language for the compliance manual. Their next meeting is scheduled on
November 13.
19. Transportation 19. The committee met in July. The committee is still in the process of
Committee - Chip Decker recruiting members. They have seven members and have room for three
additional members. The next meeting is scheduled on October 27.
20. Trauma System 20. The committee met on June 5. The committee continues to work on an
Oversight and updated State Trauma System Plan. This work is being funded by a HRSA
Management Committee - grant. The Board has received the final draft of the Plan. Board members
Morris Reece were asked to review the final draft and submit any changes, revisions or
comments to Mike Semp in the Office of EMS by August 29. Board
members will receive a revised Plan incorporating any revisions by October
1; and the Board Chair will be asked to place this item on the agenda of the
November meeting for final approval by the Board.

Mr. Reece explained that the committee is also working on improving and bringing up to date the trauma system designation process. This effort is also funded by a HRSA grant, and is a bridge to the State Trauma System Plan. The intent of this effort is to enable the committee upon completion of a trauma center review to leave the administrators with a written report with their score and deficiencies. The committee is also hopeful that this work will enable them to provide information for use by the pending JLARC study.

Mr. Reece reported that seven centers will be surveyed for redesignation between now and the end of the year. There is one center that will be surveyed for a new designation; and also Virginia Beach General Hospital has requested a voluntary downgrade from a Level II to a Level III; and that

survey will be conducted in October. Some committee members, along with OEMS staff, will be meeting with Virginia Beach General Hospital the week of August 11 to do an impact analysis of what the implications would be of changing the designation from Level II to Level III.

21. Regional Councils
Executive Directors – Rob
Logan

21. The Regional Council EMS Directors group met on August 7. They have no action items. Discussion items included the requested input from the Regional Councils for the development of the State EMS Plan. Jim Chandler has been asked to take the lead of a Regional Council workgroup for this effort. Regional Directors have been asked to assist with room host duties at the EMS Symposium this year.

The chairperson of the Virginia Chapter of the American Trauma Society made a presentation at the meeting on yesterday. A presentation was also given on the possible provision of liability insurance coverage for Operational Medical Directors and a mechanism by which Regional Councils might be involved in providing that coverage if it is deemed necessary.

The Regional Council Directors recognized Gerry Girard, a member of the OEMS support staff, for his efforts and help to the regional councils during the past year.

22. Nominating
Committee Report - Karen
Wagner

22. Ms. Wagner recognized the members of the committee, Liz Martin, Sharon Alsop, Gary Critzer, and Genemarie McGee.

The recommendations from the Nominating Committee were announced.

Officers:

*Chair – David Palmer

*First Vice Chair – Donald Barklage

*Second Vice Chair – Stewart Martin

Standing Committees Chairs:

Awards Selection Committee - Michael Player

Communications Committee – Gary Critzer

CISM Committee – Liz Martin

EMS Emergency Management Committee – Michael Gonzalez, M.D.

EMS for Children (EMSC) Committee – Theresa Guins, M.D.

*EMS System Finance, Legislation and Planning Committee – Kent Weber

Financial Assistance Review Committee (F.A.R.C.) – Byron Andrews

Leadership and Management Committee – Doug Young

Medevac Committee – Genemarie McGee

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

Nominating Committee – Karen Wagner

*Professional Development Committee – David Palmer

Public Information & Education Committee – May Fox

*Regulation & Policy Committee – Donald Barklage

*Trauma System Oversight & Management Committee – Morris Reece

Transportation Committee – Chip Decker

F.A.R.C. Seat (Federation) – Karen Wagner.

The asterisk (*) denotes members of the Executive Committee.

The Chair asked for a motion to accept the slate of officers as submitted by the Nomination Committee.

The following motion was made and properly second.

MOTION: The State EMS Advisory Board recommends acceptance of the slate of officers as submitted by the Nomination Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, the nominations were closed, and the Chair called for the vote.

