

Finance, Legislation and Planning (FL&P) Committee
Richmond Marriott West; Richmond, VA
August 17, 2007
9:00 AM

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Others:
Gary Dalton	Pokey Harris	Gary Brown	Jason Campbell
Theresa Guins, MD		Scott Winston	Jim Chandler
Ed Rhodes		Tim Perkins	Jennie Collins
Morris Reece		David Edwards	Karen Wagner
Byron Andrews		Michael Berg	Greg Woods
Bruce Edwards		Warren Short	
Michael Player		Greg Neiman	
Art Lipscomb			
Rob Logan			
Randy Abernathy			
Kent Weber			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Review and Approval of May 18, 2007 Minutes	Gary Dalton, Chair opened the meeting and requested a motion to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2007 committee meeting.	Motion approved by Ed Rhodes and seconded by Bruce Edwards. Minutes approved unanimously.
State EMS Strategic Plan	Mr. Tim Perkins, EMS Planner for OEMS distributed a working copy of the template OEMS is using to develop and implement the Board approved Strategic EMS Plan. Mr. Perkins reported OEMS staff is using MicroSoft Project to manage the state EMS plan. A work session with OEMS Division Managers has been scheduled for August 27 to review, update and revise assignments and action steps for each "Urgent" strategic initiative and their respective objectives. An update to the state EMS plan will be presented to the Board of Health in October 2007. OEMS staff will review recent reports from JLARC – Review of EMS in Virginia (2004) and IOM report – EMS at the Crossroads to determine if additional strategic initiatives should be considered. Regular written updates on the state EMS plan will be provided to the EMS Advisory Board. A copy of the State EMS Plan will be posted on the OEMS Web site.	

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	<p>Dave Edwards, EMS for Children Coordinator for the Office of EMS was introduced to the committee. Mr. Edwards reported the EMSC Committee has been updating their five (5) year plan and the committee with provide FL&P a list of initiatives related to child emergency care and training they would like to see included in the State EMS Plan.</p>	
<p>Summary of Virginia Fire Services Council Legislative Summit and Recommendations for Legislative Initiatives in 2008</p>	<p>Mr. Gary Dalton provided the committee with a summary of the discussion from the August 3, 2007 meeting of the Virginia Fire Services Council. Representatives from VSFA, VFCA, VFPA, VPPF, VAVRS, VDFP, IAAI-VA, VDOF, VAGEMSA, Haz Mat Association, VEMA, VFSC and OEMS attended. Mr. Dalton reported there were a number of initiatives related to EMS discussed by the Council. These legislative initiatives included: 1) Moving OEMS to Dept. of Public Safety (VPPF introduced initiative); 2) Requirement for child safety seats in EMS vehicles (§46.2-1095); 3) Broaden language in Code related to the review and approval process for variance and exemptions to the EMS Regulation (§32.1-111.9); 4) Exemption to the Administrative Processes Act (APA) to allow OEMS to suspend licenses, permits and certifications prior to an informal fact finding conference (IFFC) in cases where the public health, safety and welfare is endangered; 5) Full funding for the Volunteer Firefighter and Rescue Squad Length of Service Award Program (VOLSAP).</p> <p>Draft wording for legislation to amend §32.1-111.9 pertaining to Applications for variances or exemptions was presented to the committee. Current language in Code requires only volunteer rescue squads to submit applications for variances and exemptions to the governing body of the jurisdiction in which the principal office of the volunteer rescue squad is located. The Office of EMS has requested draft language to require <i>an agency, entity or provider, licensed or certified by the Office of EMS</i> replace the reference to volunteer rescue squads in the current statute.</p> <p>Draft wording for legislation to amend §32.1-111.4 relating to Regulations was presented to the committee. This legislative draft proposes to add a subsection A10 and states, <i>“The Office of Emergency Medical Services, in consultation with the</i></p>	<p>Recommend the EMS Advisory Board support a bill to amend the Code of Virginia 32.1-111.9 Application for Variances or Exemptions that presently reads in two places “a Volunteer Rescue Squad” and replace that wording with “an agency, entity or provider, licensed or certified by the Office of Emergency Medical Services”.</p> <p>The Committee reviewed and</p>

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	<p><i>Commissioner of Health, may suspend the license or certification of any agency or any person issued by it without a hearing simultaneously with the institution of proceedings for a hearing, if the Director of the Office of Emergency Medical Services and the Commissioner of Health find that there is substantial danger to the public health and safety which warrants this action. A hearing must be held within 30 days of the suspension in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§2.2-4000).”</i></p> <p>The committee discussed the draft language at length. Questions were raised about the intent of the legislation, what constituted “substantial danger to public health and safety,” authority of the Commissioner and Director of EMS to enforce regulations, etc.</p> <p>Following discussion of the committee, the following draft language was presented to the committee for consideration:</p> <p><i>The Office of EMS may suspend any license, certification, designation or endorsement issued by it to any agency, person, or other entity without a hearing when it could cause a substantial danger to the public health and safety.</i></p> <p>The Office of EMS requested a request to consider amendments to §46.2-1095 pertaining to the requirement for child restraint devices in EMS vehicles be withdrawn for the present time. OEMS staff will work with the EMSC Committee to discuss the consequences of any amendment to this statute.</p> <p>There was no discussion by the Committee on potential legislation to relocate the Office of EMS to the Secretary of Public Safety and elevate the Office to Department level status.</p>	<p>approved draft language for a Bill to amend and reenact §32.1-111.9 related to variances and exemptions.</p> <p>The Financial, Legislative and Planning Committee recommends to the EMS Advisory Board that it support a bill to amend the Code of Virginia 32.1-111.4 to allow the Office of EMS to suspend any license, certification, designation or endorsement issued by the Office of EMS to any agency, person, or other entity without a hearing when it could cause a substantial danger to the public health and safety.</p>
Old Business	There was no Old Business	
New Business	Mr. Dalton reported VAGEMSA has requested to change its representative to the	

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	Financial, Legislative and Planning Committee from Randy Abernathy to Jennie Collins. The Committee unanimously accepted the recommendation from VAGEMSA.	
Next Meeting	The next meeting is scheduled in Virginia Beach on September 28 at 3 PM. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads Convention.	
Adjournment	The meeting is adjourned at 11:15 AM.	