

**Communications Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of EMS
Norfolk Waterside Marriott
235 E. Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510
November 9, 2017
11:00 a.m.**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests:
John Korman , Chair	Lewis Cassada , VITA	Ken Crumpler	Ed Moreland, CSEMS, Executive Director
Richard Rubino , Member-at-Large (Legal)	Melissa Wood , Fredericksburg PD	Wanda Street	Dreama Chandler, GAB, Infrastructure Coordinator
Mike Keefe , VDEM	Derrick Ruble , Tazewell County 911		Gary Critzer, State Board of Health
	Hershel Kreis , NENA		
	Tracey McLaurin , LFEMS Reg. Council		

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to Order & Introductions:	The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 11:03 a.m.	
Approval of the minutes dated August 4, 2017:	A motion was made to approve the August 4, 2017 minutes. The minutes were <u>not</u> approved, as there was no quorum.	The minutes were <u>not</u> approved. No quorum.
Committee Chair Report (John Korman):	<p>Mr. Korman did not have a report at this time. Gary and Ken explained to John, Ed and Dreama the logistics of the committee composition and the roles of each member.</p> <p>Gary recommended, to the committee, that a VHHA seat is added to the committee for hospital communications. This will ensure that all of the aspects of interoperability is at the table. Gary suggested reaching out to the VHHA representative on the Advisory Board – Charlotte Tyson. We should ask her to identify an individual from her organization to join the committee.</p> <p>Ken stated that he and John discussed engaging APCO and NENA in the topics that are discussed at the Communications Committee meetings in order to forge closer ties with them. The goal is to better serve the 911 community.</p> <p>Gary stated that this committee is a huge proponent for EMD and we should be sure to continue to educate as many agencies as possible and let them know about the RSAF funding sources that are available to them. He also mentioned that this group should create some white papers or best practice documents to help guide others in the proper way to do things. There is extensive</p>	

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	<p>knowledge in this room on EMD, CAD, radio, interoperability, licensing, air medical (auto launch) etc. Once the papers are approved, they can be posted on the OEMS website for the availability of anyone in the system. Per Ken, the papers can also be posted on the APCO/NENA websites as well.</p> <p>Gary also mentioned the Communications Track at symposium. In years past, the track was more robust. Ken stated that it got absorbed into a bigger track (Operations). Gary would like this committee to collaborate more with APCO/NENA at either their conference or the Office of EMS symposium.</p> <p>Ken stated that he would like to see some public education guidelines for EMD.</p>	
<p>OEMS Communications Coordinators Report (Ken Crumpler):</p>	<p>APCO Pro-CHRT Committee – Derrick Ruble Derrick was not present.</p> <p>FirstNet – Mike Keefe-Thomas Mike reported that he and Ken spoke about standardizing frequencies and making recommendations of how radios should be programmed. A series of frequencies and recommendations have been created. A white paper will eventually be published on this concerning how to program a radio that utilizes state funds for procurement. There are recommendations for UHF, VHF, 700 or 800 MHz bands. This white paper will be endorsed by the SIEC. There is a similar movement with encryption standards. A best practices paper has also been created with encryption guidelines.</p> <p>Gary suggested that this should be shared with the Virginia radio vendors after it has been vetted and approved.</p> <p>As for the FirstNet report, Ken stated that there was a huge First Net presence at the APCO/NENA conference with lots of breakout sessions. According to Mike, the biggest thing now is that Verizon is basically building their own First Net standard core. AT&T is trying to convert customers to First Net. Unless Verizon and AT&T merge, their two cores won't interact. He stated that the footprint of Verizon is huge. He believes that close to 90% of Virginia state government is on Verizon Wireless. If they don't come together, we will end up with two systems that cannot communicate with each other.</p> <p>Mike also reported that data was gathered from the Fusion Center on the August 12, 2017 event in Charlottesville for an after action report.</p>	
<p>New Business:</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>Unfinished Business:</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>Public Comment:</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>Adjournment:</p>	<p>The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m.</p>	

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	2018 Meeting Schedule: February 2, 2018 May 4, 2018 August 3, 2018 November Meeting in Norfolk (Date and exact location to be determined).	

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