



Northern Virginia Emergency Medical Services Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Held Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 21, 2021

DIRECTORS PRESENT (Listed Alphabetically by Last Name)

Michelle Beatty, Loudoun County Fire & Rescue, michelle.beatty@loudoun.gov
Jason Bowers, City of Manassas Fire & Rescue, jbowers@manassasva.gov
Rick Cohen, PHI Air Medical Virginia rcohen@phihelico.com
Paul DeHaven, Fairfax County Police Helicopter, paul.dehaven@fairfaxcounty.gov
Craig Evans, Ex-Officio Member, Northern Virginia EMS Council craig@vaems.org
Brian Hricik, Alexandria Fire Department brian.hricik@alexandriava.gov
Micah Kiger, Loudoun County Fire & Rescue, mkiger@loudoun.gov
Mark Kordalski, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, mark.kordalski@fairfaxcounty.gov
Kathleen Kramer, Arlington County Fire Department kkramer@arlingtonva.us
Adam Lieb, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue, adam.lieb@fairfaxcounty.gov
Michelle Ludeman, Ex-Officio Member, Northern Virginia EMS Council michelle@vaems.org
Anne Marsh, Arlington County Fire Department amarsh1@arlingtonva.us
John Morgan, MD, Loudoun County Fire and Rescue john.morgan@loudoun.gov
Tom Olander, City of Fairfax Fire Department olander@verizon.net
Kate Passow, Physician Transport Services kate.passow@amr.net
Joseph Reshetar, Member-at-Large, Arlington County Fire Dept. jreshe@arlingtonva.gov
Kari Scantlebury, MD, Fairfax County Police Helicopter, kari.scantlebury@fairfaxcounty.gov
Nathan Strong, Prince William County Fire & Rescue, nstrong@pwcgov.org
Neha Sullivan, MD, Prince William County Fire and Rescue OMD, nsullivan@pwcgov.org
Laura Vandegrift, Northern Virginia EMS Council, laura@vaems.org

DIRECTORS NOT PRESENT (Listed Alphabetically by Last Name)

Ibrahim Abdul-Jawad, Arlington County Fire Department, iabdul-jawad@arlingtonva.us
Daniel Acosta, Prince William County Fire & Rescue, dacosta@pwcgov.org
Beth Adams, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Dept. beth.adams@fairfaxcounty.gov
Dan Avstreich, MD, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Dept, dan.avstreich@fairfaxcounty.gov
Kelsea Bonkoski, Alexandria Fire Department kelsea.bonkowski@alexandriava.gov
Wendy Bowman, MWAA, wendy.bowman@mwa.com
Josh Brandon, City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue j.brandon@manassasparkva.gov
Gary Brown, Ex-Officio Member, VDH Office of EMS gary.brown@vdh.virginia.gov
Richard Bonnett, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority richard.bonnett@mwa.com
Richard Cluff, Fauquier County Fire & Rescue, rich.cluff@fauquiercounty.gov
Jamie Cooper, Loudoun County Fire & Rescue, jcooper@loudoun.gov
David Coullahan, Physicians Transport Services, dcoullahan@ptsems.com
Robert Crandall, Arlington County Fire Department, rcrandall@arlingtonva.us
Kathleen Deal, Northern Virginia Community College, kdeal@nvcc.edu
Craig DeAtley, Fairfax Police Helicopter craig.deatley@medstar.net
Luis Eljaiek, MD, Ex-Officio Member, Physicians Transport Services OMD, lfeljai@sentara.com
Jeff Ferfolia, MWAA, jeff.ferfolia@mwa.com
Matthew Fox, City of Manassas Fire and Rescue mfox@manassasva.gov

