

**State EMS Advisory Board**  
**Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services**  
**Embassy Suites Hotel, 2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294**  
**May 6, 2022**  
**10:00 a.m.**

<b>Advisory Board Members Present:</b>	<b>Advisory Board Members Absent:</b>	<b>VDH and OEMS Staff:</b>	<b>Guests:</b>
Kevin L. Dillard, Chair	Gary Critzer (Excused)	Gary Brown	Krista Samuels – AAG
Beth Adams	John C. Bolling (Excused)	Adam Harrell	Ed Rhodes
Dreama Chandler	Sadie Jo Thurman	David Edwards	Kelsey Rideout
Kim Craig	Bill Streett	Melinda Carter	Robert Tewey
Angela P. Ferguson		Mohammed Abbamin	Lori Sturt
Dillard Eddie Ferguson		Samuel Burnette	Tracey Jeffers
R. Jason Ferguson		Chris Vernovai	Tanya Trevilian
Paula Ferrada		Karen Owens	Wayne Perry
Rebecca Branch Griffin, PhD		Cam Crittenden	Sarah O'Connor
Matthew Lawler		Tim Perkins	Heather Anderson
Patrick McLaughlin, MD, MS		Ron Passmore	Clarissa Noble
Benjamin Nicholson		Chad Blosser	Amy Ashe
Daniel Norville		Wanda Street	Michael Player
Jeremiah O'Shea, MD		Irene Hamilton	Michael Berg
Valerie Quick, Vice Chair		Amanda Loreti	Scott Tenney
Marlon Matthew Rickman		Daniel Linkins	Larry Oliver
Bryan Rush		Charles Feiring	Jessica Goodman
Gary Samuels		Mary Kathryn Allen	Monty Dixon
Sonny Saxton			Gregory Woods
Lisa Simba			Tracey McLaurin
Victoria Smith			Brian Hricik
Gary Wayne Tanner			Justin Adams
Joseph Williams			Chad Vaughan
Allen Yee, MD, FAAEM			Al Thompson
			Robert Trimmer
			Mike Watkins
			Timothy McKay
			Greg Neiman
			Matthew Marry
			Steve Powell
			R. Craig Bride
			Colby Mills
			William Ferguson
			Stan Kurek
			Beth Broering

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Josh Orzel  
 Dallas Taylor  
 Mike Riddle  
 Chris Montera  
 David Long  
 Jeff Meyer  
 Jennifer Wilson  
 Joey Hundley  
 RD Peppy Winchel  
 Connie Moore  
 Barry McDonald  
 Gary Dalton  
 Sarah Dalton

<b>Topic/Subject</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person</b>
<b>I. Call to order – Kevin Dillard, Chair:</b>	<p>The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.</p> <p><b>Approval of the March 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes –</b> The March minutes were approved as submitted.</p> <p><b>Approval of the May 6, 2022 Meeting Agenda –</b> The agenda was approved as submitted.</p>	
<b>II. Chairman’s Report – Kevin Dillard:</b>	<p>Mr. Dillard stated that a letter has been forwarded to Mr. Hicks concerning the travel expense reimbursement by suggesting that the fiscal technicians are removed from Shared Business Services and brought back to OEMS. Some committee members have seen some improvements, while others have not. Progress is being made.</p> <p>There is an action item reported in Appendix D of the Quarterly Report. This is a letter from Gary Brown, Director of OEMS, which recommends continued designation of all eleven EMS Regional Councils for a term of no less than three years. <b>A motion was made by Paula Ferrada to endorse this recommendation. Eddie Ferguson seconded the motion. All committee members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.</b></p>	
<b>III. Vice Chair Report – Valerie Quick:</b>	Ms. Quick had no report at this time.	
<b>IV. Deputy Commissioner – Bob Hicks:</b>	Mr. Hicks was not present.	
<b>V. Office of EMS Report:</b>	<p><b>Gary Brown</b> Mr. Brown stated that the 47<sup>th</sup> National EMS Week is May 15 -21. This year’s theme is “Rising to the Challenge”. The EMS Quarterly Report was distributed by email last Friday and Gary hopes that everyone has had a chance to review it. There will be three other action items to discuss at today’s</p>	

