

**State Medevac Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services
Embassy Suites Hotel
2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294
December 18, 2019
10:00 a.m.**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests & Other Attendees:
Jason D. Ferguson , WVEMS, Chair	Donna Hurst , Augusta Health	Tim Perkins	Katie Rodman, VCU LifeEvac
Kate Challis , Johnston-Willis Hospital	Tim Ryan , U.S. Park Police	Gary Brown	Tammy Russell, Fairfax Co. PD
Terry Austin , VCU LifeEvac/Air Methods	Shawn Rivard , VSP	Wanda Street	
Jay Lovelady , VCU LifeEvac	Susan Smith , Carilion Clinic Lifeguard	Cam Crittenden	
Denise Baylous , Sentara Nightingale	Julia Marsden , Consumer Rep/GAB		
Dwain Rowe , Wings Air Rescue			
Rick Cohen , PHI Air Medical			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	The Chair, Jason Ferguson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. A moment of silence was held for fallen Medevac and EMS service members.	
Introductions:	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
Review & Approval of the August 1, 2019 minutes:	A motion was made to review and approve the August meeting minutes. Dwain Rowe had a correction to the August minutes. Under Shawn Rivard's program update, on the third line "Belfour 7" should be changed to "Bell 407". The motion was seconded by Jay Lovelady. The minutes were approved as amended.	The August 1, 2019 minutes were approved as amended.
Chair Report – Jason Ferguson:	The chair had no report.	
OEMS Report:	<p>Tim Perkins reported that there is a staffing change and that Adam Harrell is now the Associate Director of the Office of EMS. Gary announced that there are organizational structure changes at VDH and the Medevac is going back under the Trauma and Critical Care Division so Cam Crittenden will be the staff person for the committee instead of Tim. Gary also stated that he will be sending out the General Assembly Legislative grid every week while in session.</p> <p>Denise Baylous requested that Cam send out a quick summary of information that impacts Medevac on a quarterly basis. Cam stated that the EMS quarterly report is a great resource, but she will send out information as she receives it concerning any legislature.</p> <p>Tim stated that the agencies should continue to send everything to him for now as the transition is made over to</p>	

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	<p>Cam.</p> <p>Over the past few months, there has been discussion about Regional Councils becoming regional offices of the Office of EMS. The Central Shenandoah EMS Council is now a regional office of OEMS. Daniel Linkins is new program director for CSEMS. Similar agreements are in progress with Blue Ridge and Rappahannock EMS Councils. Program Director positions will be advertised for both of these councils. This is a voluntary process and we are unsure whether the other regional councils will come on board.</p> <p>Call for Presentations for the 2020 Symposium is open and will remain open until sometime in January. Gary reiterated this and stated that there was a dedicated Medevac Track in the past and he is not opposed to seeing one again. OEMS is open to any ideas or faculty members from other states. Cam stated that she is also on the symposium planning committee and working on a trauma and critical care track.</p>	
Drone Workgroup – Tim Perkins:	<p>a. Drone Safety Update</p> <p>Tim reported for Susan Smith who was unable to attend the meeting today. The presentation is on the OEMS website it is titled: “Keeping our Shared Air Space a Safe Air Space”. Google Wings Drone Delivery program is up and running in Christiansburg. There are no issues so far and it is still in its infancy. Susan participated in a trial tracking program and signed an MDA so she cannot provide details. When the time comes, she will share the lessons learned.</p>	
Virginia Helicopter EMS Program Update – Tim Perkins:	<p>a. Statistics Report</p> <p>The amount of data submitted to the Medevac Helicopter EMS application (formerly known as WeatherSafe) continues to grow. In terms of weather turndowns, there were 441 entries into the Helicopter EMS system in 3Q of the 2019 calendar year. 57% of those entries (253 entries) were for interfacility transports, which is consistent with information from previous quarters. The total number of turndowns is a decrease from 779 entries in 2Q of 2018. This data continues to demonstrate HEMS program commitment to maintaining the safety of medevac personnel and equipment.</p>	
Program Announcements and Updates:	<p>Denise Baylous, Sentara Nightingale – All of the helipad construction, fueling construction and the emergency room parking are complete. There is a temporary ramp coming off of the Ground C pad, but that should be removed soon. EVMS has a large crane and CHKD will have a huge crane going up in February. Nightingale did a piece on laser lights and Christmas lights for the local news. The committee discussed laser encounters.</p> <p>Dwain Rowe, Wings Air Rescue – No update.</p> <p>Tammy Russell, Fairfax Co. Police Dept. – Both aircrafts are back at the base after significant equipment upgrades. Jennifer Basham is no longer with the division. They are building a new heliport on the same site as the existing one. They will be temporarily at Manassas for about 18 months. Tim asked Tammy to send the information to him to send out to the Medevac agencies.</p> <p>Terry Austin, Air Methods – No update.</p> <p>Kate Challis, Johnston-Willis – No update.</p>	

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	<p>Jay Lovelady, VCU LifeEvac – Jay thanked Tim for the many years that he has served the Medevac committee. VCU has celebrated 18 years of continuous operation. VCU is working on two projects so there are several cranes in downtown Richmond.</p> <p>Rick Cohen, PHI Air Medical – The yard helipad is still closed, it is set to reopen in January.</p>	
Unfinished Business:	<p>a. Legislative Updates – Tim has not heard anything concerning this committee.</p>	
New Business:	<p>Finger Print Card Update Tim gave an update on the fingerprint/background check process. The new process is intended to provide completed records to the agencies with shorter turnaround times. The committee discussed the exemption process and other concerns.</p> <p>Incapacitated Pilot Initiative Susan asked Tim to mention that she met with two representatives from the FAA/AMTC regarding the Incapacitated Pilot Initiative. They are very supportive of this. Jason stated that this is gaining momentum and will possibly lead to training. Jason also stated that his has been a big conversation/initiative at Carilion primarily because of the near misses and the pilot who had a STEMI at the base. The committee had a lengthy discussion about this.</p> <p>Tim will send out the Nebraska helicopter shopping video.</p>	<p>Tim to send out the Nebraska video.</p>
Public Comment:	None.	
Adjournment:	<p>The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:57 a.m.</p> <p>The February, May and August meetings will likely be at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Richmond.</p>	<p>2020 Meeting Dates: February 6 May 7 August 6 November 11 (Tentative) Norfolk</p>