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Chris Gavurnik, MWAA, Christopher.gavurnik@mwaa.com
Dan Hanfling, MD, Ex-Officio Member, PHI Air Medical Virginia Co-OMD, dan.hanfling@inova.org
Kathleen Harasek, Loudoun County Fire & Rescue, kathleen.harasek@loudoun.gov
Stephen Hartman, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue stephen.hartman@fairfaxcounty.gov
Adam Jones, City of Manassas Park Fire & Rescue, ajones@manassasparkva.gov
Ryland Kendrick, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Dept, ryland.kendrick@fairfaxcounty.gov
Joey King, Lifecare Medical Transport jking@lifecare94.com
Darrin Lisse, MD, MWAA Co-OMD dliisse@icloud.com
Todd Lupton, City of Manassas Fire and Rescue tlupton@ci.manassas.va.us
Joseph Marfori, MD, Alexandria Fire Department OMD josephmarfori@gmail.com
Leonard Mascaro, Ex-Officio Member, VDH Office of EMS, leonard.mascaro@vdh.virginia.gov
Tom Mayer, MD, Fairfax Co. Police Dept. OMD, tmayer@best-practices.com
Blane McGlothlin, Prince William County Fire & Rescue, bmcglothlin@pwcgov.org
Wesley Melson, Lifecare Medical Transport wmelson@lifecare94.com
Chip Morrison, Prince William County Fire & Rescue, cmorrison@pwgov.org
Keith Morrison, HCA Reston Hospital keith.morrison@hcahealthcare.com
Mark Nary, City of Manassas Fire and Rescue mnary@ci.manassas.va.us
Brian Orndoff, City of Fairfax Fire Department, brian.orndoff@fairfaxva.gov
Tom Oliver, City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue t.oliver@manassasparkva.gov
Danielle Pesce, MD, City of Manassas/Manassas Park Fire, dpesce@manassasva.gov
Marie Powell, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority marie.powell@mwaa.com
Clare Sabio, Arlington County Fire Department csabio@arlingtonva.us
Gary Sargent, Northern Virginia Community College gsargent@nvcc.edu
Aaron Schutt, City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue, a.schutt@manassasparkva.gov
Michael Semchyshyn, MD. Ex-Officio Member, MWAA Co-OMD, mikesem@gwu.edu
Serdar Serttas, PHI Air Medical, sserttas@phihelico.com
Rachel Short, Loudoun County Fire & Rescue, rshort@loudoun.gov
David Skibbie, MD, PHI AirCare Medevac Co-OMD, ds kibbie@gwu.edu
E. Reed Smith, MD, Arlington County Fire Department Co-OMD rsmith@arlingtonva.us
James Soaper, City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue j.soaper@manassasparkva.gov
Alex Stephenson, Prince William County Fire & Rescue, astephenson@pwcgov.org
Nicholas Sutingco, MD, City of Fairfax Fire Department OMD nick.sutingco@vemadocs.com
Dave Swartz, MWAA, david.swartz@mwaa.com
Jamie Tharp, City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue j.tharp@manassasparkva.gov
James Vafier, MD, Northern Virginia Community College PCD, vafier@msn.com
Andrew Vita, City of Fairfax Fire Department andrew.vita@fairfaxva.gov
Scott Weir, MD, Fairfax County Fire, and Rescue OMD scott.weir@fairfaxcounty.gov
Ray Whatley, Alexandria Fire Department ray.whatley@alexandriava.gov

GUESTS

Jonathan Arnborg, Inova Health System, jonathan.arnborg@inova.org
Anthony Barone, Emergility, tony@emergility.com
Craig French, Inova Loudoun Hospital, craig.french@inova.org
Pam Leins, NVERS
Eric Reist, Inova Health System, eric.reist@inova.org
Chris Vernovai, VA Office of EMS, chris.vernovai@vdh.virginia.gov

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Council President Anne Marsh welcomed all in attendance and called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

- No representatives from the public were present to address the Board.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the NVEMSC Board of Directors held September 17, 2021, were sent for review by email

- Tom Olander made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted, seconded by Kate Kramer
- The minutes were **unanimously approved**.

Treasurer's report

The Treasurer's report was sent via email for review along with the financials for September.

- Kate Kramer made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted, seconded by Tom Olander
- The report was **unanimously approved**.

President's Reports

President Anne Marsh presented the following:

- Yesterday there was an Executive Committee regarding the CADMUS Teaming Agreement and Craig will discuss further

