

**State Medevac Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services
Richmond Marriott Short Pump
4240 Dominion Boulevard, Glen Allen, VA 23060
August 2, 2018
10:00 a.m.**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests & Other Attendees:
Jason D. Ferguson , Chair	Donna Hurst , Augusta Health	George Lindbeck	Tony Raymond
Susan Smith , Carilion Clinic Lifeguard	Shawn Rivard , VSP	Wanda Street	Katie Rodman
Terry Austin , VCU LifeEvac/Air Methods	Julia Marsden , Consumer Rep/GAB	Cam Crittenden	Anita Perry
Chris Shaffer , PHI Air Medical		Scott Winston	Mike Wasilko
Dwain Rowe , Wings Air Rescue			Jason Post
Jennifer Basham , Fairfax Co. Police			Vince Mancano
Denise Baylous , Sentara Nightingale			Allan Belcher
Tim Ryan , U.S. Park Police			Chris Parker
Kate Challis , Johnston-Willis Hospital			R. Jason Ferguson
Jay Lovelady , VCU LifeEvac			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	The Chair, Jason Ferguson, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.	
Introductions:	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
Review & Approval of the May 3, 2018 minutes:	A motion was made to review and approve the May meeting minutes. The motion was moved by Dwain Rowe and seconded by Terry Austin. The minutes were approved as submitted.	The May 3, 2018 minutes were approved as submitted.
Chair Report – Jason Ferguson:	Mr. Ferguson stated that there has not been much activity since the last meeting and this meeting. He stated that Tim Perkins is out of the office for a couple of weeks for health reasons.	
OEMS Report:	<p>Dr. Lindbeck stated that he will speak with Amanda Lavin who is the Assistant Attorney General for OEMS about HB778. We will need to establish a data repository at OEMS for the air medical programs, giving the hospitals access to the information. The question is whether the office is expected to generate a paper for the hospitals to use or whether to leave that to the hospitals to generate.</p> <p>Cam did not have anything to add to the OEMS report. Jay Lovelady stated that he has seen some sample verbiage from VHHA that could be used in writing the paper. It was specific language in the June 15th Bulletin concerning HB778, and SB663. Mr. Lovelady will email it to Dr. Lindbeck and the committee by sending it to Tim and Jason, who will then distribute to the committee members and medevac agencies.</p> <p>Scott Winston stated that Tim and Dr. Lindbeck discussed HB778 and that OEMS has to create a mechanism no later than January 1, 2019 to disclose to the patient, prior to the services provided by an out-of-network air medical provider, a good faith estimate of the range of typical charges for the out-of-state air transport</p>	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
	<p>providers in that geographical area. His understanding was that Tim and Dr. Lindbeck will come up with an a la carte menu of transports that were typically non-emergent types of transfers and identify a range of typical charges. This will require some input from the air medical providers.</p> <p>Scott also mentioned that HB777 that was introduced by Delegate Ransom and it is still out there. This has to do with informed consent from the patient prior to making emergency air medical transport. This bill was amended in the General Assembly and carried over to the 2019 General Assembly session. Scott is sure that this bill will resurface and will have to be addressed at some point.</p> <p>Jason stated that at the last meeting we discussed the recommendations of HB1728 and that we, as the committee, need to work on those recommendations. Anita stated that the biggest recommendation was the education piece. The committee discussed how to present the education, maybe it is creating an EMSAT video to be put on the OEMS website. Jason feels that cost is what Delegate Ransom wanted more education and/or information about. Jason proposed that each agency put together what they have done to educate the public about their program including costs, when to call, when not to call and other facts. Denise Baylous stated that Nightingale has a booklet that they share with their local 911 centers on an annual basis. She is happy to share that with the committee. Anita stated that it should be a simple, unified document with an OEMS logo. Scott feels that a lot of work has already been done, but should be summarized and communicated to the Delegate between now and the end of the year, before the general assembly session begins. He feels there is a lot of misunderstanding about how patients are transported by air medical services, especially in the insurance industry.</p> <p>Jason would like to establish a small workgroup to work on the recommendations from the HB1728 document. The leader of the workgroup will be Susan Smith. Other members are R. Jason Ferguson, Terry Austin, Anita Perry and Denise Baylous.</p> <p>Scott informed the committee that Dr. Norman Oliver has been appointed as the State Health Commissioner since the departure of Dr. Marissa Levine. The Chief Deputy Health Commissioner is currently vacant and was held by Dr. Hughes Melton who was appointed as the Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Kim Allan is acting Chief Deputy Health Commissioner. Recruitment is currently underway for that position.</p> <p>Scott also informed the committee that seven individuals will be rotating off of the EMS Advisory Board. There will be some new faces at the table. There will be a new Chair and Vice Chair. The Governor will make appointments before the next EMS Advisory Board meeting in November.</p> <p>Scott also stated that the quarterly report has been posted on the OEMS website with more information. The symposium registration is now open and catalogs will be forthcoming by the end of the month.</p> <p>The Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact (REPLICA) has been enacted in 16 states. The most recent states include Nebraska, Missouri and New Hampshire.</p>	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
	<p>The last item is that our offices at Technology Park will soon be combined into one location. The work will begin next month and continue through early next year. We appreciate your patience as we go through this office transition.</p> <p>Scott stated that the Office of EMS is doing a comprehensive review and revision the EMS Regulations and that we had a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action submitted last summer and we did not receive any public comment. In the interim, we are updating all sections of the regulations. They are reviewing Chapter 31 and adopting a new chapter, which will be Chapter 32. We have incorporated input from all of the standing committees of the advisory board. We are getting ready to start Phase 2 which involves the executive management review. Once the review process is complete, we will publish the proposed Regulations in the Virginia Registry and will be open for a public comment period of 60 days. Once the public comment session is closed. We will review them all and further revisions may need be necessary. There will also be at least one public forum held also. OEMS is about a 3rd of the way through the process. The Rules and Regulations Committee has received a copy of the proposed draft regulations for their review and vote today. Once approved, we will submit our regulatory review package to begin the executive review of the regulations. The process will take about a year to see the regulations promulgated. Scott appreciates your patience in the process. Ron Passmore has done a wonderful job in working to update the regulations.</p>	
Project Synergy Work Group Update – Anita Perry:	Anita stated that this no longer a group anymore. She stated that she does not have everyone’s 2017 data, she can send averages, if you like; otherwise, it will be 2 or 3 quarters of data. If everyone would like to see the final report, please send your 2017 data. Anita stated that she is willing to spearhead a different workgroup if necessary.	
