

**Communications Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of EMS
Embassy Suites Hotel
2925 Emerywood Parkway
Richmond, VA 23294
February 7, 2020
9:00 a.m.**

	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests:
John Korman, Chair	Tracey McLaurin, LFEMS Reg. Council	Sam Burnette	Steve Parrott
Richard Rubino, Vice-Chair, Member-at-Large (Legal)		Rich Troshak	John C. Bolling
Hershel Kreis, NENA		Katie Hodges	
Gary Tanner, VACO		Adam Harrell	
Lewis Cassada, VITA			
Mike Keefe, VDEM			
David Hoback, VML			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
I. Call to Order:	The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by the Chair, John Korman. Mr. Korman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that we keep Mr. Orndorff in our prayers. He had a health setback.	
II. Committee Chair Report (John Korman):	<p>A motion was made to approve the October 22, 2019 minutes. On page 6 under New Business, d. Agencies pending EMD...Instead of "None at this time", it should say "No report at this time." The minutes were approved as amended.</p> <p>A motion was made to approve today's agenda. The agenda was approved by consensus.</p>	<p>The meeting minutes were approved as amended.</p> <p>The agenda was approved by consensus.</p>
III. OEMS Report (Rich Troshak):	<p>a. Legislative Update There are bills out there related to EMS and Rich has shared the listing with the committee via email. He encouraged the committee to review them.</p>	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
	<p>b. RSAF Grant Update The grants have been funded in either 50/50 or 80/20 if there is hardship. He has listed the grant cycles in the slides and will also send out a copy after this meeting. Please share the cycles if you know of any EMS agencies that could benefit from the grant. Rich announced that Pulaski and Portsmouth were two of the most recent EMD grant recipients. Mike Keefe mentioned purchasing P-25 equipment with grant funding. The committee briefly discussed this.</p> <p>Rich also presented a slide about TCPR and the six important program initiatives of TCPR.</p> <p>c. Agencies pending EMD Accreditation and Reaccreditation Rich provided a report that shows the agencies that have met the criteria per the OEMS review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Warren County 9-1-1(New) •Clarke County ECC •Eastern Shore of Virginia 9-1-1 •Fauquier County Sheriff's ECC •James City County EC <p>A motion was made by Gary Tanner to accept the report. The motion was seconded by John Korman. All committee members were in favor of the motion, none opposed. The motion carried.</p>	
<p>IV. Committee Member Reports:</p>	<p>Virginia APCO – John Korman Mr. Korman discussed HB727 and SB720, which is concerning Telephone CPR and includes immunity from civil damages. It indicates that all dispatchers must complete an EMD education program by July 1, 2024 and conduct ongoing QA. Richard Rubino sent out a spreadsheet outlining each jurisdictions' EMD program. Thank you Richard. Most agencies already have this in place which satisfies this requirement. There is very little fiscal impact to most agencies. Also, HB727H1 talks about Department of Criminal Justice Services, for law enforcement establishes by December 1, 2020 to adopt standards for training and equipment for providing Telephone CPR. By January 1, 2022, each PSAP or 911 Center shall provide training and Telephone CPR to every dispatcher in employment and provide them with the equipment and provisions of providing Telephone CPR. It also mentions RSAF to provide funding for EMD and not TCPR.</p> <p>He also mentioned HB1468 which talks about opioid overdoses and the role of 911 centers. The Secretary of Health and Human Resources is going to create a workgroup to study 911 center</p>	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
	<p>employees control in providing assistance in opioid overdoses. Dispatchers will administer some level of pre-arrival instruction, most like Naloxone instruction.</p> <p>Mr. Korman also mentioned the Next Generation 911 and a nurse led program triaging non-serious medical calls going on in Florida from the OEMS Advisory Board Quarterly Report dated February 2020. He also mentioned a VDH sponsored training for dispatchers and responders. Please see the report on the OEMS website for more information.</p> <p>The Spring APCO/NENA Conference will be held in Virginia Beach and Rich is working to secure a room there for the meeting. He is unsure of the dates, but it is in May.</p> <p>Virginia NENA – Hershel Kreis Hershel stated that the APCO/NENA conference will be May 6-8 at the Sheraton Virginia Beach Oceanfront.