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	<p>meeting. Also, not included in the report is that Acting Health Commissioner Dr. Colin Greene has been appointed as the permanent State Health Commissioner. Bob Hicks could not be here today and sends his regards. He has spoken highly of the Office of EMS and this Board to Dr. Greene and we expect Dr. Greene will possibly attend this meeting in August. We are working diligently on this year's symposium in Norfolk and heard about safety issues and concerns. We are working with the leadership of Norfolk to assure the safety of all staff and attendees. Mr. Brown also gave a brief update on a few legislative budget items.</p> <p><b>Adam Harrell</b> Mr. Harrell reported that the EMS Bike Ride will be in Virginia May 26-28 in the Hampton Roads-Williamsburg area. There was some confusion on the dates of the Annual Virginia EMS Symposium. The correct dates are November 9-13, 2022. He also gave an update on the ESO data migration project. EMS agencies are still being on-boarded.</p> <p>Mr. Brown added that the Advisory Board meetings will not be held this year in conjunction with the Symposium. The meetings will be held the following week on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites Hotel.</p>	
<b>VI. Assistant Attorney General – Krista Samuels:</b>	Ms. Samuels had no report.	
<b>VII. State Board of Health EMS Representative Report – Gary Critzer:</b>	Mr. Gary Critzer could not be present today but sent an email update to Mr. Gary Brown. The State Board of Health last met in person on March 31 in Richmond. This was the first meeting with the then Acting State Health Commissioner Dr. Colin Greene who has since been appointed as the State Health Commissioner. During the meeting, we received a detailed report from the Commissioner on the VDH strategic response to the COVID pandemic as well as status updates on several VDH programs and services. There were affirmative actions on two regulatory items, one related to licensure of hospices and the other related to the licensure of hospitals. A budgetary update was also given. The next State Board of Health meeting will be held on June 23 at 9 a.m. at the Perimeter Center in Richmond.	
<b>VIII. Standing Committee Reports and Action Items:</b>	<p><b>a) Executive Committee – Kevin Dillard</b> The Executive Committee met yesterday. As an action item, the Proposed Electronic Participation Policy is being presented today. It was presented at the last Advisory Board meeting in March and was tabled for review by the committee members. Adam gave a brief background on the Policy. A motion was made by the Executive Committee to recommend this policy and all committee members agreed with the recommendation. <b>A motion was made by the Advisory Board to agree with the recommendation. All Advisory Board members agreed with the recommendation. None opposed. The motion carried.</b></p> <p>There were reports from both the Bylaws Workgroup and the Committee Composition Workgroup. Mr. Gary Samuels reported that a copy of the EMS Advisory Board Bylaws final draft was distributed today for your review. The EMS Advisory Board Bylaws document will be presented at the next Advisory Board meeting for approval.</p>	

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	<p>Ms. Valerie Quick reported that the Committee Composition Workgroup is reviewing the board composition and has been meeting every two weeks. They are also looking at EMS Agenda 2050 to review and compare where EMS aligns with those principles. The Committee Composition Workgroup is also looking at the work that each committee does and what representatives are needed on the committees. They will be asking the committee chairs to meet with them to discuss their committee structures and efficiency of the meetings as well as the committee representation. The workgroup will present some general ideas to the Advisory Board to bring forth by the next meeting.</p> <p><b>b) Financial Assistance Review Committee (FARC) – Kevin Dillard</b>  The grant process for the Spring 2022 Grant Cycle closed on March 15<sup>th</sup>. They received 93 applications, which totaled over \$13.5 million in fund requests. The committee is in the process of grading grants now and awards will be announced on July 1<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p><b>c) Administrative Coordinator – Gary Samuels</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rules and Regulations Committee – Dan Norville</b>  The Rules and Regulations Committee met and continue to work on Project 5100 and migration to Chapter 32. They have met with several committees such a Medevac and Medical Direction on regulatory language changes. Ron Passmore has done a lot of the background work. We hope to have a presentation to the Advisory Board soon.</li> <li>• <b>Legislative and Planning Committee – Gary Samuels</b>  The Legislative and Planning Committee met this morning. They have no action items to bring forth. A workgroup is working to identify EMS as an “essential service” in <i>Code</i> language. Good discussion was had concerning this today as well as on HB874 which deals with AED tax breaks. We look forward to bringing the AED information back to the committee for review.</li> </ul> <p><b>d) Infrastructure Coordinator – Eddie Ferguson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transportation – Eddie Ferguson</b>  The Transportation Committee met on April 4. They primarily reviewed vehicle and ambulance grants for the Spring 2022 Cycle and made recommendations. They also reviewed ambulance standards and it appears that since it is in regulations, they all have to meet the same specifications. More to come on this.</li> <li>• <b>Communications Committee – Sonny Saxton</b>  The Communications Committee met this morning. They discussed the 988/911 coordination. Dispatch centers are beginning to look at this, as it is an FCC mandate beginning in July. Statewide interoperability was another hot topic of the day as well as hospital and EMS communication capabilities.</li> <li>• <b>Emergency Management Committee – Joseph Williams</b>  The Emergency Management Committee met yesterday although they did not have a quorum.</li> </ul>	

