

**Financial Assistance Review Committee (FARC)  
Quarterly Meeting  
Courtyard Marriott  
Glen Allen, Virginia  
February 6, 2014  
1:00 PM**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Administration Staff:	Staff/Other Guests:
	Billy Altman, Chairman	Amanda Davis	Dennis Molnar
Barbara Brown		Linwood Pulling	Paul Sharpe
Pokey Harris			Heather Phillips
Dan Norville			Ron Passmore
Robert Trimmer			George Lindbeck
Karen Wagner			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
<b>I. Approval of 08/08/2013 Meeting Minutes</b>	Amanda Davis, Grant Manager, made a motion to approve the minutes from August 8, 2013.	Minutes approved
<b>II. RSAF:</b>	The December 2013 RSAF Grant Cycle closed on September 16, 2013. OEMS received 111 grant applications requesting \$9,340,665.00.	No further action is required
A) December 2013 Grant Cycle closed		
B) 12-Lead 2013 Legislation	Budget Amendment Item <u>290</u> #1c “Out of this appropriation, up to \$400,000.00 the second year from the Virginia Rescue Squad Assistance Fund shall be used for grants to emergency medical services organizations to purchase 12-lead electrocardiograph monitors”. The budget amendment states that RSAF must reserve \$400,000.00 per year for 12-lead funding. OEMS awarded \$817,151.00 for 12-leads this cycle.	No further action is required
C) FARC Orientation Manual	The FARC Orientation Manual is currently being updated, it will include: introduction, the EMS Rules and Regulations, FARC Committee, Annual Report, past awards, previous minutes, OEMS Program Reps, Regional EMS Councils, CGAP on-line, RSAF grant review process, grant review information and the awards meeting process.	The update should be complete prior to July 1, 2014.
D) FARC Nominations for May 2014	Billy Altman and Pokey Harris have been on FARC for 6 years and will rotate off on June 30, 2014. We will receive nominations from the next two Regional EMS Councils) in rotation to replace them. The two councils, Peninsulas EMS Council and Thomas Jefferson EMS	PEMS and TJEMS will need to provide OEMS with their nominations for FARC.

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E) Election of FARC Chair – May 2014	<p>Council, nominations will go before the May EMS Advisory Board meeting for approval. We will need to elect a new FARC Chair in our May quarterly meeting.</p> <p>FARC will elect a new Chair at the May 8, 2014 quarterly meeting.</p>	No further action is required
<p>III. Grants Unit:</p> <p>A) Payments processed</p> <p>B) Special Condition requests on Grants</p> <p>C) Decreasing Cash Balances for Grants</p>	<p>The grants unit processed 116 payments for a total of \$4,131,681.00 between August 2013 and January 2014. This included the regular RSAF grants and the Supplemental EMS Training Equipment Special Initiative Grant for Accredited ALS Training Programs.</p> <p>Special conditions placed on grants come from recommendations from the grant review meetings (FARC, Regional Councils, Transportation Committee, EMS Program Reps and Technical Graders). The conditions are placed on grants for various reasons including clarifying what is awarded. Mrs. Davis stated that we need to be mindful of why we are putting a special condition on a grant. The applicant isn't expecting to see the conditions and aren't notified of these until they receive their award letter. OEMS has received letters from several grantees asking us to reconsider and remove the special condition stating that it will create a hardship for their agency. There was a recent request from a grantee asking to remove a special condition due to the awarded equipment being conditioned to be located at an offsite location. Since the agency is responsible for the equipment and needs to be able to monitor it, we removed this condition. In the future, we need to be careful about why this condition is being placed on the grant and make sure it's justified.</p> <p>OEMS is developing notifications to require grantees to order their awarded items within a six month period as opposed to the 12 months now allowed. If an agency is awarded a grant, they have already submitted a quote for the items requested and should have no problem ordering and drawing down their grants within 6 months. This would decrease the grant balances and force the grantees to order their items immediately.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p> <p>Mrs. Davis discussed special conditions placed on grants and that condition requests will be reviewed by OEMS prior to placement on award letters.</p> <p>OEMS will discuss this further.</p>
<p>IV. Grant Manager Report:</p> <p>A) Quarterly Grant Report</p>	<p>This information can be found in the OEMS Quarterly Report to the State EMS Advisory Board dated Friday, February 7, 2014. The Fall 2013 RSAF grant deadline was September 16, 2013. OEMS received 111 grant applications requesting \$9,340,665.00. Grants were awarded on January 1, 2014 in the amount of \$4,677,403,00 to 90 agencies. The following agency categories were awarded finding for this grant cycle; 44 Volunteer Agencies were awarded \$2,349,432.00; 32 Governmental Agencies were awarded \$1,910,379.00 and 14 Non-Profit Agencies were awarded \$417,593.00. The following EMS regional areas were awarded funding in the following amounts: Blue Ridge EMS Council – 5 agencies awarded \$272,018.00; Central Shenandoah EMS Council – 7 agencies awarded \$477,841.00; Lord Fairfax EMS Council – 4 agencies awarded \$155,564.00; Northern VA EMS Council – 2 agencies awarded \$121,048.00; Old Dominion EMS Alliance – 15 agencies awarded \$923,377.00; Peninsulas EMS Council – 6 agencies awarded \$189,808.00; Rappahannock EMS Council – 5 agencies awarded \$92,715.00; Southwestern Virginia EMS Council – 12</p>	No further action is required

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B) VPHIB Special Grant Initiative	<p>agencies awarded \$660,184.00; Thomas Jefferson EMS Council – 5 agencies awarded \$181,389.00; Tidewater EMS Council – 9 agencies awarded \$648,804.00 and Western Virginia EMS Council – 17 agencies awarded \$901,295.00. RSAF Grants awarded by the following item categories: 12-Lead - \$817,151.00; Audio Visual and Computers - \$109,233.00; Communications - \$304,399.00; Emergency Operations - \$108,679.00; BLS &amp; ALS Equipment - \$402,333.00; Special Projects - \$378,959.00; Training - \$121,495.00 and Vehicles - \$2,435,154.00.</p> <p>OEMS had a Virginia Pre-Hospital Information Bridge (VPHIB) Special Grant Initiative for computers at 100% funding that opened in October 2013. These computers will enable the agencies to comply with pre-hospital patient care reporting of the OEMS minimum dataset in the technical format prescribed by OEMS. This grant closed on January 10, 2014. We received 219 applications requesting \$5.2 million.</p>	The awards will be announced within the next two weeks.
V. Open Discussion	Dr. Lindbeck discussed new medical equipment and what may be seen during the next grant cycle for requests. The Committee discussed automatic CPR devices, Dr. Lindbeck stated that for long hospital rides, this can be very beneficial, but if you only have a short distance, maybe not. The use of the ultrasound was also discussed and the issue of lack of personnel to understand the readings of the ultrasound. Another problem is you have to stop the ambulance to evaluate the patient and when the hospital is only 15 – 30 minutes away, is this using your time wisely?	No further action is required
VI. Adjournment	Amanda Davis, Grant Manager, made a motion to adjourn.	The next quarterly meeting will take place on May 8, 2014.