Executive Director's Report

- ESO HDE provided a presentation a while back and recently the State has approved to fund the EMS and hospital portions of ESO HDE to integrate it across the state at no cost to EMS or hospitals
 - Everyone just needs to go through signing up and the security of sharing that data and analysis
 - It will help exchange data and outcomes between EMS and the hospitals
 - EMS will get key updates as the patient moves through the hospital system (ie. Transferred to the floor, sent to surgery, in recovery, discharged home, etc.)
 - Dr. Sullivan asked if we can levy the hospital association to consider sharing what elements would be useful data elements for both the hospital and EMS as each hospital can decide individually what elements they want to share
 - Craig will see if we can organize that
 - Craig will send out a list of EMS and hospital contacts so everyone can have the appropriate contacts in both directions
 - This product through ESO collects the data from all EHR and ePCR systems and puts it into one set of data for sharing
- The Executive Board met yesterday to discuss the Teaming Agreement presented by Cadmus
 - NVEMSC initially signed with DHS and CWMD directly to hire, train, and staff Dulles Airport for infectious disease screeners which the Council handled or COVID and Ebola for just under two years from August 2019 to June 2021
 - CADMUS wants the contract for all 15 airports under DHS and has asked us to team with them on this contract development and if there is any screening that takes place, we'd be hired as the subcontractor to hire, train and staff the airports for screening as we did before
 - The Teaming Agreement was voted on and signed yesterday by the Executive Committee with additional wording stating if they do win the contract, the

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NVEMSC will be given the work in Northern Virginia meaning we get the operational aspect if they win the contract

- CADMUS agreed to include that wording
- The Diversion Workgroup is meeting and is going well
- VA EMS Symposium is coming up next month in Norfolk, November 3-7
- RSAF Grants were completed online and both received a 2.0
 - In the future, please add substantial comments because those are copied into the Council's submission to be seen FARC during their review
- We are getting to the points where we can buy blood equipment under a UASI grant
 - Pam Leins is now with NVERS and will be our primary contact and will discuss further

STATE AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

AHA Training Center

Ray Whatley provided the following report.

- While virtual skills sessions are allowable it may not be practical, note requirements outlined in the training memo.
 - As a reminder, the AHA issued new guidance on conducting virtual skills training for AHA provider-level courses on August 6, 2021, in order to provide a more permanent solution for flexibility in CPR and ECC training.
 - The new virtual skills training solution for provider courses requires that, for consistency, all cognitive training be conducted online through HeartCode BLS/ACLS/PALS or through Heartsaver eLearning. The cognitive portion may then be followed by a virtual skills practice and testing session per the requirements outlined in the new AHA Training Memo issued August 5, 2021.

State EMS Advisory Board

Beth Adams provided the following report:

- They have not met since our last Board meeting but will meet again on November 12th
- Rules and Regulations meeting for October was canceled
- Planning and Legislation Committee will meet on November 12th

Provider Health and Safety

Brian Hricik advised they have not met since our last meeting. They will meet the week after Symposium with the other GAB committees

ReSTCo Committee

Dr. Morgan advised of the following:

- There has been no meeting since our last Board meeting, the next meeting is scheduled for December 8th
- The topic is hospital diversion

Medevac Committee

Rick Cohen provided the following update:

- There has been no meeting since our last Board meeting, the next meeting is scheduled for November 12th

Regional Medical Directors & State Medical Direction Committee

Dr. Morgan provided the following update:

- It was an active meeting when they met earlier this month on October 7th
- They approved a draft white paper on blood administration and are supporting further development statewide on EMS forward-deployed blood programs
- They reviewed the state Scope of Practice and there was a request to create a separate designation for critical care skills, primarily for private transport companies, to allow them to bill for those services because they can't currently do so
 - Medical directors at the state medical direction committee agreed that items such as ventilator management and RSI require skills above training and approval of an EMS agency
 - They decided it is up to the agencies OMD determine the skills and training and that OMD needs to do additional training for those specific skills to get them on board and then be able to bill for
 - In Loudoun for example, if they RSI in the field on a 911 call, they can't bill for it, only if was for an interfacility transfer which they occasionally help out with
- There was a discussion on the Marcus Law
 - Folks should be aware it's on the forefront and will happen in the future
- There was a diversion discussion as well and more of just an awareness that this is a statewide issue
- Ketamine for sedation was discussed as this has become a nationwide topic recently
 - They are deciding if they want to follow the ACEP position statement
- There was a discussion on chest decompression as one OMD is seeing a rise in those procedures, possibly without appropriate indication and it raised questions and suggestions
 - As it is an invasive procedure and infrequently done, if they are seeing done often, it should be reviewed by the OMD and if needed, provide re-education with their providers

Training and Certification Committee

Michelle Ludeman advised of the following update from the meeting 10/6

- There was an EC Institute in late September in Northern VA with 26 attending
- There is another in January and the deadline for that is December 10th
- They will no longer do EC updates every two weeks starting in the fall of 2022
- EMS Scholarship \$704K distributed in the first quarter of the year, which is around half of their total funds
- ECs should be getting an email about the online rollout for Blackboard in the next week or two
- Debbie Akers advised they are still working on the National EMS Standard Update but there is no update at this time
 - They are requesting vaccines at the EMT level be added to standards
- They have not been able to do site visits for accreditation and are extending that administratively to the end of 2022
 - They are trying to make visits for those programs that are under review and not doing well
- EMS Symposium is November 3-7
 - All participants must proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test within 10 days of arrival