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	<p>The committee discussed MCI I and II curriculums, which has reached its five year mark, so it is time for their review. They also discussed the Triage Tags and OEMS is still looking for a vendor. The Tags will allow the use START and SALT and will have 5 colors. There were no action items for the Board.</p> <p><b>e) Professional Development Coordinator – R. Jason Ferguson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Training &amp; Certification Committee – R. Jason Ferguson</b>            The TCC met on March 30. There are two action items. Appendix B in the Quarterly Report states that the Training and Certification Committee made a motion to maintain the current policy of ten (10) patient contacts for initial EMT certification courses. The workgroup performed extensive research on this and looked at all 50 states and agreed to remain using 10 patient contacts which can be on five live patients and five simulated patients. A workgroup was established to work on scenario-based simulations and they have already developed over 40 scenarios. This motion was presented to Medical Direction on April 7 and received full endorsement. This is a recommendation from the Training and Certification Committee and an endorsement from the Medical Direction Committee. <b>A motion was made to accept this recommendation. All committee members accepted. None opposed. The motion carried.</b> </li> </ul> <p>The second item is Appendix C and relates to the removal of psychomotor testing for EMT certification. The NREMT has eliminated psychomotor testing for ALS programs and this is consistent with that change. TCC voted unanimously to eliminate the use of consolidated test sites and require programs to use the new BLS Psychomotor Competency Guidance Document that is based on the 2019 National Scope of Practice and the 2021 National EMS Education Standards. This motion was presented to Medical Direction on April 7 as well and received full endorsement. <b>A motion was made to accept this recommendation. All committee members accepted the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Workforce Development Committee – Valerie Quick</b>            The WDC met yesterday and had no action items. The committee will meet at the Office of EMS on July 1 to review the State EMS Plan as it pertains to the committee. The EMS Officer I will be offered at Rescue College. Standards of Excellence accreditation site reviews will continue. The Retention and Recruitment Network has become active by holding a recent virtual and in-person meeting. The committee is also promoting the Keeping the Best Toolkit with a class scheduled for May 18.         </li> <li> <b>Provider Health &amp; Safety Committee – Lisa Simba</b>            The Provider Health and Safety Committee met today for the first time within the past year. Since this was Lisa’s first meeting as a member and as the committee chair, Karen Owens gave the report. There are no actionable items. Karen made the Board aware that a joint position paper went out by the International Association of Fire Chiefs related to the use of lights and sirens in response to patient transport from scene to the hospital. The committee will share this paper with the Regional Councils and EMS agencies. There are recommendations for agencies         </li> </ul>	

