

State Medevac Committee Meeting
Office of Emergency Medical Services
1041 Technology Park Drive
Glen Allen, Virginia
August 11, 2011
10:30 a.m.

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests & Other Attendees:
Allen Yee, Chair	Erik Rohde	Gary Brown	Anita Ashby
Mark Holden, Wings		Scott Winston	Pokey Harris
Ed Brazle, Virginia Beach Police		Tim Perkins	R. Chris Eudailey
Brian Solada, LifeEvac		Wanda Street	Derek Andresen
Susan Smith		Michael Berg	Allan Belcher
R. N. Possumato		Beth Singer	Jay Lovelady
Mindy Carter			David Poulson
			Kathy Baker
			H. Jay Cullen
			Gregory Jones
			Stephen Ausband
			Shawn Rivard
			Heather Everly
			Tim Hodge

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	The meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m. by Tim Perkins (Dr. Yee arrived late).	
Introductions:	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
Review & Approval of the May 12, 2011 minutes:	A motion was made to approve the previous minutes. The motion was moved by Brian Solada and seconded by Ed Brazle.	The minutes were approved as submitted.
Chair Report – Dr. Allen Yee:	Dr. Yee thanked the agencies for participating in the WeatherShare program. Tremendous headway has been made. This is a great step forward. There were a couple of incidents of helicopter shopping. Is there enough information in WeatherShare to filter this and say that it is not helicopter shopping?	
OEMS Report – Tim Perkins/OEMS Staff:	Tim said that the symposium registration opened August 1 and closes September 30. There will be a Medevac track this year. Tim congratulated Anita Ashby for being appointed a seat on the Governor’s Advisory Board Committee. She will be the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association (VHHA) representative. At the Washington Nationals baseball game on September 11 they are having a Heroes Day; all Police, Fire, EMS and Military personnel will be honored on the field before the game on the 10th anniversary of 9/11. They are offering \$36 seats for \$20. The \$20 ticket includes a \$5 donation to the Pentagon Memorial Fund. For more information, email Tim.	

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	<p>Michael Berg stated that a new Program Rep, Adam Harrell, has been hired for the Northern Virginia area. He has moved from Halifax, VA to Fairfax, VA. What a culture shock. Mr. Berg also gave an update on the regulations. The DDNR Regulations 12VAC566 have been completed and became effective on July 20. The new DDNR form will soon be available on the OEMS website as well as the new updated regulations. The EMS Regulations 12VAC531, which have been approved by the Commissioner, have been residing in the Secretary of Health and Human Services Office for the past 147 days. The House Bill 1675 for Variances and Exemptions for Providers law was passed and the regulations are currently being updated.</p> <p>Scott added that the Business Analyst position has been filled by Nikki Tolliver. She will be analyzing OEMS' IT program needs. Also, Carol Pugh has been hired as the Biostatistician for the Trauma/Critical Care Division under the supervision of Paul Sharpe. Peter Brown has been hired as a Certification Examiner for the Division of Educational Development (DED). He is retired from James City. OEMS is also in the process of interviewing for National Certification Examiners within the next two weeks and then interviews will be held for the Consolidated Test Site Examiners. As mentioned at the last meeting, OEMS will be using National Registry for initial certification examinations beginning January 1, 2012. The Basic EMT level certification will cost \$70. A proposal is on the table for the initial certification cost to be covered by using existing funds. Scott asked everyone to be sure all providers are using the EMS Provider Portal. Fifty-five percent of the providers are currently using the portal.</p> <p>Beth Singer mentioned that the OEMS website has been redesigned to coincide with the redesign of the VDH website.</p>	
<p>Project Synergy Work Group Update – Susan Smith/Anita Ashby:</p>	<p>Susan reported that all of the data from January 2011 to June 2011 will be done on Monday. They will look at the before and after effect. This will be the first time that they have the baseline data collection and the new collection of the same EMS agencies after they have had the education and follow up letters, to see if there is a decrease in the number of patients discharged in less than 24 hours. Once this is complete, a report will be done and presented at the next meeting in November.</p>	
<p>Virginia WeatherShare Program Development Update/Safety Work Group Update – Tim Perkins:</p>	<p>Paul forwarded the WeatherShare data to Tim who reported that there were 425 turndowns between May 1 and August 1. From January 1 to August 1 there were 968 with two thirds being inter facility. Tim is happy to report that just about every licensed Medevac agency in the State is submitting data. There are three hospitals and two 911 centers who were helicopter shopping more than others. There were 42 instances of helicopter shopping between May 1 and August 1 two thirds are inter facility and three are out of State (W. Virginia).</p> <p>Chris Cannon had previously asked Paul about receiving a report of his own agency entries. He wants to be sure that all weather turndowns are being entered by the communications staff. Tim said that he should be able to go to the archive to get the data as long as he has admin rights. Tim is willing to make reports for everyone if necessary. Tim said this may be an opportunity for a tutorial also.</p>	
<p>Project Remley Update – Dr. Allen Yee:</p>	<p>Tim, Dr. Yee and Gary met with Dr. Remley on the PowerPoint that was created. Dr. Remley wanted data. She was briefed on the Project Synergy program and she was pleased with the efforts of the workgroup. However, she felt that we need more stringent criteria on who should fly and when. They discussed the scientific literature on this and the Medical Direction Committee has been tasked to provide more definitive criteria such as stroke and STEMI. She gave us three months to complete this and then a clinician's letter will need to be</p>	