Drone Workgroup – Susan Smith:	<p>a. Drone Safety Update As stated in the last meeting minutes, Tim will update the PowerPoint with legislative changes and make it a zip file or put in it on the OEMS website so that it will be downloadable by the agencies. The file was too large to send by email.</p>	
Virginia Helicopter EMS Program Update – Tim Perkins:	<p>a. Statistics Report The Medevac Helicopter EMS application (formerly known as WeatherSafe) continues to see an increase in the amount of data submitted. In terms of weather turndowns, there were 717 entries into the Helicopter EMS system in the second quarter of the 2018 calendar year. 66% of those entries (471 entries) were for interfacility transports, which is consistent with information from previous quarters. The total number of turndowns is an increase from 580 entries in the second quarter of 2017. Year to date, there have been 1,406 entries, with 930 being interfacility, an increase from 1,170 and 770, respectively, in the same timeframe for 2017. This data continues to show dedication to the program itself, but also to maintaining safety of medevac personnel and equipment.</p> <p>b. LZ Control No update.</p>	
Program Announcements:	<p>Terry Austin, Air Methods – No report.</p> <p>Jay Lovelady, VCU Health – VCU is moving closer to having blood products available on flights.</p>	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
	<p>Chris Shaffer, PHI Air Medical – No report.</p> <p>Kate Challis, Johnston-Willis Hospital – No report.</p> <p>Denise Baylous, Nightingale – The rooftop helipads are completed, but are not operational yet. They are updating the access procedure document and will make sure it gets distributed to everyone. Most of the construction is done at Norfolk General and there are no cranes. However, CHKD is building a Behavioral Health Center and this should not impact any flight operations.</p> <p>Tim Ryan, U.S. Park Police – The new helicopter was finally delivered, completed and is in service. It is the primary air craft right now. They have begun the process of hiring 4 new pilots. It is their goal to have them on the job in April 2019 and on board as pilots a year later.</p> <p>Jennifer Basham, Fairfax County Police – Fairfax is in the process of building a new hangar. It will be about 18 months out before they break ground. The plan is to stay in the same location, but unsure of where to move the helicopters when construction is occurring. She will keep everyone updated.</p> <p>Dwain Rowe, Wings Air Rescue – Wings has implemented a EC135 at their Elizabethton, TN base, which serves some parts of Virginia. They retained their 407 that was in service there for back up.</p> <p>Susan Smith, Carilion Clinic Life-Guard – Tim sent out an email about the FP-C Review Course that is being held on September 24 & 25. As a follow-up on the possibility of establishing an AAMS Chapter in Virginia, Susan met with the Texas President of that AAMS chapter. Also, as an AAMS Chapter we would get \$2000 to do a Safety Day if we wanted to do that. More information on this.</p> <p>Wings Air Rescue - Wings thanked the staff in the Regulations and Compliance Division for their assistance in bringing their portal up to date. Ron Kendrick, Heather Phillips-Greene and Ron Passmore were very helpful in getting the portal updated.</p> <p>Vince Mancano, Medflight I – Medflight will start carrying blood fairly soon as Jay Lovelady mentioned. They have put 2 helicopters in the budget. The helicopters have been approved, ordered and should be operational in 12 months to 2 years.</p> <p>Tony Raymond, Air Methods – No report.</p> <p>Allan Belcher, CentraHealth – Centra recently hired three new nurses. Centra has started construction to the parking garage. They are using a drone to do different images of the construction project. They will have access to security radios.</p> <p>Mike Wasilko, UVA Pegasus – The last of the cranes have come down, so no more cranes around the helipad,</p>	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
	which is nice. The rooftop has a second pad which is slated to open September 2019. It was a challenge to get to the new ED from the old helipad, but will be much easier from the new helipad.	
Unfinished Business:	a. HB1728 Recommendations Discussed and addressed earlier.	
New Business:	Denise asked Cam who to contact at the office about validation issues. She is not sure if it is a state mapping issue or an EMS Charts issue. Cam stated that Bryan Hodges is the person to contact.	
Public Comment:	None.	
Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:13 a.m.	2018 Meeting Dates: November 7 –Norfolk Waterside Marriott

DRAFT