



Northern Virginia Emergency Medical Services Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Held Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 20, 2023

DIRECTORS PRESENT (Listed Alphabetically by First Name)

Adam Jones	a.jones@manassasparkva.gov
Adam Lieb	adam.lieb@fairfaxcounty.gov
Alfred Pacifico	alfred.pacifico@loudoun.gov
Andrew Duke	andrew.duke@alexandriava.gov
Andrew Sanders	asanders@pwcgov.org
Beth Adams	beth.adams@fairfaxcounty.gov
Chip Morrison	cmorrison@pwcgov.org
Corey Smedley	corey.smedley@alexandriava.gov
Craig French	craig.french@inova.org
Gary Hubble	gary.hubble@mwa.com
Jason Knight	jwknight@pwcgov.org
John Bowers	jbowers@manassasva.gov
John Morgan	john.morgan@loudoun.gov
John Wanamaker	john.wanamaker@hcahealthcare.com
Kate Kramer	kkramer@arlingtonva.us
Kate Passow	kate.passow@gmr.net
Kathleen Deal	kcdrn@cox.net
Kelsea Bonkoski	kelsea.bonkoski@alexandriava.gov
Laura Vandegrift	northern@vaems.org
Margaret Probst	margaret@vaems.org
Mark Franke	mfranke@cox.net
Michael Prailey	cnp4da@uvahealth.org
Michelle Ludeman	michelle@vaems.org
Nathan Strong	nstrong@pwcgov.org
Neha Sullivan	nsullivan@pwcgov.org
Paul DeHaven	Paul.dehaven@fairfaxcounty.gov
Philippa Durham	philippa.durham@fairfaxcounty.gov
Ray Whatley	ray@vaems.org
Rick Cohen	rcohen@phiairmedical.com
Steve Kling	steven.kling@inova.org
Tom Arnoto	tarnoto@pwcgov.org
Tom Olander	thomas.olander@verizon.net

GUESTS

Glenn Garwood ESO glenn.garwood@eso.com

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Byron Andrews

Call to Order

Council President Nate Strong welcomed all in attendance and called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

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

ESO HDE Presentation – Glenn Garwood

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the NVEMSC Board of Directors held on February 16, 2023, were sent for review by email

- Beth Adams made a motion to accept the minutes with the corrections above, seconded by Kate Kamer
- The minutes were **unanimously approved**.

Treasurer's Report

Laura Vandegrift provided the following report in the absence of Keith Morrison:

- The financials for February and March 2023 were sent via email before the meeting.
 - Beth Adams made a motion to accept the financial reports as submitted, seconded by Kate Kramer
 - The Treasurer's Report and financials were **unanimously approved**

President's Report

President Nate Strong advised of the following:

- No report today

Executive Director's Report

Ray Whatley reported the following:

- Corey Smedley, Alexandria Fire Chief, was appointed as the Member at Large on the Executive Board and attended his first meeting with the Executive Board on 4/14
- Michelle recently returned from the ESO conference. This was funded by OEMS.
- Bank account/financial changes
 - The Truist Money Market Account has been upgraded with a competitive interest rate of 3.44% and has a current balance of \$451,510; see below for the balance change
 - We took out a 9-month Certificate of Deposit on April 11, 2023, for \$500,000 at the rate of 4.23%
- Personnel
 - Margaret Probst has submitted her resignation. She will continue through May. We hope to post her position by the end of the month.
 - Regional Educator(s) position should be posted by the end of the month.
- Regional Paramedic Program
 - GW is reviewing the FSDAP screening criteria as this is the learning management system we are planning to use, so it is highly likely this will be incorporated in screening candidates.
 - GW also supports each agency's preference for pre-screening candidates. Each agency obviously has performance data that would not necessarily be revealed in our screening, and that may provide additional insight with regard to candidates who will be the most successful.