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- This will be checked during registration
- Notification about this process should go out soon to all registered participants
- Under Rules & Regulations, EMTs can no longer vaccinate but ALS is still able to
- ECs will soon get notice on the OEMS admin portal for eligibility determination for background checks
 - The system goes live January 1, 2022
- The workgroup reviewing the continued use of psychomotor exams was not able to provide a report this meeting and will be discussed at a special meeting on November 12th at 9am
 - The focus is to vote and discuss the feasibility of removing psychomotor testing in VA
 - NREMT is set to sunset the use of psychomotor exams by 2023 for paramedics and Virginia is looking to do the same for EMTs
 - Instead of the psychomotor tests, the OMD who signed off on the class will have to verify skills during class and then students who pass can take the cognitive exam
- EMSAT will be removed at the end of the month from CentreLearn
 - Get any certificates before then or they won't be available.

OLD BUSINESS

CADMUS Teaming Agreement

- As discussed during the Executive Director's Report

PI and Trauma Plan

- The wrong Plan was sent out as it should have been the Trauma Triage Plan
 - Craig will resend and we can review it in December.

JURISDICTIONAL REPORTS

City of Alexandria Fire Department

Deputy Chief of EMS Brian Hricik provided the following update:

- We discussed in the past whether EMS agencies fall under "facilities" for CMS payment purposes because all providers for CMS-approved facilities are required to have vaccinations except for medical or religious reasons
 - Alexandria is waiting on information from the City Attorney
- They are preparing for the new budget process
- They are recruiting paramedics
- They currently have a recruit school in session but no paramedics in the class but a few students have expressed an interest
- They will hold another paramedic school in January

Arlington County Fire Department

EMS Battalion Chief Anne Marsh provided the following update:

- Recruit school, all EMTs passed except one due to a Pearson Vue issue/glitch and not on the student's part
- They are working with the paramedics in the pipeline now for a new class but also have no paramedics in their recruit school or future recruit schools currently scheduled
- They have approximately 5 members going to Symposium in November

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- Fairfax County Station 418 will be moving back in soon to their new quarters
 - They are excited as this is a powerful mutual aid company for Arlington County
- Kate Kramer advised they are getting ready to launch the second half of their ET3 initiative
 - Telemedicine will be available 24/7 and providers can bring a PA, NP or MD into a patient's home virtually
 - This will likely start the second week of November
 - Only available to Arlington County medic units, not outside their first due unless on an Arlington medic unit (can't use if they hop on a medic unit in another jurisdiction)
- Joe Reshetar advised the Fire Response Guide has been updated to include changes to send the correct resource to calls, so a paramedic on an engine may hop on a unit to make it ALS from BLS as needed

City of Fairfax Fire Department

Tom Olander advised of the following information:

- Station 33 is now open and is a state-of-the-art facility
- New EMS vehicle arrives shortly

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue

Mark Kordalski provided the following update:

- Station 418 will be opening soon as Anne mentioned
- They are integrating BLS units into the mix and can upgrade BLS units as needed with paramedics on engines

Fairfax County Police Helicopter Division

Paul DeHaven provided the following report:

- TECC train the trainer for 24 EMTs in the department
- Dr. Scantlebury advised of the following:
 - There is a push for REVIVE trainers within the department to make sure all uniformed officers are Narcan certified
 - Two paramedics are currently in the pipeline through the FD academy
 - They are nearing the end of field training for their newly graduated medics

Fauquier County DFREM

No Representation

Loudoun County Fire and Rescue

Micah Kiger provided the following updates:

- They are working through the process of their County Board mandated vaccination status reporting for all staff
 - If not vaccinated, they will be subject to weekly testing
 - Chief Cooper is handling this for the fire department staff
- Chief Kiger and Dr. Morgan are going to meet with recruit class 41
 - They have 8 ALS providers
 - 7 paramedics
 - 1 AEMT
 - Looking at getting them to start precepting right out of school

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City of Manassas Fire and Rescue

Jason Bowers advised there was nothing to report

City of Manassas Park Fire & Rescue

No representation

MWAA

No representation

Prince William County Fire and Rescue

Dr. Neha Sullivan provided the following update:

- They are working on their updated 1:1 staffing
 - There are rare needs for a second medic to jump on from an engine
- They are hoping to participate in blood program and better QI internally
- They are doing an Intermediate to Paramedic upgrade class in January in lieu of a Paramedic class for EMT-B to P
- Will restart paramedic classes next year
- They submitted for American Rescue Plan funding to get a telehealth program in PWC, no timeline on the funding yet.