YEAS = 21; NAYS = 0; ABSENTIONS = 0. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Terry Furlong with the Food Allergy Network of Fairfax, Virginia addressed the Board asking them to make Epinephrine universally available to EMT-B in the State of Virginia. Mr. Furlong gave some background information on the subject and support for the initiative. Board members received notebooks with information on this issue.

Following Mr. Furlong's presentation, the Board discussed this information

and some board members voiced their concerns. The Chair asked that the Medical Direction Committee research the feasibility of supporting the initiative and report back to the Board at a later meeting. Dr. Gilbert suggested that Dr. Martin review some PPCRs for information on epinephrine.

30th Anniversary of Advanced Life Support (ALS) in Virginia – Bruce Edwards

The 30th anniversary of ALS in Virginia started 30 years ago in Virginia Beach. Mr. Edwards gave a brief history of ALS. In celebration of the anniversary, there will be a celebration in Virginia Beach at the Marine Science Museum on Sunday, August 10, 2003.

Old Business

Dyncorp Settlement - Chip Decker

A settlement amount has been reached for Dyncorp the former contracted broker for transportation services in the State. The state replaced Dyncorp with LogistiCare because they failed to pay the transportation providers. The settlement is asking that the transportation providers accept less than fifty cents on a dollar for all the transports they performed. Mr. Decker pointed out the fact that Dyncorp was fully reimbursed by the State and it seems unfair that transportation providers are being asked to settle for much less. Mr. Decker discussed the negative impact being felt by this settlement and would be interested in hearing from individuals who have felt the impact in their system or agency.

New Business

Tidewater Emergency Medical Services Council Regional Emergency Medical Services Plan – Kent Weber

Mr. Weber had copies of the Tidewater Regional Emergency Medical Services Plan 2003 – 2006 available to interested individuals.

Possible Funding for Transportation Providers - Chip Decker

Currently, there are two bills in Congress, one in the House and one in the Senate, that will bring to the states additional funding for Medicare. If the bills pass, it will provide funding for providers who bill Medicare for ambulance service in the Commonwealth. These bills are being driven by American Medical Response (AMR). The House bill is for \$500,000,000; and the Senate bill is for \$160,000,000. The problem is that the House leaves out 17 states and the District of Columbia, Virginia being one of the 17 states; probably because the AMR doesn't have a presence in Virginia. . The president of Virginia Ambulance Association, Jim Jones, has been traveling to DC dealing with the Ways and Means Committee to try and get Virginia included.

Mr. Decker would like a motion passed by the EMS Advisory Board supporting the goals of the National Ambulance Coalition, which is to get Virginia included in all the money that will be headed back to the states.

Chip Decker made the following motion.

MOTION: The State EMS Advisory Board agrees to support the efforts of the National Ambulance Coalition in their effort to bring additional Medicare funding for ambulance transportation to Virginia.

The motion was seconded by George Langford and the Chair opened the floor for discussion. OEMS staff was asked to research and provide the Board members with the actual bill numbers. Hearing no additional discussion, the Chair called for the vote.

YEAS = 20; NAYS = 0; ABSTENTIONS = 0. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Assistance Review Committee (F.A.R.C.) Vacant Seat – Don Barklage

The EMS Advisory Board is tasked with appointing members to F.A.R.C. There is a vacant seat on F.A.R.C., and the Nominations Committee has presented as part of their slate a recommendation for Karen Wagner to fill the vacant F.A.R.C. representing the Federation. The chair entertained a motion to that effect.

MOTION: The State EMS Advisory Board recommends acceptance of Karen Wagner as the Financial Assistance Review Committee's representative for the Federation.

Kent Weber seconded the motion. The Chair asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none the vote was taken.

YEAS = 20; NAYS = 0; ABSTENTIONS = 0

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION TO ADJOURN. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. November 14, 2003 at The Place.

Adjourn
Next Meeting