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	<p>drafted and the PowerPoint will be attached when it is blasted out to the State. She really liked the PowerPoint. This clinician's letter could possibly lead to a change in launch criteria. She is concerned about the costs per flight. The scientific literature really supports the rural air medical services. Dr. Yee has asked the Chair of the Medical Direction Committee to send their completed document to this Committee for review before it is sent to the Commissioner.</p>	
Program Announcements:	<p>Chris Cannon, Nightingale – Nightingale received its EC145 and it went into service at the end of June. Currently doing NVG operations. Hoping to make some communications center changes within the next couple of months and adding a couple of frequencies. Will send out announcement of changes.</p> <p>Michael Berg asked if all of the agencies were narrowband compliant. The deadline is January 1, 2013. One of them stated that they will be by the end of the month. Dr. Yee asked about the super narrowband timeline. Pokey Harris stated that it is about four years after the 2013 narrowband which is 2017.</p> <p>Susan Smith, Carilion – Paul Davenport was recently promoted to Vice President. He will continue to be involved with Medevac. On August 7, a helicopter from West Virginia did a turnover for Carilion to take a patient back to West Virginia. Giles Memorial moved back in May 2010, but the helicopter from West Virginia went to the old location. The pad at the old hospital was still open, but that hospital is no longer operating. There were no major delays, but Susan questions how many other helicopters might potentially go to the wrong location. Susan sent Tim pictures and coordinates of the correct hospital and he will send this out on the listserve. StarPoints was completed on June 4 and was at full capacity. EMS World was there with Squad Cast and it is on their Facebook website.</p> <p>Mark Holden, Wings – No announcements.</p> <p>R. N. Possumato, VSP – Both of the EC145 helicopters are in full service as of late May early June. The BK117 and the BO105 have been sold. All of the aircraft is now hoist equipped and NVG compatible. All of the EMS pilots are flying on NVG now.</p> <p>Brian Solada, Air Methods/LifeEvac – No announcements.</p> <p>Heather Everly, MedStar – Allen Wolfe's position has been filled by Heather Stamey. Within the next few months or so they will be posting a second Base Manager position.</p> <p>Ed Brazle, Virginia Beach Police – No announcements.</p> <p>Mindy Carter, CJW Medical Center – No announcements.</p> <p>Allan Belcher, CentraOne – Manager position will be filled within the next two weeks and the selected candidate will be attending the November meeting in Norfolk.</p> <p>Tim Hodge, UVA/Pegasus – UVA announced that they will expand the ED parking lot and change some</p>	