LifeCare Medical Transport

No representation

Northern Virginia Community College

No representation

OEMS Program Representative

Chris Vernovai provided the following update:

- Symposium prep is in full force now
 - Proof of vaccine status or 10-day prior negative test proof as indicated earlier
 - Joe Reshetar asked if it needs to be the physical card or is a photo acceptable.
 - Chris advised he is not sure, they just said “Proof of vaccination”. He will ask and hopefully have an answer at the OEMS and Regional Council Briefing tomorrow morning
 - Masks must be worn at all times for students and lecturers
 - There will be no social events this year except for the Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday night and the vendor halls will be open
- The OEMS and Regional Council Briefing call is tomorrow at 9am

PHI Aircare

Rick Cohen provided the following update:

- Nothing to report

Physicians Transport

Kate Passow advised of the following update:

- They are also in need of paramedics

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- They recently started chase medics to assist with STAT calls while they recruit paramedics

HCA Reston Hospital Center

Keith Morrison was not available

HCA StoneSprings Hospital

Pam Leins provided the following update:

- They celebrated the Grand Opening and welcomed their first patient for their new Behavioral Health Unit this week
 - It is a 17 bed adult-only unit
 - There is an outpatient treatment office in the medical office building
- There is a new EMS Liaison and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator starting next Monday, October 25th
 - John Wanamaker from the Tidewater area

Inova Fairfax Hospital

No report

NVERS

Pam Leins provided the following update:

- They stood up the RHCC for the Afghan Repatriation project
 - They appreciate all providers for participating as it made a big difference
 - The contractor did a poor job and was losing patients, even after NVERS got involved it wasn't seamless but definitely better
 - NVERS hired cars and drivers to transport people from the hospitals as there were some held for up to 12 hours due to no transportation
- They have stood down the RHCC, but are still tracking patients from Crowne Plaza or Camp Upshur, call RHCC to track them if you transport from there
- NVERS steering committee had meeting, sent out all UASI proposals for review, due in December
- Blood program approved for UASI grant. Will support area for buying new and replacement of equipment and whole blood as it's used
 - More to come on this in the future

NEW BUSINESS

NVERS Associate Membership – non-voting membership, attends Board meetings, and provides updates on their status just as other members do. They cannot be a voting member because they don't fit into the membership status of a hospital or EMS agency.

- Brian Hricik made a motion to accept NVERS into Associate Membership
- Seconded by Joe Reshetar
- Motion **unanimously approved**

OTHER BUSINESS

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Tony Barone from Emergility advised that with the recent police stabbing incident at the Pentagon recently, there were interesting observations about what officers are being taught in TECC and if agencies have a program and want to discuss these observations, please reach out to him as he can't discuss openly in our meeting.

Chief Hricik advised he had a recent discussion with Hilary Gates about people taking advantage of the Seattle or Maryland Resuscitation Academies and the question came up about why we don't have one in Virginia. Alexandria City would be interested in having one here but would it be better suited as a Northern Virginia Academy from the start? She is willing to assist in getting that started.

- Chief Marsh advised we should get the names of our training coordinators together and bring it back to the Board with more concrete details and a proposal to get it going
- Chief Hricik will reach out to Hilary and start to coordinate that with her

Motion to adjourn 11:24 am.

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on December 16, 2021. A Zoom link will be sent to all participants in advance.

CERTIFICATION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Northern Virginia EMS Council
7250 Heritage Village Plaza, Ste. 102
Gainesville, VA 20155

I, Craig Evans, Executive Director of the Northern Virginia EMS Council certify that the above minutes are a true and correct transcript of the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Northern Virginia EMS Council held via Zoom on October 21, 2021, and that the meeting was duly called and held in all respects in accordance with the laws of the state of Virginia and bylaws of the corporation and that a quorum was present. The minutes were officially approved at the December 16, 2021, meeting of the Board of Directors of the Northern Virginia EMS Council.

Craig A. Evans
Executive Director
Northern Virginia EMS Council

Date