



Northern Virginia Emergency Medical Services Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Held Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 21, 2022

DIRECTORS PRESENT (Listed Alphabetically by First Name)

Adam Lieb	adam.lieb@fairfaxcounty.gov
Anne Marsh	amarsh1@arlingtonva.us
Anthony Barone	tony@emergility.com
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Todd Lupton	tlupton@manassasva.gov
Tom Arnoto	tarnoto@pwcgov.org
tom olander	olanderte@verizon.net

GUESTS

Byron Andrews, Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad, bandrews@sterlingrescue.org

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Tony Barone, Emergility, tony@emergility.com

Chris Vernovai, VA Office of EMS, chris.vernovai@vdh.virginia.gov

Call to Order

Council President Anne Marsh welcomed all in attendance and called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

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

Moment of Silence for Dr. James Vafier

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the NVEMSC Board of Directors held on February 17, 2022, were sent for review by email

- Beth Adams made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted, seconded by Brian Hricik
- The minutes were **unanimously approved**.

Treasurer's Report

There is no Treasurer's Report this month as there have been continued issues with QuickBooks Online. Laura has conferred with our accountant Jennifer Burke on a plan to delete the account and start over. Upon the start of the new account, financials will be available for presentation at the next Board of Directors meeting in June.

President's Report

President Anne Marsh provided the following report

- The Council had our re-designation meeting in March. The meeting went well, and the state seems happy with our organization, record keeping, and financial processes. We are awaiting our official determination letter from the state.

Executive Director's Report

Ray Whatley, Acting Executive Director presented the following:

- No update on regional paramedic program
- Pulsara gave their tabletop for a regional MCI/communications program on 4/19
- The state is developing a new contract and Ray will go down there the first week of May for more talks. If we do not get far enough, they will extend our current contract.
 - The state is bringing back education funds to our region in the form of a regional educator hired by the Council. Once this is solidified in the new contract, we will be looking for a dynamic educator to fill the unique needs of our region. Some jurisdictions will use them directly to teach CE. Other anticipated needs will be to produce online content for the state's new blackboard LMS.
- As President Marsh mentioned, our re-designation visit went well.
 - Larry Oliver, Jason Ferguson, and Chris Vernovai came to visit.
 - Thank you to Craig French for attending as a partner stakeholder and board member.
- Congratulations to Craig French on his promotion to Director of EMS Strategy and Relation for Inova
- We made a change in the Employee Manual where we are removing the requirement to produce a cell bill for the \$110 monthly reimbursement. This was approved by the Executive Board. This is now just a home office stipend and subject to approval from Executive Director

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- All employees are required to maintain copies of their cell phone and internet bills as they can be requested at any time by the Executive Director, Executive Board or the Accountant during the audit
- Spring RSAF is now closed
 - Here are the grades: Everyone got a 2.
 - 25 people voted.
- **FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE**
 - Automatic Chest Compression: 2
 - Power-Pro Cots: 1.96
 - Emergency Child Restraints: 1.68
- **STERLING VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD**
 - Lifepak 15 V4 Monitor: 1.72
 - McGrath EMS Video Laryngoscope: 1.76
 - APX8500 ALL BAND MP MOBILE: 1.84
 - APX NEXT; ALL-BAND MODEL 4.5 P: 2.08
 - Required mounting and hardware: 2.04

Stroke Smart Advocate Report

Margaret Probst provided the following report:

- Magnets and wallet cards are being rolled out
- They are creating a Stroke Smart Advocacy group from the community for anyone interested in spreading the knowledge with their community
 - A study between 2013-2016 in Alexandria in the Middle Eastern Community to educate everyone on the signs of stroke but the cultural barrier existed in which they hesitated to call 911 until the head of household was present. The time for last known well to call 911 went from 549 minutes to 49 minutes with this education
- She is currently approaching the Fire Departments directly and having them reach out to their contacts in the City/County elected leadership
 - The minimum ask is to endorse the program and allow us to be involved in training, talking points, etc.
- Leesburg, Fairfax City, Vienna, Manassas Park, and Alexandria have all created proclamations making them Stroke Smart communities
 - Arlington is doing a presentation to the Arlington Co Board soon
 - VHC is doing their survey for Stroke Capabilities soon
 - Mount Vernon is also doing their site visit for primary stroke tomorrow
- She is reaching out to Faith-based organizations to provide this education to those outlets

STATE AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

AHA Training Center

Ray Whatley provided the following report:

- Resources Available for New Heartsaver® Virtual Solution
Just over a week ago, April 5, the AHA formally announced the release of Heartsaver Virtual, a

new equipment and technology solution available to AHA Training Centers in the US market through [ShopCPR](#) or [WorldPoint](#) (for some TCs)

- Heartsaver Virtual offers convenient bundles including an eLearning course, training kit and app solution that allows students to take Heartsaver training and their skills session with their Instructor 100% online. Heartsaver Virtual is an additional option available to do Heartsaver training. To purchase, a TC security ID is required
- Virtual training has been fully vetted and was introduced when the COVID-19 pandemic created restrictions to in-person learning. Please remember, this is not a required new course, but is an additional solution available for training. See our [Virtual Training Memo](#) released in 2020
- BLS, ACLS, PALS provider:
 - Must use HeartCode eLearning course.
 - Instructor-Led through video or web-based platform is no longer acceptable.
 - Hands-on skills practice and testing is still required.
 - Must have all equipment onsite in working order for virtual practice and training

AHA Knowledge Booster App Quizzes Students on CPR Knowledge

The AHA Knowledge Booster is a quiz-based app that was created to reinforce critical CPR and emergency care knowledge. The AHA's [Resuscitation Education Scientific Statement](#) highlights the importance of spaced learning and use of innovative educational strategies during resuscitation training

State EMS Advisory Board

Beth Adams provided the following written report:

- GAB met on March 11, 2022
 - They established workgroups for Bylaws & Composition
 - Bylaws – clean-up language & consistency throughout current version (approved Nov. 2018)
 - Workgroup has met several times & will present revision for GAB approval at our next meeting on May 6
 - Composition – off-going Trauma Administrative & Governance Committee chair recommended that all trauma subcommittee (6) chairs be seated members of GAB
 - Current membership (28) established in statute
 - Anticipate this will be a 6–12-month process
 - 2022 EMS Needs Assessment presented – last done in 2012 / results posted to OEMS website
 - They approved Scope of Practice document (procedures & formulary)
 - <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/23/2022/03/Scope-of-Practice-Procedures.pdf>
 - <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/23/2022/03/Scope-of-Practice-Formulary.pdf>
 - Scope of practice for all certification levels ~ adds 'red dot' items to ID elements NOT included in that certification levels standard scope of practice.
 - For a provider to have access to Red Dot(s) scope of practice; the following requirements must be met.
 1. Documentation of EMS agency (post-affiliation) training, specific to red dot skills and medications, must be present and maintained in the providers personnel file, and

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2. EMS agency Operational Medical Director must provide specific written authorization, to include and/or limit, red dot skills and medications, in the provider's scope of practice. Written authorization must be kept and maintained in the provider's personnel file.

Compliance with red dot requirements will be enforced on & after July 1, 2022

- Legislative & Planning Committee (met March 11, 2022)
 - “Compress & Shock’ legislation tabled in committee – established tax credit for AED purchase that coincides with purchase of car. Anticipate it will be re-introduced next session. Committee supports increased availability of AEDs, but identified a number of concerns: training, maintenance, security within vehicle, impact of temp extremes on AED functionality, & ability to ID location of an AED.
 - established a workgroup, which I chair, to develop draft language to establish EMS an essential service during the next regular session of the General Assembly. there's no doubt that the pandemic has highlighted the integral role that EMS plays as part of the healthcare system.
 - Currently, only 11 states identify EMS as essential service, along with fire & police
 - John Oliver re: EMS as essential service (NSFW)
[Emergency Medical Services: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver \(HBO\) - YouTube](#)
- Rules & Regulations Committee (met April 6, 2022)
 - Finalizing revision to Chapter 32
 - Plan for GAB approval in August -> Board of Health in September, then will be posted for public comment. If comments exceed threshold (25), then we start over.

Provider Health and Safety

Brian Hricik advised of the following:

- They have not met recently but May 6th is the next scheduled meeting. VAGEMSA will meet on that day as well

Trauma PI Committee

Dr. Morgan advised of the following:

- March 9th was the last meeting. Discussion was about what the future of the meetings looks like with the overall feeling being they want to have a separate meeting from ReTSCO meetings to discuss their individual are
- June 8th is the next meeting and currently ground-level falls are the topic

Medevac Committee

No Representation

Regional Medical Directors & State Medical Direction Committee

Dr. Morgan provided the following update:

- State Medical Direction Committee
 - The meeting was on April 7th and there was a lot of discussion on updated regulations. There was a nice comprehensive review of the document that in one doctor's opinion needed a lot of re-working. MDC passed the document as written and there was some consternation after the fact but there will be a meeting on June 9th for some

opportunities to update and take the opportunity to make it better now rather than wait another decade.