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	<p>intersections. They will move to a rooftop helipad and once the ED expansion has been completed in 12 to 18 months, a second landing area will be constructed on top of the ED expansion. Part of the street reconstruction will include a large crane. Notices will be sent out. Also, they will officially be Air Methods as of September 1.</p> <p>Jay Lovelady, VCU LifeEvac – VCU continues to have crane nearby the roof helipad without any issues. LifeEvac is adding some clinical staff to their team.</p> <p>David Poulsen, Air Methods – No announcements.</p> <p>Anita Ashby, Wellmont Health System – No announcements.</p>	
Unfinished Business:	<p><u>Liability Protection</u> Dr. Yee mentioned that in light of the Commissioner’s viewpoint of who we should or shouldn’t fly and also due to the new healthcare guidelines, should we start considering legislation to protect ourselves from liability. The committee discussed the pros and cons of this. Dr. Yee stated that as a nation, Medevac Services are overused. Michael Berg reminded the committee that the Attorney General’s office will have to be involved and any legislative regulatory changes will take years to get approval. It was decided to table this subject until the new healthcare regulations take effect.</p>	The subject was tabled until the new healthcare regulation take effect.
New Business:	<p><u>Committee Member Rotation and Recognition</u> Tim stated that the committee roster is being reviewed to rotate members off and add new members. A rotational schedule will created. The committee is not being restructured. It is to set term limits for committee members. Also, some agencies have not been participating as they should. Chris recommended adding the member representation by the members name on the minutes. Tim will send out the Medevac Committee Roster showing the Part 91 and Part 135 representation.</p> <p>Pokey stated that committee interest forms will be distributed at tomorrow’s Advisory Board Meeting. So if anyone is interested in Chairing this committee, they must submit a form.</p> <p>Dr. Yee also asked if the committee is interested in submitting a letter signed to recognize those individuals who have greatly contributed to this committee. The committee agreed. Tim listed Terry Austin, Don Childs, Allen Wolfe and Paul Davenport as recipients of this letter.</p> <p><u>Drug Diversion Issue at ODEMSA</u> Dr. Yee stated that morphine and valium has been stolen from drug boxes. The drugs were removed and the cap was glued back on. This possibly dates back two years. Are we comfortable as air medical agencies that our schedule 2 narcotics are secure and are compliant with the Board of Pharmacy? One agency is drug testing all employees at their agency and so far everyone is coming back negative. Dr. Yee warned to be very careful and to check the seals very carefully before dispensing.</p> <p><u>Symposium</u> Gary Brown mentioned that the 2011 Annual EMS Symposium will have a Medevac track. This year there will be an ALS and BLS Academy. Also, the Career Fair will be held again, for the second year, on Thursday,</p>	<p>Committee representation will be added to the minutes.</p> <p>Tim will send out the Medevac Committee Roster showing the Part 91 and Part 135 representation.</p>

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	<p>November 10 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.</p> <p>A Call for Presentations for 2012 link as been added to the OEMS website to submit class topics for the 2012 symposium. Dr. Yee suggested someone do an Advanced Airway Lab by an air medical team. A Critical Care Skills Lab was done a couple of years ago which was about 4 hours. This is also a good class to do again. Tim will coordinate volunteers for this lab.</p> <p><u>Senate Bill 1407</u> Brian Solada encouraged everyone to read over this bill. This bill will be addressed during the next General Assembly session.</p>	<p>Tim will seek volunteers for the Critical Care Skills Lab.</p>
Public Comment:	None.	
Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:05 p .m.	The next meeting will be at 10 a.m., Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at the symposium in Norfolk, VA. More information will be sent with location.

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