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- DC FEMS has tentatively confirmed four candidates for the program, so there is still room from other VA agencies. Reminder, we need 22 students.
- Due to space limitations at Foggy Bottom Campus, GW is exploring running the program through the GW campus in Arlington. Given this geography change, GW will now need to seek the VA Office of EMS endorsement in order to finalize the Letter of Intent for CoAEMSP. GW has reached out to the VA Division of Accreditation, Certification & Education and awaits their reply to clarify the next steps in this process.
- There are still questions about how many instructors will need to be provided, what kind of equipment is needed, etc., and they are working through those questions.
- We are continuing to work with Inova with CEUs for their CE courses.
- RSAF
 - Reminder - make sure your application is complete. Utilize council staff to assist prior to your submission.
 - Attended the RSAF transportation committee review. 51 grants reviewed. Those that scored well were ambulances. SUVs did not, no matter the reason.
 - RSAF grant results have been submitted to OEMS. The results of this Grant Cycle are below
 - Mike Berg from OEMS will come to our meeting in September to discuss grant grading since there are several new people that have not been involved in the grading.

State \$ / Agency \$		SCORE
City of Manassas Park Fire Dept.	NV – C01 / 06-23	1.5
Funding Level 50 / 50		2
(1) Stryker MTS Power Load System	\$12,846.96 / \$12,846.96	
City of Manassas Park Fire Dept.	NV – C01/ 06-23	1.6
Funding Level 50 / 50		2
(1) Stryker Power Pro XT Cot	\$22,101.73 / \$22,101.73	
Fairfax County Fire & Rescue	NV – C02 / 06-23	1.6
Funding Level 50 / 50		2
(30) Emergency Child Restraints	\$11,257.35 / \$11,257.35	
Loudoun County Fire and Rescue	NV – C03 / 06-23	2.6

	Funding Level 50 / 50	
(42) Blood/Fluid Warmers	\$105,303.12 / \$105,303.12	3
City of Alexandria Fire Dept.	NV – C04 / 04-23	2.5
	Funding Level 50 / 50	
(1) Rapid Response Vehicle Ford (1 of 3)	\$41,050.94 / \$41,050.94	3
City of Alexandria Fire Dept.	NV – C04 / 04-23	2.5
	Funding Level 50 / 50	
(1) Rapid Response Vehicle Ford (2 of 3)	\$41,050.94 / \$41,050.94	3
City of Alexandria Fire Dept.	NV – C04 / 04-23	2.4
	Funding Level 50 / 50	
(1) Rapid Response Vehicle Ford (3 of 3)	\$41,050.94 / \$41,050.94	2

Grant Review Grading Scale:

- **Grade 1 - Immediate Funding Need**
 - Alternative funding sources exhausted or unavailable. System will suffer if program postponed. Program request is of greatest impact to citizens served.
- **Grade 2 - Definite Funding Need**
 - Alternative funding limited or delayed availability. Program of high priority. Need is present. Program of high impact to citizens served.
- **Grade 3 - Project Needed Eventually**
 - Local funding available in future. System will benefit from improved time table. Limited available funding.
- **Grade 4 - Project Can Be Delayed**
 - Local funds available. Program of low impact to citizens served. Consideration will be given as need increases.
- **Grade 5 - Project Not Needed**
 - Local funds available. Limited or no impact to service area. Duplication of resources. Consideration will be given as need is evident. Failure to submit a complete application.

STATE AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Stroke Smart Advocate Report

Margaret Probst presented an update:

- The Stroke Smart in Fairfax County is scheduled for Tuesday, May 9th. Supervisor Rodney Lusk is a strong champion of our work there and has already scheduled a community Stroke Smart training event for later in May, where he will be present, along with a Spanish translator. We

look forward to his introduction to department heads, etc., to schedule Stroke Smart training for county government employees.

