

State EMS Advisory Board
Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services
Embassy Suites Hotel, 2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294
November 18, 2022
10:00 a.m.

Advisory Board Members Present:	Advisory Board Members Absent:	VDH EMS Staff:	Guests:
Kevin L. Dillard, Chair	Bill Streett	Gary Brown	Ed Rhodes
Beth Adams	Sonny Saxton	Scott Winston	Michelle Ludeman
John C. Bolling	Victoria Smith (Excused)	Adam Harrell	Ray Whatley
Dreama Chandler		George Lindbeck, MD	Heidi Hooker
Kim Craig		Marian Hunter	Tracey McLaurin
Gary Critzer		Cierra Brown	David Long
Angela P. Ferguson		David Edwards	Bubby Bish
Dillard Eddie Ferguson		Melinda Carter	Chris Montera (ESO)
R. Jason Ferguson		Mohammed Abbamin	Kim Jones (ESO)
Paula Ferrada, MD		Michael Berg	Steve Higgins
Brian J. Frankel		Ron Passmore	Tracey Taylor
Rebecca Branch Griffin		Daisy Banta	Lori Sturt
Matthew Lawler		Chris Vernovai	Tanya Trevilian
Patrick McLaughlin, MD, MS		Karen Owens	Kelley Rumsey
Benjamin Nicholson		Wanda Street	Monty Dixon
Daniel Norville		Irene Hamilton	Corri Miller-Hobbs
Jeremiah O'Shea, MD		Cam Crittenden	Nicole Laurin
Valerie Quick, Vice Chair		Debbie Akers	Steve Powell
Marlon Matthew Rickman		Jessica Rosner	Kate Davenport
Bryan Rush		Tim Perkins	Whitney Pierce
Gary Samuels		Chad Blosser	Stephen Pincus
Gary Wayne Tanner			Michael Player
Sadie Jo Thurman			Amy Ashe
Joseph Williams			Britney Ewers
Allen Yee, MD, FAAEM			Wendy Clement
		Hybrid Office Staff:	Tanya Trevilian
		Amanda Loreti	Lindsay Britt
		Daniel Linkins	Greg Neiman
		Mary Kathryn Allen	Al Thompson
		Kelsey Rideout	Dallas Taylor
		Greg Woods	Stan Kurek
		Wayne Perry	Bryanna Rhodes
		James Larrick	L. Joseph Trigg

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
<p>I. Call to order – Kevin Dillard, Chair:</p>	<p>The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.</p> <p>Approval of the August 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes – A motion was made by Dr. Paula Ferrada to approve the August minutes. Mr. Gary Samuels seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as submitted.</p> <p>Approval of the November 18, 2022 Meeting Agenda – A motion was made by Ms. Beth Adams Roemmelt to approve today’s agenda. Mr. Gary Samuels seconded the motion. The agenda was approved as submitted.</p>	<p>The August minutes were approved as submitted.</p> <p>The agenda was approved as submitted.</p>
<p>II. Chairman’s Report – Kevin Dillard:</p>	<p>Mr. Dillard asked everyone to keep UVA victims and families in our thoughts as they deal with the shooting tragedy that took place on Sunday. On a more positive note, Mr. Dillard congratulated Gary Brown and the staff on a very successful 42nd Annual Virginia EMS Symposium. (Applause filled the room.) Mr. Dillard also recognized Mr. Gary Samuels as the winner of the highest EMS Governor’s Award for Excellence in EMS. (Applause again filled the room.) The Chair, then asked Mr. Brian Frankel to raise his hand as the newest member of the Advisory Board. Mr. Frankel is the Deputy Chief of Stafford County Fire and Rescue. He represents the Fire Chief’s Association. Mr. Dillard asked the Board members to introduce themselves to Mr. Frankel. Each Board member stated their names and their representation on the Board. It was also Scott Winston’s birthday, and he was presented with a gift. Mr. Dillard also noted that there have been over thirty ambulances sent to Ukraine. This has been a huge effort and he thanked everyone in Virginia who has participated. Supplies will be sent to Ukraine about once a month if anyone would like to donate. Please contact him for more information.</p>	
<p>III. Vice Chair Report – Valerie Quick:</p>	<p>Ms. Quick has been working with the Advisory Board Composition Workgroup and they have developed three recommendations to bring forth to the Board. Ms. Quick read the statement that supports the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Office of EMS be officially designated as an Essential Service. 2) The Virginia Office of EMS be elevated to a department on equal footing as the Virginia Department of Health and other state agencies that the system interacts with such as the Department of Fire Programs and the Department of Emergency Management. 3) The current EMS Advisory Board transition to a Policy Board. <p>A motion was made to formally accept all the recommendations presented. Discussion was held about these recommendations and Dr. O’Shea declined to vote on the motion. Dr. O’Shea made a motion to table this until the next meeting. The motion was not seconded. The original motion was rescinded.</p> <p>Dr. Paula Ferrada made a motion to accept the first recommendation of EMS as an Essential Service. The motion was seconded by Eddie Ferguson. All Board members were in favor of the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.</p> <p>A motion was made by Gary Samuels for the second and third recommendations of the Virginia Office of EMS elevation to a department and to a policy board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bolling. All Board members were in favor of the motion accept Dr. O’Shea. The motion carried.</p>	