- Updates on the scope of practice document
 - Active discussion on epinephrine at the AEMT level. If you look at the national SOP it is included there but there is a question as to whether that was intentional or an inaccuracy. The question of whether an AEMT can give epinephrine via nebulizer was approved. Also, IV epinephrine for status asthmaticus refractory to nebulizer and cardiac arrest with AEMTs was also endorsed by the group

Training and Certification Committee

Ray Whatley provided the following report:

- \$1.53 M of \$2M in scholarship funds have already been distributed with \$1.1 M to Paramedic programs.
- There are 757 Education Coordinators currently in Virginia.
 - EC Institute held in January 2022 (Williamsburg) with 39 EC Candidates that were certified upon completion of the institute.
 - There are 18 EC Candidates eligible for the next Institute as of last night.
 - All future institutes for 2022 are on the OEMS website.
 - All EC updates scheduled through June are also on the OEMS website.
 - Blackboard was rolled out in February with EC training sessions.
- OEMS has partnered with Vector Solutions (Target Solutions) allowing for Virginia-certified EMS Providers to access 100 free CE courses.
- NREMT will be coming to Symposium this year. They have been asked to present what the future holds with NREMT certification and recertification.
 - 2022 Symposium Course selection is underway. Hands-on courses are coming back.
- NASEMSO is working on the AEMT Competencies with an expected completion date of November 2022 with approval processes to follow.
- The Office of EMS will begin to implement the NEMSIS rollout for the new EMS Education Standards following adoption by the EMSGAB.
- New information OEMS was made aware of: Must hold a CSRC (Controlled Substance Registration Certificate) from Board of Pharmacy for Training Supplies (i.e., IV needles, tubing, etc.). Agencies that hold a CSRC must make an addendum showing the location of equipment and that it is for training purposes.
- Students that are NOT enrolled in a Virginia EMS Education Program cannot complete clinicals within the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- Motion by Chris Kroboth to restart the CTS Workgroup and redirect their efforts to EMT Simulation Workgroup to build a repository for EMT Programs. Discussion of what is to be presented next week (7 April) to Medical Direction Committee (MDC).
- Motion by Larry Oliver to recommend to MDC that we continue with the current guidelines of 10 patient contacts with a maximum of 5 patient simulations moving forward with the workgroup process to evaluate and develop simulation policies and a repository of scenario templates. Seconded by Brian McIntosh. Bill Akers provided substitute motion with clarification. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion on TR-90a and TR-999 EMT Psychomotor Competency Verification documents.
- Motion by Chris Kroboth to replace the TR-999 with the adoption of the current National EMS Scope of Practice and Education Standards Model. Seconded by Brian McIntosh. Passed

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unanimously. This discussion also included the removal of CTS as the terminal psychomotor competency; rather, programs would provide one in coordination (in-house) with their Program Director and EMS Physician. These exams would be announced and may have OEMS site visitors present.

OLD BUSINESS

None

JURISDICTIONAL REPORTS

City of Alexandria Fire Department

Deputy Chief of EMS Brian Hricik provided the following update:

- Last Friday they graduated another recruit class and they are preparing for another in another 30 days or so
- They were able to recruit one paramedic and will have five internally going through paramedic class
- They have several new Braun ambulances coming this summer

Arlington County Fire Department

EMS Battalion Chief Anne Marsh provided the following update:

- All APOs are through CCP class and they had good feedback from their class in Winchester (online plus hands-on)
- Close to opening the new Crisis Intervention Center which will be staffed 24/7 with a Nurse Practitioner as a resource for MARCUS Law
- Kate Kramer is on maternity leave; Baby boy Isaac arrived last week, and mom, dad, and big brother are excited for their new addition
- They are hosting crisis intervention team training for those interested to enable providers to de-escalate situations as well as the PD; it is expensive but worth it. It is normally 40 hours, but this is directed for EMS providers only, so they were able to shorten it down
- WMD medication inspection by NVERS went well. Just notified of the arrival of new Cyano-Kits
 - NVERS wants the old kits back
 - Supposed to be a 3 time per year inspection
- New recruit school starting soon, and they will have one per year in the future
 - 29 people starting Monday

City of Fairfax Fire Department

Brian Orndoff advised of the following:

- Running through the hiring process, trying to hire six paramedics
- New Horton ambulance on Ford chassis will arrive soon
- They are currently working on a change in the EMS leadership structure and will change their EMS Captains to Battalion Chiefs
 - Brian is in consideration for that position

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue

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John Tedesco provided the following update:

- They just graduated 22 firefighters and one medic in April
- The internship class started in beginning of April with 12
- They have ongoing evaluation of BLS units for positioning across the county; the evaluation ends in the summer
 - They will then decide if they want to convert 4 more and if so, where

Fairfax County Police Helicopter Division

No Representation

Fauquier County DFREM

No Representation

Loudoun County Fire and Rescue

Dr. Morgan provided the following updates:

- They are doing an AEMT to P class that starts next month with 8 students
- They just launched a Uniformed Fire Officer program in the dispatch center
 - It is a Captain position that will oversee and supervise tough calls and make leadership decisions as needed
- They recently filled the EMS BC position with Andrew Hopkins and this replaces Jamie Cooper's BC position as he was promoted to Deputy Chief of EMS and replaced Micah Kiger who went to the Fire Marshal's office
- Michelle Beatty added that starting 2 AEMT programs in session and a large EMT class. 35 in new recruit school starting next month

City of Manassas Fire and Rescue

Todd Lupton provided the following updates:

- They currently have 14 vacancies with 11 of them being ALS providers
 - They recently changed strategies for ALS only hiring and will have those providers go through firefighter 1 & 2 at a later point
- They received a new Braun ambulance this week

City of Manassas Park Fire & Rescue

James Tharp advised there was nothing to report

MWAA

Gary Hubble provided the following updates:

- The tri-annual drill is being held at Reagan Airport this weekend
- 3 medics recently completed paramedic class and are currently in internships
 - 2 more in paramedic class now
- They are working on the final stages of HandTevy to get up and running

Prince William County Fire and Rescue

Chip Morrison provided the following update:

- Also working on CIT training in recruit school currently in class for MARCUS Alert
- 25 in recruit school now
 - They'll start another school in September or October

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- Waiting on 3 medic units to come in soon
- 3 more engines will be going up in the next few weeks going up with drug boxes
- The bariatric unit will go into service soon, in mid-county
- I to P students starting clinicals soon and will finish the class in next month or two
 - They will then hold an EMT-B to P class, unsure of how many but it should be around 28-30
- They are working with Inova to develop protocols to transport to free-standing EDs, mainly in Lorton & Springfield but will add more
- They'd like to develop protocols to transport to Kaiser facilities, anyone with experience, please contact Chief Morrison with any pearls of wisdom on how to navigate through that
- Dr. Sullivan added the following update
 - They just released protocol update after a few years, the key is ECO processes and they have a magistrate on call who has reviewed and approved the changes.
 - There is a flow chart and providers can navigate the process for mental health or medical ECO. She will reach out to neighboring counting in case they need to go into other areas with CAD to CAD

Stafford County Fire and Rescue Department

No representation

LifeCare Medical Transport

No representation

Northern Virginia Community College

Kathy Deal provided the following update:

- Current spring semester ends 5/9; Summer semester starts 5/16 and fall semester 8/22
 - 80% in person for all of college is a goal, as this is the norm pre-covid
 - Covid requirements are based on the Governor and VCC Chancellor and what the clinical affiliates require
- The next Advisory Board meeting is May 17th

OEMS Program Representative

Chris Vernovai provided the following update:

- They finished up yesterday with designation site visits
- All reports will be gathered and will be presented to GAB on May 6th, after that will go to the Board of Health in June for re-designation, then the Councils will get letters notifying them of the outcome
- CHATR Division is working on recruitment and retention as there are known statewide and nationwide issues for hiring and retaining Fire and EMS employees
 - In November, they advised Workforce Development that they need to concentrate on recruitment/retention in the future
- The State EMS plans need to be revised
 - He will present it to the GAB in November and hope to have wrapped up in the next few months

PHI Aircare

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No Representation

Physicians Transport Service

Kate Passow advised there was nothing new to report

Inova Health System

Eric Reist gave the following update:

- Thanks, Loudoun Co for the medical bus for a tour today at NVERS, it was very beneficial to see and tour it

Reston Hospital Center

No Representation

StoneSprings Hospital

No Representation

Northern Virginia Emergency Response System

Pamela Leins provided the following update:

- Pam is leaving NVERS at the end of the month and said thank you for all the collaboration and support in the last few years. She hopes she'll see us all again soon!

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to discuss

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business to discuss

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There was a motion to adjourn at 11:36 am

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on June 16, 2022. An invitation and Zoom link have been sent.

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 April 21, 2022, 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 June 16, 2022, meeting of the Board of Directors of the Northern Virginia EMS Council.

Craig A. Evans
Executive Director
Northern Virginia EMS Council

Date