- Stroke Smart training efforts continue around our region. We're training at private companies (Dirak) and getting more visibility at schools. Alexandria City schools opted to continue the program after it was abruptly halted shortly after it began when the schools shut down. We trained their teachers a few weeks ago, provided lesson plans, and were able to look at the lesson plans that they created in response to our training. Not only have the teachers been trained to be Stroke Smart, but they are also bringing the info to their students, who take it home to their parents. In addition, we've trained non-teaching staff.
- The numbers show that reaching school students with our Stroke Smart efforts allows us to educate the greatest number of people in a short amount of time. For this reason, there is particular value in having the school systems adopt the program.
- Margaret is traveling to Charlottesville tomorrow for the Virginia Stroke Systems Task Force meeting and will give a Stroke Smart update to the statewide group there. She is also traveling to Richmond in early May to present our work at the Virginia Governor's Conference on Aging.
- Margaret presented some EMS stroke stats to briefly show the data she'll present at the upcoming stroke meeting.

AHA Training Center

Ray Whatley provided the following report:

- As part of the upcoming transition of the US AHA Training Network from the AHA Instructor Network to the **Atlas Training and Education platform**, we will be introducing a new system for AHA Class Management. This will launch in May. The Atlas Class Management tool is designed to be a full rostering system rather than a basic, free advertising tool for classes you offer to the public. The new tool will allow AHA Training Centers to manage classes from creation to finalization, creating a more seamless experience for the Training Center, Site, Instructor, and student.
 - **IMPORTANT: Do Not Enter Classes in My Courses after May 15, 2023.**
- **UPDATED COVID-19 Guidance: AHA Issues Training Memos on Return to Full Skills Training, Sunset of Virtual Training for Healthcare Provider Courses**
 - The AHA is providing updated guidance to Training Centers on resuming in-person classes and skills sessions for CPR, first aid, and emergency cardiovascular care training. Due to the decline in COVID-19 cases and the need to ensure the highest quality CPR and ECC training is taught, **effective June 1, 2023**, all AHA Training Centers and Instructors should resume conducting in-person skills practice and testing in all CPR, first aid, and ECC training following AHA's course curricula outlined in the AHA PAM and AHA Instructor Manuals. This includes returning to practicing giving rescue breaths and demonstrating 2-person CPR and first aid skills.
 - Also **effective June 1, 2023**, virtual training will no longer be allowed for healthcare provider-level courses, including BLS Provider, ACLS Provider, PALS Provider, ACLS for Experienced Providers, and PEARS Provider. This also applies to healthcare provider renewal and update courses. Virtual training will remain an option for Heartsaver-level courses.
 - Finally, **effective June 1, 2023**, virtual training will no longer be allowed for new AHA Instructor training; however, virtual monitoring for renewing Instructors will remain an option.

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- Please read the full updated COVID-19 CPR and ECC training guidance included in the AHA Training Memos posted on the [COVID-19 Resources for CPR Training & Resuscitation page](#) and on the [AHA Instructor Network in the Training Updates section](#)(login required).

State EMS Advisory Board

Beth Adams provided the following written report:

Next meeting May 5, 2023

- **Governor’s Advisory Board Update: Rules & Regulations Committee meeting (3/29/2023)**
**** SB1246 “EMS as essential” signed by Governor on 3/24/2023 – effective 7/1/2023 ****
 - Approved submission of Final Draft of Chapter 32 & Documents Included by Reference (DIBR) as a ‘motion to approve’ to GAB at their May meeting for submission to the Board of Health prior to entering Stage 2 of the Regulatory Process. (relevant links below)
 - **Chapter 32 Progress Report**
 - [Regulatory Process Current Status](#)
 - [Complete Final Draft of EMS Regulations – Chapter 32](#)
 - Chapter 32 Documents Included by Reference (DIBR)
 - [Final draft of Required Vehicle Equipment List](#) (RVEL)
 - [Scope of Practice – Formulary](#) (SOP)
 - [Scope of Practice – Procedures](#) (SOP)
 - [Training Program Administration Manual](#) (TPAM)
 - Board of Pharmacy
 - Nothing yet from DEA.
 - Available for regional presentation by BOP/OEMS re: CSR, they also plan to present at Symposium.
 - 578 licensed EMS agencies – only 102 currently have CSR (18%)
 - Agencies cannot store drugs on-site without DEA registration & Virginia CSR.
 - EMS Councils do not meet eligibility for CSR as they are not licensed EMS agencies.
 - Ron Passmore suspects that a ‘sundown date’ will be forthcoming from hospitals regarding: drug exchanges may be forthcoming based on conversations with BOP & Virginia Hospital Pharmacy Association.
 - Mike Berg (Grants Manager/FARC)
 - Already receiving grant requests for Rx dispensing machines.
 - 112 RSAF applications for 215 items, totaling \$19 million (\$12.1 million State funds). No word yet on how much money will be available for grant awards.
 - Brief discussion about the Board of Supervisors in SW Virginia’s approval to allow 13-year-olds on Rescue Squads. Ron Passmore is scheduled to meet with the Board on April 3.
 - Approved moving the Rules & Regulations committee to 3 pm on Thursday before our Friday GAB meeting.