	Discussion was held concerning the second recommendation. Mr. Critzer spoke of the State Board of Health position if these changes occur and offered clarification of support for the recommendations. The State Board of Health cannot make any of these changes. Becoming a policy board would definitely require legislative action per Mr. Critzer.	
IV. Deputy Commissioner for Public Health and Preparedness – Bob Hicks:	Mr. Hicks was not present.	
V. Office of EMS Report:	<p>Gary Brown Mr. Brown stated that the quarterly report was sent out to the Board and hopefully everyone has had an opportunity to review it. He thanked the OEMS staff for providing the latest information about all the programs and services. We had approximately 2,300 registered attendees, staff, faculty, and vendors at the Annual EMS Symposium and including the guests, we had about 4,000 people in Norfolk. There were 15 tracks and 365 classes. This is the largest EMS conference in the country. We awarded 24,173 continuing education credits. Mr. Brown announced all of the Governor’s EMS Award winners. The Call for Presentations opens the third week of December for the 2023 EMS Symposium and closes the end of March 31, 2023. He also welcomed Brian Frankel to the Board. The following Board Members will serve an extended term of an additional year through 06-30-2025: Benjamin Nicholson, Kim Craig, Matt Lawler, Dan Norville, Kevin Dillard, Sadie Thurman, J.C. Bolling and Gary Tanner.</p> <p>Scott Winston Mr. Winston reported that there is a Bill drafted to amend the existing section of the regulations in statutory code which is §15.2-955 in the <i>Code of Virginia</i>. This deals with cities, counties, and towns. Mr. Winston gave a brief update on the two sections (b and c) that were added to this <i>Code</i>. He thanked the workgroup that was led by Gary Samuels for drafting the language for this Bill.</p> <p>Adam Harrell Mr. Harrell reported that the ESO project and the multiple aspects of the data transition are going well. He has given updates at multiple meetings yesterday. The State Stroke Registry has been launched and a meeting will be held next week with the CARES staff to go live with the automatic CARES Submission Registry. We have also been working with other vendors and ESO to go live with the OD Map. Press releases will be published on these items as they occur.</p>	
VI. Assistant Attorney General:	No report.	
VII. State Board of Health EMS Representative Report – Gary Critzer:	Gary Critzer reported that the State Board of Health last met on September 22, 2022. There were a number of regulatory actions that needed to be considered and adopted. The next meeting is on December 15, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at the Perimeter Center. The Policy Analysts at VDH will be undertaking a Public Policy Agenda for VDH. They will look at all the Divisions and Offices of VDH for programs services, policies, etc. All the Divisions will be given the opportunity to move forward with items within VDH that will go on to the State Board of Health. The placement of OEMS is one of those opportunities to move forward. Mr. Critzer will meet with the Office to discuss other items of interest to bring to the forefront.	
VIII. Regional EMS Council Executive Directors – Tracey	Ms. McLaurin stated that the Council Directors have been hard at work on several projects. The most important is working with the Office of EMS staff on the new work plans. This has been an ongoing	

