

**Financial Assistance Review Committee (FARC)
Quarterly Meeting
Richmond Marriott Short Pump
Glen Allen, Virginia
May 4, 2017
1:00 PM**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Administration Staff:	Staff/Other Guests:
Robert Trimmer, Chairman		Amanda Davis	Kim Barton
Barbara Brown		Linwood Pulling	Jeff Michaels
Dan Norville			Matt Lawler
Mark Nugent			Chris Vernovai
Curtis Sheets			Amy Ashe
Karen Wagner			Bruce Edwards

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
I. Approval of 02/02/2017 Meeting Minutes	Robert Trimmer, made a motion to approve the minutes from February 2, 2017.	Minutes approved
II. RSAF A) EMSTF - Training Funds (Phase III)	In the Fall of 2016, OEMS announced a grant opportunity for all accredited non-profit licensed EMS agencies for initial EMS certification classes due to changes in procurement. The Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (RSAF) implemented Phase I of this initiative to provide funding for training certification in place of the EMS Training Funds. We awarded \$707,931.00 to 22 accredited testing agencies. Phase II of our ongoing initiative was to provide jump bags and EKG monitor simulators to accredited paramedic programs in Virginia for the required integrated Out-Of-Hospital scenario. The special initiative grant for the National Registry testing was awarded on February 15, 2017 to 13 agencies in the amount of \$1,053,771.78. OEMS awarded 118 jump bags in the amount of \$582,361.78 and 59 EKG monitor simulators in the amount of \$471,410.00. Phase III for this initiative was announced and the applications were due April 25, 2017, OEMS awarded \$493,000.00.	No further action is required
III. Grant Unit A) Payments Processed February - April	The grants unit processed 78 payments totaling \$2,781,460.00 between February - April 2017.	No further action is required
IV. Grant Manager Report A) FARC Committee Rotation - Nominees	Robert Trimmer and Barbara Brown have served two, three-year terms on FARC and will be rotating off June 30, 2017. We will have a going away/recognition at our awards meeting on June 1-2 2017. The next councils that will have representation on FARC will be Blue Ridge EMS Council and Central Shenandoah EMS Council. At the Governor's Advisory Board	The Governor's Advisory Board will appoint and approve two new members to represent FARC. One will represent the Blue Ridge EMS Council area and

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<p data-bbox="142 716 380 769">B) Quarterly Grant Report</p> <p data-bbox="142 1386 373 1440">C) RSAF Required Grant Criteria</p>	<p data-bbox="472 258 1535 678">meeting tomorrow (May 5, 2017), they will approve a nomination from each of the two rotating councils. Central Shenandoah EMS Council has nominated Donna L. Hurst. Donna is a nationally registered Paramedic. She is on the Central Shenandoah EMS Council's Board of Directors Executive Committee. She is a life member of Staunton Augusta Rescue Squad and has been a member for over 30 years. She is the Operations Manager (Emergency Department/Transportation Services/Emergency Management) for Augusta Health Emergency Services. She is also a registered nurse and has a BSN degree. She is also a member of the Emergency Nurses Association. Blue Ridge EMS Council has nominated RB (Bruce) Stratton to represent their region on FARC. Bruce works for Babcock & Wilcox. He is a member of Concord Rescue Squad and has also served on VAVRS. He is certified as an EMT Intermediate and Fire Fighter II. The new FARC members will be invited to attend the upcoming Pre-Awards/Awards meeting to be held on June 1st and June 2nd. This will give them first-hand knowledge of the RSAF awards meetings and FARC membership prior to their effective dates of July 1, 2017.</p> <p data-bbox="472 716 1524 862">This information can be found in the OEMS Quarterly Report to the State EMS Advisory Board dated Friday, May 5, 2017. The Spring 2017 RSAF grant deadline was March 15, 2017. OEMS received 134 grant applications requesting \$10,800,277.00 in funding. Funding amounts are being requested in the following agency categories: 122 Licensed EMS Agencies requesting \$10,500,773.00 and 12 Non EMS Agencies requesting \$299,504.00.</p> <p data-bbox="472 899 1535 1198">Funding amounts are being requested in the following regional areas: Blue Ridge EMS Council - requesting funding of \$875,126.00; Central Shenandoah EMS Council - requesting funding of \$997,061.00; Lord Fairfax EMS Council - requesting funding of \$1,211,683.00; Northern Virginia EMS Council - requesting funding of \$267,669.00; Old Dominion EMS Alliance - requesting funding of \$1,482,039.00; Peninsulas EMS Council - requesting funding of \$1,442,179.00; Rappahannock EMS Council - requesting funding of \$419,980.00; Southwestern Virginia EMS Council - requesting funding of \$1,747,135.00; Thomas Jefferson EMS Council - requesting funding of \$127,682.00; Tidewater EMS Council - requesting funding of \$1,270,288.00 and Western Virginia EMS Council - requesting funding of \$959,435.00.</p> <p data-bbox="472 1235 1535 1349">Funding amounts are being requested for the following item categories: Audio Visual and Computers - \$70,981.00; Communications - \$54,931.00; Power Load Systems - \$327,042.00; Emergency Operations - \$99,937.00; BLS & ALS Equipment - \$2,606,532.00; Special Projects - \$228,642.00; Training - \$139,707.00 and Vehicles - \$7,272,504.00.</p> <p data-bbox="472 1386 1535 1466">The new scoring criteria will be implemented during the Spring 2017 grant cycle (June 2017). The FARC recommended grade will be combined with the following VDH criteria based on the applicants physical location to calculate the final score to be recommended to the</p>	<p data-bbox="1564 258 2003 342">the other will represent the Central Shenandoah EMS area beginning July 1, 2017.</p> <p data-bbox="1564 716 1892 740">No further action is required</p> <p data-bbox="1564 1386 1892 1411">No further action is required</p>