Provider Health and Safety

Michelle Ludeman reported that there has been no meeting since her last report.

Medical PI Committee

Kate Kramer reported the following update:

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- Medical PI meeting was on April 12, 2023
 - The topic was heat emergencies, and we had Beth Bostwick, FNP, and Annemarie Francis, LAT, from the Archdiocese of Arlington schools as guests to discuss heat emergencies for schools and the procedures they follow prior to EMS arrival
 - Med PI is in July – will be something around OB and fetal rights/abuse

Trauma PI Committee

Dr. John Morgan provided the following update:

- Needle thoracostomy was the topic of the last meeting in March
 - Next meeting is in June with the topic of pediatric trauma
- We are seeking an EMS provider to co-chair that committee as well

Medevac Committee

Rick Cohen advised that there is no report as their next meeting is on May 4th.

Patient Tracking Workgroup

Ray Whatley provided the following update:

- They recently discussed the hospital taskforce
 - The MCIM committee reported to the fire chiefs committee recently
 - It was adopted to be placed in the manual as an appendix
- There have been several discussions about going forward with Pulsara
 - They determined that the funds would not be sustainable in the current format that they submitted with their quote, as it would double or triple in price in 2-3 years
 - They are going back to the drawing board to see which is the best for use in northern VA with the funds available.

Regional Medical Directors & State Medical Direction Committee

Dr. Morgan provided the following update:

- State MDC met last on April 6th
 - There was a discussion about Chapter 32 with communication from the GAB and Regional medical direction committees
 - They also discussed the ability to have future meetings be attended remotely with valid excuses such as illness, health reasons, or greater than 60 miles travel, one way, to attend the meeting. They are considering this now
- Regionally, IBDS increased the price of whole blood to \$550 per unit effective 1/1
 - We have also extended our program into Stafford County, and they have already transfused blood in the field
- There have been discussions recently regarding the EMTALA concerns in Prince William County, and it was still an active topic of discussion

Training and Certification Committee

Michelle Ludeman provided the following report:

- Education Coordinator Process
 - 236 candidates in EC pipeline
 - 27 eligible for the next institute
 - Next institute will be at the end of June in Roanoke