<p>McLaurin:</p>	<p>process for the past several months. A meeting was held in Richmond on October 18th to finalize the details of the work plans. We hope to have everything finalized by January. The Council Directors continue to meet virtually once a month to provide updates, discuss upcoming events and share best practices. On Wednesday, November 16, the Councils met for their regular quarterly meeting.</p>	
<p>IX. Standing Committee Reports and Action Items:</p>	<p>a) Executive Committee – Kevin Dillard The Executive Committee met last night and received several updates from OEMS staff. We also discussed the items from the Advisory Board Composition Workgroup that was voted on today. Also, briefly discussed the letter that went out to Virginia State Police (VSP) and VSP was very responsive in getting back to Mr. Dillard. MedFlight II is back up and running 24/7. MedFlight I is still looking to hire more pilots before operating 24/7. A letter also went to the State Health Commissioner about the Shared Business Services (SBS) and as of November 2022 SBS is no longer in existence. The funds and the fiscal positions were given back to the Office of EMS. Professional Management Group (PMG) of VCU has been contracted to perform a needs assessment of the \$4.25 for Life funding.</p> <p>b) Financial Assistance Review Committee (FARC) – Kevin Dillard This committee also met yesterday and are in the process of grading grants for the cycle. They have \$13.9 million in funding requests which is 79 applications requesting 174 items. This is a decrease of about 13% from the last cycle. The committee will be finalizing the grant review this month and will meet again on December 1 to make grant selections.</p> <p>c) Administrative Coordinator – Gary Samuels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules and Regulations Committee – Dan Norville The Rules and Regulations Committee met in October. A final draft copy of Project 5100 (Regulations Chapter 31 to Chapter 32) has been received and will be reviewed and another meeting will be held in January. They will then be brought to the Advisory Board for approval in February. • Legislative and Planning Committee – Gary Samuels The Legislative and Planning Committee met this morning, and we reviewed the upcoming legislation on the state level to include Essential Service language and <i>Code</i> update, and the fire stakeholders group meeting. They also discussed FARC and terms that need to be adjusted. Another topic of discussion was the OEMS \$4.25 for Life funding increase. The last item of discussion was the delegated practice of paramedics that work within hospitals and the impact that has on the <i>Code of Virginia</i>. One action item is being brought forward and that is the approval of the State EMS Plan that was reviewed on September 23, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Samuels to approve the State EMS Plan. Mr. Dillard stated that a second is not needed to move this forward. All Board members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried. <p>d) Infrastructure Coordinator – Eddie Ferguson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation – Eddie Ferguson The Transportation Committee met on October 3rd. Twice a year, this committee looks at all the RSAF vehicle grant requests. There were 39 vehicle grant requests for the period; one of which was not traditional and was referred to the Emergency Operations Division for further review. As for the committee composition, we regained some core members and a couple of 	

new members.

- **Communications Committee – Eddie Ferguson reporting for Sonny Saxton (Not Present)**
The Communications Committee met in October in Roanoke in conjunction with the APCO/NENA conference and had no action items.
- **Emergency Management Committee – Joseph Williams**
The Emergency Management Committee met yesterday. They discussed a triage system and triage tags and will work with other Advisory Board Committees to get feedback and recommendations. We will report back to the advisory board after input is compiled. Ebola is an ongoing issue and OEMS is working to ensure that EMS providers are ready and capable if necessary. The next meeting is February 2, 2023.

e) Professional Development Coordinator – R. Jason Ferguson

- **Training & Certification Committee – R. Jason Ferguson**
The Training and Certification Committee met on October 5 at 11 a.m. Various items were discussed, but the main topic was the process and legal recognition for reentry and Challenge candidates coming to the Commonwealth. The committee supported the document that was presented. No further action is needed. The next meeting is January 5, 2023, at this location. He also thanked Valerie Quick for stepping in to Chair the Provider Health and Safety Committee as well as the Workforce Development Committee.
- **Workforce Development Committee – Valerie Quick**
The WDC met yesterday and had no action items. The EMS Officer course has had 305 people complete the course to date. There were Recruitment and Retention classes held at symposium and will be held at the Fire Chief's Conference in February. We also had a presentation by UVA, Earn While You Learn. It is very innovative and provides training to individuals with little to no prior experience in the various fields. Another topic was Skills USA in which Jason explained to the Board. They have various competitions but does not have EMT competitions any longer. It was recommended that they add EMT back to Skills USA. They also discussed the decedent blood project that has been going on for a while.
- **Provider Health & Safety Committee – Valerie Quick**
The Provider Health and Safety Committee is currently looking for a chair to replace Lisa Simba.

