

**Communications Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of EMS
Richmond Marriott Short Pump
4240 Dominion Boulevard
May 4, 2018
9:00 a.m.**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests:
John Korman , Chair	Melissa Wood , Fredericksburg PD	Ken Crumpler	Dreama Chandler, GAB, Infrastructure Coordinator
Richard Rubino , Member-at-Large (Legal)	Tracey McLaurin , LFEMS Reg. Council	Wanda Street	Chris Vernovai, Highland County
Mike Keefe , VDEM		Sam Burnette	Hunter Moyler
Hershel Kreis , NENA			Robert Trimmer, Chesterfield Fire/EMS
Derrick Ruble , Tazewell County 911			
Lewis Cassada , VITA			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to Order & Introductions:	The meeting was called to order at 9:13 a.m. by Richard Rubino, who was sitting in for the chair, John Korman.	
Approval of the minutes dated November 9, 2017:	A motion was made to approve the November 9, 2017 minutes. The minutes were approved as submitted.	The minutes were approved as submitted.
Committee Chair Report (John Korman):	Mr. Korman submitted a written report to Mr. Rubino as follows. National Safety Telecommunications Week was April 8-14. In addition, the Governor has signed Senate Bill 418, which is Public Safety Entering Points Deployment Text App. This will require by January 1, 2020 for all PSAPs in the Commonwealth to be able to receive and process emergency calls that are sent by text message. There are two committees that Mr. Korman wanted mentioned, which are Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Committee on Training and DCJS Dispatch Curriculum Review Committee. There is a comment period, which closes May 21, and as of May 3, four comments have been received. This is for adding a continuing education requirement and training objectives for Fire and EMS dispatching.	
OEMS Communications Coordinators Report (Ken Crumpler):	VITA Next Generation 911 Deployment Plan – Lewis Cassada The 911 Services Board has endorsed that the rest of the State join in on the AT&T contract that the PSAPs in Northern VA has signed. The Northern VA PSAPs are going to deploy what is called a Six Core AT&T Solution with six data centers nationwide and the PSAPs will be connected with those data centers. AT&T will also build an aggregation point so calls can be routed to the aggregation point and then routed to the AT&T network. This decision was made because two of our staff members were on the review committee and didn't have a vote but they reviewed the contract and	

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	<p>sat in on all of the meetings and they felt that the RFP process for Northern VA was really good. If we recreated the wheel, it would have taken a lot of time to get to the same result. So the Board endorsed going with the AT&T contract or going their own route and a decision needs to be made quickly. The training grants were increased to about \$3,000. Lewis also informed the committee that as of June 1, the VITA ISP (911 and VGEN) will be moving out of the data center in Chester to the 16th Floor of the Monroe Building.</p> <p>APCO Pro-CHRT Committee – Derrick Ruble Meetings with PSAPs are still being held. An email was received a couple of weeks ago from the City of Franklin and they will be applying. Ken will be attending the next APCO Pro-CHRT committee meeting in Virginia Beach on Wednesday. Sam asked about revamping the EMD presentation. Derrick stated that this will be discussed further on Wednesday.</p> <p>FirstNet – Mike Keefe-Thomas Mike stated that December 28 was the deadline for all states to opt-in. All 50 States have opted- in including two territories – Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. The service plans are starting to become available; agency or individuals can pay them. Still trying to figure out how to validate. The cost is \$50 for unlimited voice/text/data and \$60 for unlimited voice/text/data, mobile hotspot and tethering. The frequencies that have been used in Virginia by the Stars repeater system have been turned over to FirstNet. Maryland and DC have already started using FirstNet. STARS rebanding is about 75% done throughout the State. Mike will provide a list of the frequencies to Ken for distribution to the committee.</p> <p>The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) had a successful best practices agreement for frequency plan. The SIEC also voted to get technical assistance from DHSOEC to support an equipment survey throughout the state. They also have another technical assistant to assess and assist with the development of a new Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP). A new Tactical Interoperable Communications Field Operational Guide (TICFOG) was released within the last 30 days as well. The Interoperability Coordinator position that was out of the Governor’s office remains vacant. An offer was extended to someone a couple of months ago but they could not come to an agreement so the position was re-advertised and the second round of interviews were held this past Monday.</p> <p>Communications Database Ken stated that the Communications Directory is being revamped. It can be used as a reference tool; however, it is dated. The Office of EMS is working with the IT Department to make it an online communications database. The administrator of each agency will be able to update their own information as changes occur. We do not want it to be a printable document that quickly becomes outdated.</p>	<p>A list of the frequencies will be provided to Ken for distribution to the committee.</p>

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	<p>FCC Updates – Richard Rubino Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) has been pushing the FCC to crack down on unauthorized equipment. This is a group made up of industrial public safety frequency coordinators. Local governments and public safety agencies purchase equipment online some of the equipment that is made overseas does not comply with federal regulations.</p> <p>On February 16th, President Trump signed into legislation Kari’s Law that affects 911 calls that are made on multi-line telephone systems. You will not have to dial 9 to get an outside line. The effective date for compliant telephone equipment is February 2020.</p> <p>Unlicensed Operation – FCC is going after persons operating without licenses this includes public safety and state and local governments.</p> <p>The FCC is also issuing guidance letters to state and local governments regarding the improper use of interoperability channels.</p> <p>Legislation has been introduced called The Don’t Break Up the T-Band Act HR 5085 to repeal the T-Band auction.</p> <p>911 call routing – There is an issue with the way 911 calls are routed using a wireless device. The FCC has issued a notice of inquiry to determine the best way to reduce response times and figure out the best way for calls to be routed. Comments are due on Monday and the proceeding and reply comments are due June 21.</p> <p>911 call centers – There have recently been two call center hackings in Baltimore, MD and Henry County, Tennessee. In Henry County, access was gained through a weak password while in Baltimore access was gained because of a change in the firewall that left an opening for intruders to get in. Hackers have also used “denial of service” attacks to flood 911 centers with bogus automated phone calls.</p>	
New Business:	<p>Sam Burnette stated that the Emergency Management Committee met yesterday and has been working on a survey to send to EMS Agencies to get an understanding of their preparedness, disaster response and emergency management as a whole. Someone brought it to our attention that we did not include 911 centers in the survey. We will reach out to the PSAP and include them in the survey. We would like to have MCI Training for the dispatchers as well. The goal is to have consistency in the language and procedures across the state. Three or more people are considered an MCI. The plan is finalize the data from the survey in July.</p>	
Unfinished Business:	None.	
Public Comment:	None.	

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Adjournment:	<p>The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:03 a.m.</p> <p>2018 Meeting Schedule: August 3, 2018 November Meeting in Norfolk (Date and exact location to be determined).</p>	

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