- September at Tidewater Community College
- Accreditation
 - NREMT Results Update
 - EMT results are astounding – much higher than normally seen. Program Visits
 - QA/QI teams have started making visits to the non-accredited programs during their terminal competency examinations. They ask a lot of good questions. Due to staffing, we are still missing some programs.
 - Unannounced visits will start soon for the accredited programs.
 - There are 5 QA/QI supervisors throughout Virginia – this will be published on the website soon. (Kari Whiney, Jodi Shirey, Larry Oliver, Greg Neiman, and Michael Holloway)
- NREMT
 - The National Registry will be transitioning to a scaled score report which will provide a minimum score, maximum score, passing score, and student score. This will also result in the removal of the topic area results (i.e., Above, Near, and Below Passing) from the student report.
 - SMCs for AEMT are in the final stages of publication, with a planned adoption of June.
 - Sunset of Psychomotor Testing – goal date of 01 July 2024. Any student who has not taken the cognitive examination prior to this date will be exempt from the psychomotor test. Any that has already started testing will still be required to complete the psychomotor test. The final date of psychomotor testing is 30 June 2025.
- OEMS
 - Tracy has retired. This position will be repurposed to the Accreditation Manager Position. Please be cognizant that we need to submit course requests at least 30 days prior to allow sufficient time for the course to be approved.
- Workforce Development Committee (sub-committee) of EMS Governor’s Advisory Board
- (EMSGAB) is looking at the Educational Challenges of Conducting EMS Training in Virginia High School EMS Programs:
 - Outcomes
 - Retention
 - Program Metrics
 - Difficulties/Challenges Encountered
 - Program Availability Statewide
- Unfortunately, a lot of high schools send their students to local community colleges for EMT certification rather than conducting them within their system.
- Spoke with VDFP, who are having difficulties maintaining instructor cadres for their various courses following the CoVID-19 pandemic.
 - There have been suggestions that a workgroup be formed to include educators that are conducting successful high school programs. We are looking for feedback from the TCC committee.
- At the last EMSGAB meeting, a white paper was submitted by Dr. Allen Yee regarding how the EMSGAB could support high school-based EMS education programs.
- Some of the challenges of high school-based EMS education programs:
 - Programs operating without a Medical Director.
 - Programs operating without credentialed instructors.
 - Instructors feel pressured by the school administration to pass and certify students.

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- Student motivation.
- Teacher turnover.
- Lack of professional support.
- Class size is too large.
- Passing and licensing students who have not demonstrated competency.
- High School Program Directors have two requests from the EMSGAB:
 - Primary Request
 - OEMS to provide education to Department of Education (DOE)/School Administrators/Guidance Counselors regarding DOE policies and OEMS policies and regulations.
 - Secondary Request
 - Workforce Development Committee develop a memorandum/white paper clearly outlining the minimum basic eligibility requirements that all districts must follow when placing students in high school-based EMS education program

OLD BUSINESS

None

JURISDICTIONAL REPORTS

City of Alexandria Fire Department

Kelsea Bonkoski gave the following update:

- They recently added refrigerators back to units to carry Ativan and Cardizem
- They have a few members completing the paramedic internship
- They have 6 providers in paramedic school
- They are changing to ESO from ImageTrend

Arlington County Fire Department

Kate Kramer provided the following update:

- They are finishing up a recruit school now and hoping to start another in May
- 14 people in paramedic school
- They are still doing well with their telehealth program and are in the final stages with the MOU with the Fairfax city to be able to utilize their services
 - Call Kate or Dr. smith if you want to utilize that in your agency
- They have a new Assistant Chief, Jason Jenkins
- Virginia Hospital Center looking for stroke coordinator

City of Fairfax Fire Department

Tom Olander advised there was no report

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue

Beth Adams provided the following update:

- They just graduated a recruit school recently and have another that has started
- There are currently 8-9 in the internship process
- Lee Warner is currently on medical leave for shoulder surgery

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Fairfax County Police Helicopter Division

Paul DeHaven provided the following updates:

- They finally moved into their new hangar and are back at West Ox Road
 - They invite all to visit when in the area or if you'd like an official tour, reach out to him
- Tactical medic program is going well
 - They are holding a selection panel to add more to the team
 - They are carrying blood on the helicopter, and the two tactical medics on the street
 - The service is available in the region to any agency who needs it, not excluding those carrying it on their units
 - They have already had one delivery of blood through the tactical medics on the street
 - During the Route 1 vehicle barricade situation a few weeks ago, they did have blood available on the scene but thankfully didn't have to use it
- They have new delivery of the Sparrow transport ventilator and Sapphire pump system – any trick of the trade would be helpful for those who use this already
 - If your agency is looking at them, please feel free to reach out if you'd like to see them in person