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	Commissioner of Health. There will be a 7 th grade that will be factored in to help calculate the final grade. There will be the 6 members of FARC grades and the VDH grade.	
<p>V. Open Discussion</p> <p>A) Grants this cycle</p> <p>B) Ambulance Costs</p> <p>C) Reverse Remount</p> <p>D) Wythe County RS</p> <p>E) EMS Regional Council Scoring</p> <p>F) FARC Chair</p>	<p>Discussion arose regarding emergency grants and the 100% funding versus 80% funding. In an emergency, the replacement probably wasn't part of the budget and was not anticipated. It can create a major crisis for the agency and have a tremendous impact on the community. OEMS looks at all grants on their own merits and based on their financial needs.</p> <p>Robert Trimmer discussed the cost of materials to build an ambulance have increased in the past 2 years. This is due in part to meeting the guidelines and OEMS requirements. All ambulances are now required to have the cot retention system, seat belts, brackets and straps to hold certain things in place, etc.</p> <p>Curtis Sheets discussed that Virginia is now the most restricted state (ranked last of the 50 states) on remounts. There is now reverse remount, when a department decides to retire an ambulance, the body is still in good condition so it is being proposed by some vendors to replace the motor, transmission and any other parts that need replaced. FARC may see these requests in future applications.</p> <p>Wythe County Rescue Squad has requested an ambulance for the current grant cycle they were also just awarded an emergency grant for an ambulance. Mrs. Davis, OEMS grants manager, spoke to the agency and they do want to keep they request in for the current grant cycle due to the fact they are still in need of another unit. The agency stated they actually had two ambulances go out of service.</p> <p>The Regional EMS Council Executive Committee inquired as to why they each score and prioritize grants in their region if FARC isn't going to adhere to their grades and comments they each submit. This is written in their state contract form OEMS and they have concern that if an agency is the number one priority from the regional council and the grant still not get funded. If FARC isn't going to fund their priorities, why are they required to prioritize? Apparently, there is a misconception with the regional councils that FARC discusses the grants among themselves which is not the case. The grants are scored individually and not collectively as a group. FARC does this on a voluntary basis and spends hundreds of hours reviewing and grading the grants. If there is a question or the agency needs to be contacted, FARC will contact Mrs. Davis, Grants Manager and she will contact the agency.</p> <p>Each year, FARC elects a Chair for the July 1 - June 30 calendar year. Karen Wagner was nominated to be the next chair of FARC. Karen was unanimously voted in for the next fiscal year.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p>
VI. Adjournment	Robert Trimmer, FARC Chairman, made a motion to adjourn.	The June 2017 Pre-Awards/Awards meeting will be on June 1-2, 2017. The

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		next quarterly meeting will take place on August 3, 2017. The fall RSAF grant cycle opens August 1, 2017 and closes September 15, 2017.