f) Patient Care Coordinator – Allen Yee, MD

- **Medical Direction Committee – Allen Yee, MD**
The Medical Direction Committee met on October 6th. The committee had a robust discussion on diversion and how emergency crews must wait outside of the hospital until the emergency department has room for the patient. This wait time can sometimes be very lengthy. **ACTION ITEM:** The Medical Direction agrees with the following: CMS has in 2000, 2006 and 2021 stated a position on the transfer of patients, EMTALA (Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act - CMS) is triggered when the patient is presented at the hospital campus, not just the beyond the physical space of the ED that is within 250 yards of the hospital. Hospital owned or operated ambulance have an EMTALA obligation to provide medical screening, examinations, and stabilizations. We discourage that practice and reiterate CMS' stance on EMTALA. This did not need a second and there was no discussion. All Board members were

	<p>in favor of the action item.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medevac Committee – Victoria Smith The Medevac Committee met yesterday. No report was given as Ms. Smith was not present. • EMS for Children Committee – Patrick McLaughlin, MD The EMSC met yesterday and had no action items. The committee discussed ways to approach the lack of beds for children during the uprising of COVID and RSV as well as other EMS for Children issues across the Commonwealth of Virginia. <p>g) Trauma System Coordinator – Paula Ferrada, MD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trauma Administrative and Governance Committee – Paula Ferrada, MD The TAG met this morning, and the following chairs gave reports on their respective committees. The ACS COT (American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma) has trained 322 students for ATLS and 251 for Stop the Bleed. Dr. Ferrada also reported on the collaboration of workgroups between some of the committees. • System Improvement Committee – Stan Kurek, MD (Not Present) The SIC met yesterday. • Injury and Violence Prevention Committee – Corrie Miller-Hobbs IVP met yesterday and have appointed a co-chair, Linda Watkins of Inova Fairfax. We are working on goals and objections to establish the next plan of action. • Prehospital Care Committee – Mike Watkins The PCC met yesterday. They have repopulated the committee in trying to increase participation and to maintain a quorum. They have reviewed the state trauma data report in its draft form and identified some trends that they want to address. They have created a workgroup to implement the new ACS trauma triage guidelines for Virginia. • Acute Care Committee - Dr. Jeff Young (Not Present) The ACC met yesterday. • Post-Acute Care Committee –Beth Broering (Not Present) The PAC committee met yesterday • Emergency Preparedness and Response Committee –Michael Feldman, MD (Not Present) The EP&R met yesterday. 	
X. Public Comment:	Mike Watkins, Deputy Chief of Goochland Fire and Rescue, addressed the Board about the elevation of EMS to a department. He has had the honor of attending the National Fire Academy for the past five years. EMS is an integral part of what fire services deals with. It is 80 to 90% of what fire services does. He strongly feels that it is essential that EMS gets elevated to a higher level.	
XI. Unfinished Business:	None.	
XII. New Business:	Scott Winston congratulated Greg Woods as the newest employee of the Office of EMS. Karen Owens also introduced Devin Chinault, Communications Specialist. He will be working with Sam Burnette. Gary Brown recognized all the Board members who taught at symposium, as well as everyone who attended the symposium.	
XIII. Adjournment:	<p>The Advisory Board meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.</p> <p>The 2023 meetings will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel.</p>	<p>The next Advisory Board meeting dates for 2023 are: February 2 & 3</p>

		May 4 & 5 August 3 & 4 November 16 & 17 (Tentative – Subject to Change)
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Transcribed by Wanda L. Street, Executive Secretary, Sr.

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