Fauquier County DFREM

No Representation

Loudoun County Fire and Rescue

Dr. Morgan advised that there was no report

City of Manassas Fire and Rescue

John Bowers advised that there was no report

City of Manassas Park Fire & Rescue

No Representation

MWAA

Gary Hubble provided the following update:

- They have a recruit class of 8 finishing tomorrow and another starting next week
- They have one medic finishing their internship and two more starting in the next week or two
- They ordered the first of three new medic units because they fell behind with COVID
 - These are to replace old units
- Captain David Wielgosz is replacing Captain Cullen Rector

Prince William County Fire and Rescue

Chip Morrison provided the following report:

- The new Fire Chief, Chief LaBelle starts May 1st, he comes from Henrico County, Virginia
- Interim Chief Forgo will leave after the transition
- They just graduated from a recruit school of 33
- They have a new one in session with 38-42, he is unsure how many are ALS
- 16 students are currently in paramedic class which graduates in June; they are starting their Capstone next month
- They have 17 interested in the next paramedic class

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- They are possibly switching to the VCU program and having their academy as a satellite campus, but they are still working through the process

LifeCare Medical Transport

No representation

Northern Virginia Community College

Kathy Deal advised of the following update:

- Spring semester ends 5/10/23
- They currently have 12 graduates pending
- Summer school starts 5/16/23, and their EMT classes are full, and have a waiting list running
- Fall semester starts 8/21/23
- Reminder – if you have personnel who are paramedics and want to complete their Associate degree, contact Kathy for the process
- The EMS Advisory Board for the college meets on May 16th with a revised Board of Advisors
 - The invitations went out earlier this week
- Their AHA Training Center Coordinator is now Kathy since Gary Sargent has moved to the nursing department
- The college is currently hiring and has an opening for one FT faculty position and PT lab instructors and adjuncts if anyone is interested – contact Kathy if interested

OEMS Program Representative

No representation

PHI Aircare

Rick Cohen advised of the following:

- They have their re-accreditation process coming up; it's their version of JCAHO

Physicians Transport Service

Kate Passow advised of the following:

- They are welcoming a new medical director, Dr. Ken Lavelle, who was medical director for the MD/DC/PA region
 - Thank you to Dr. Eljaiek for all his direction over the last several years
- The National EMS Memorial Bike Ride is coming up next month
 - Northern Virginia will be Friday, 5/19/23 and Northern Virginia is the ending post for the leg from Annapolis to Arlington they are always taking sponsors for their final ceremony stop
 - This leg starts in Boston takes 7 days to get to this area
 - Brian Hricik has been added to the honorees for the bike ride this year, and coincidentally this year, the jersey color is purple
 - He will be remembered on all routes this year
 - July 21st will be the Weekend of Honor and will again be in Crystal City
 - If anyone has a question, please contact Kate

Inova Health System

Craig French advised that there was nothing to report

Reston Hospital Center

No Representation

Stafford County Fire and Rescue Department

No representation

StoneSprings Hospital

No Representation

Northern Virginia Emergency Response System

No Representation

Emergility

No Representation

UVA Prince William/Haymarket Hospitals

No Representation

NEW BUSINESS

Beth Adams made a motion to continue the tradition of supporting the EMS Memorial Bike Ride in the same amount we supported last year. This has always been a righteous cause and especially this year. The amount is not to exceed \$500.

- The motion was seconded by Kate Kramer
 - The motion was **unanimously approved**.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There was a motion to adjourn at 11:42 am.

Board meetings for 2023 are as follows.

June 15, 2023 – In-person at FS403

September 21, 2023

October 19, 2023

December 7, 2023 (due to holidays)

CERTIFICATION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

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

I, Laura Vandegrift, Administrative Coordinator 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 20, 2023, 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

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and that a quorum was present. The minutes were officially approved at the June 15, 2023, meeting of the Board of Directors of the Northern Virginia EMS Council.

Laura Vandegrift

June 15, 2023

Laura Vandegrift
Northern Virginia EMS Council

Date