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	<p>to review their policies related to the use of lights and sirens. More information may be coming forth on this. They also approved the Culpeper Police Department Peer Support Team for full accreditation as they met the requirements set forth by the committee.</p> <p><b>f) Patient Care Coordinator – Allen Yee, MD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medical Direction Committee – Allen Yee, MD</b> The MDC met on April 7 and worked with TCC on the previous two motions. They also worked with Medevac and Rules and Regulations on some suggested Medevac regulations. There was also a lot of discussion on AEMT administration of epinephrine. A special called meeting will be held on June 9 with Rules and Regulations to further discuss regulatory changes.</li> <li>• <b>Medevac Committee – Victoria Smith</b> The Medevac Committee met yesterday and there were no action items. There were updates on the status of the Medevac sections of the Virginia EMS Regulations as well as individual program updates. There was heavy discussion surrounding the current committee composition. Ms. Smith will be working with EMS staff to determine the best path for the changes to the composition including consideration of expansion of the committee roster. A special called committee meeting will be held in early July to review and revise the pertinent sections of the State EMS Plan.</li> <li>• <b>EMS for Children Committee – Patrick McLaughlin, MD</b> The EMSC met yesterday and had no action items to bring to the Board today. However, there was a great presentation from HandTevy and its pediatric specific usage. The next meeting is August 4.</li> </ul> <p><b>g) Trauma System Coordinator – Paula Ferrada, MD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Trauma Administrative and Governance Committee – Paula Ferrada, MD</b> Within the last few months, we have been trying to get the committees going again by filling the gaps of committee members who have moved to other states or have moved on to other positions.</li> <li>• <b>System Improvement Committee – Dr. Stan Kurek</b> System Improvement met yesterday and had a good turnout, but there was no quorum. They could not approve the minutes from the February 2020 meeting. The first focus will be to repopulate the committee. The committee went over the goals and objectives. We had great representation from ESO and good discussions. They also talked about the Quarterly Trauma Data Report that went through the SIC committee first and hopes to have another report to present soon.</li> <li>• <b>Injury and Violence Prevention Committee – Corrie Miller-Hobbs</b> Ms. Hobbs is not present.</li> <li>• <b>Prehospital Care Committee – Mike Watkins</b> The PCC met last quarter and decided not to meet this quarter. In view of our goals and objectives, our committee has either met or appropriately deferred them to other committees. We will meet in August to discuss new goals and objectives and to repopulate the committee.</li> </ul>	

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<b>IX. Regional EMS Council Executive Directors Report – Tracey McLaurin:</b>	Tracey McLaurin reported that since the March meeting, the Regional Councils have met a few times virtually and also met in-person with the Office of EMS on Wednesday for an all-day work session. This was a combination business meeting and an intense, in-depth work session to discuss items related to the work plans to be submitted to OEMS for this coming fiscal year. A sub-committee of the Directors group created a template, and the draft was reviewed and revised at the meeting. The Directors will go back to the respective regions to work on inserting additional details. Tracey also reminded the Board and the audience to nominate outstanding EMS members or agencies for regional awards. More information can be found on the Regional Council’s websites including deadlines and how to submit nominees.	
<b>X. Public Comment:</b>	Colby Mills, clinical psychologist, is here in two capacities. One, is part of the National Wellness Survey Group and the other as lead psychologist for Forge Health VFR which is a private treatment clinic for first responders and military veterans in Fairfax. The survey results are finished and will be publicized in the summer. He would like to be of service to the first responders and will be around after the meeting if anyone is interested in learning more about the survey or the services.	
<b>XI. Unfinished Business:</b>	Valerie Quick stated that the Provider Health & Safety committee met today and she wanted to give credit to a couple of people who helped with a special project concerning decedent blood challenges. There were a lot of gaps, but legislatively a bill was brought forward and a workgroup was created. She thanked Adam Harrell and Karen Owens for their help with this. A toolkit was developed and will be put on the OEMS website.	
<b>XII. New Business:</b>	<p>Eddie Ferguson asked about bringing the EMS Advisory Board back to 1:00 p.m. on Fridays instead of 10:00 a.m. Per Mr. Dillard, this will be an agenda item for the Executive Committee meeting and an answer will be brought forward at the next meeting. Gary explained that the time change was due to the Pandemic and social distancing and that not all committees were meeting when things started to open back up. That has since changed, so the Executive committee will review it.</p> <p>Gary stated in listening to the reports today, he is amazed at all the work and dedication to this Advisory Board. This kind of dedication is amazing and he thanked everyone for taking the time to be here. He encouraged everyone to review the EMS Quarterly Report, especially the EMS on the National Scene section. The report is on the OEMS Website.</p>	

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<b>XIII. Adjournment:</b>	The Advisory Board meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.	<b>The next meeting is August 5 at the Embassy Suites.</b>

Transcribed by Wanda L. Street, Executive Secretary, Sr.

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