</p> <p>Virginia Association of Counties (VACO) – Gary Tanner No report.</p> <p>Virginia Municipal League – Chief David Hoback No report.</p> <p>Virginia Department of Emergency Management – Mike Keefe-Thomas Mike stated that a really good meeting was held with the Virginia State Police in the last week about interoperability issues surrounding their communications. He also mentioned HB1003 in which Lewis will expand on.</p> <p>VITA/PSC – Lewis Cassada Lewis stated that he is waiting for crossover data and the administration of high-speed in the 911 Division VGIN which will be moved from VITA to VDEM. This plan is for ISP to become a third branch in VDEM.</p> <p>Member-at-Large – Richard Rubino FCC has been busy. As a reminder, licenses for new or modified facilities have construction deadlines. For land mobile, they are a year, for microwave they are 18 months and it is critically important to abide by those deadlines. If you need additional time, request it, it is important to order your equipment within the first 90 days to demonstrate due diligence.</p> <p>Tower lighting should be properly marked and lit to avoid aircraft accidents. Report all appropriate outages to the FAA. Richard also reminded the committee that before towers are built, you must go through NEPA, historic preservations and tribal consultations to make sure you</p>	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
	<p>are not creating a major environmental action. An Environmental Impact Study has to be completed before erecting towers. There are resources to verify interested Native American tribes. There are hefty fines for not following the proper protocols.</p> <p>For those who use commercial signal boosters in buildings, they have to be registered with the FCC. An enforcement advisory has been released on this.</p> <p>Richard also stated that Kari's Law was effective January 6 concerning telephone lines that you have to dial 9 to get an outside line. They have to be able to dial 911 without dialing 9 first.</p>	
<p>V. New Business:</p>	<p>a. EMD Outreach Plan for 2020 – Rich Troshak Rich gave a brief overview of the past system. He has created a planning document for 2020. A survey was completed with all the agencies. He presented his findings of the agencies that do not have EMD as well as those that do. Rich continued to discuss the EMD Outreach Plan with the committee. The bottom line is to improve the standards of care.</p> <p>Mr. Bolling discussed the importance of the EMD protocols by creating urgency and discussed liability issues. He stated he is more than willing to collaborate with the Office of EMS to educate jurisdictions/agencies on EMD.</p> <p>Rich explained that grants are available for funding EMD.</p> <p>b. EMD Accreditation Program Update – Rich Troshak Rich went over the changes that have been implemented such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continuing education training requirements • annual report • award cycles in conjunction with this quarterly meeting • language on provisional accreditation in the rules 	
<p>VI. Unfinished Business:</p>	<p>a. EMD Electronic Protocol Issue – Rich Troshak At the October meeting, several jurisdictions stated that they had an EMD Electronic Protocol issue, a letter was written that was to go to our EMS Advisory Board. We decided not to forward the letter to the November Advisory Board meeting. Rich instead reached out to the executive director of the software organization and spoke with him for an hour about the concerns such as bandwidth issues, can't reopen a call, login issues, etc. He asked if steps were taken to address these issues. Rich ascertained that they have recently done a survey of agencies that use the electronic version of the system. They feel that they have corrected the bandwidth issue though there may be some intermittent connectivity issues. As for reopening a call and other call issues, they discussed a fix for those issues. This is where this issue lies and Rich asked the committee if a letter is still needed. The committee stated to wait and see what happens with the organization's</p>	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
	<p>commitment to fix the issues. Richard Rubino recommended to create a detailed file of the conversations.</p> <p>b. Spring Communications Committee meeting location Already discussed.</p>	
VII. Public Comment/Other Comments:	None.	
VIII. Adjournment:	<p>The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:34 a.m.</p> <p>The next meeting is May 8, 2020 in Richmond.</p>	

DRAFT